

A. H. PFUND: *Measurement of Stellar Radiation.*

Using a compensating vacuum-thermocouple with evacuator—both of new design—in conjunction with the 30-inch Keeler Memorial Reflector at the Allegheny Observatory, the radiation from Vega, Jupiter and Altair was observed. The sensibility of the apparatus corresponded to a deflection of 2,400 mm. for a meter—Hefner. The results for the evening of September 22, 1913, were:

Source	Deflection, Mm.	Magnitude	Remarks
Vega .....	7.5	0.19	Sky clear; no wind
Jupiter .....	3.0	—2.0	Sky clear; no wind
Altair .....	2.0	0.96	Sky hazy; no wind

(The smallness of the deflection occasioned by Jupiter is due to the circumstance that the image had more than seven times the area of the blackened disc of the thermo-junction.)

J. A. ANDERSON: *A Method for Testing Screws.*

The instrument used is the Fabry and Perot interferometer, and the method is applicable to any screw which has been ground. Periodic errors, errors of run, straightness of the axis, and coincidence of the axis of the screw with that of its pivots can all be determined with a high degree of accuracy. The method has been used in testing the screws for Rowland's ruling machines with success.

J. B. WATSON: *An Experimental Study of Homing.*

This report will discuss briefly four of the more important theories of homing, viz., the "law of counter return"; the theory of return by the aid of "visual land-marks"; the theory of "direct perception of goal" (by the aid of infra-red rays); and the "Spürsinn" of Cyon. The result of three years of experimental work in the Dry Tortugas on homing in the noddy and sooty terns will be given; special emphasis was placed upon the results obtained during the past spring. In brief, the experimenters were able to obtain thirteen returns over open water from distances ranging from five hundred to approximately one thousand miles.

On the afternoons of both the days of the

meeting opportunity will be given for visits to several of the laboratories of the Johns Hopkins University, besides the Physical Laboratory in which the meetings will be held.

In the laboratories of anatomy, plant physiology, zoology and chemistry special demonstrations will be given of the researches in progress.

There will be the usual social functions, including a reception by Dr. and Mrs. Remsen and a dinner at the Maryland Club to which the Academy is invited by the members resident in Baltimore.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

ALFRED RUSSEL WALLACE, the great English man of science, author of works on natural selection, geographical distribution and a wide range of biological and social subjects, died on November 7, in his ninety-first year.

SIR WILLIAM PREECE, the distinguished British electrical engineer, died on November 6, at the age of seventy-nine years.

DR. CHARLES MCBURNEY, formerly demonstrator of anatomy and professor of surgery in the College of Physicians of Columbia University, died on November 6, aged sixty-eight years.

A MARBLE bust of Lord Kelvin by Mr. Shannon, A.R.S.A., the gift of Lady Kelvin, was presented to the Royal Society of Edinburgh on October 28, by Professor Crum Brown, on her behalf. Principal Sir William Turner, who presided over a large gathering, said Lord Kelvin had been sixty years a fellow of the society, and was occupying the post of president for a third term of five years when he died in 1907.

AT the annual meeting of the American Mathematical Society, to be held at Columbia University on December 30-31, Dean H. B. Fine, of Princeton University, will deliver his presidential address on "An Unpublished Theorem of Kronecker Respecting Numerical Equations."

At the dedicatory exercises of the new \$100,000 laboratory building of the college of medicine of the University of Nebraska, held in

Omaha on October 16, the two principal speakers were Dr. Howard A. Kelly, of the Johns Hopkins University, and Dr. Henry B. Ward, of the University of Illinois.

SIR RICKMAN JOHN GODLEE, president of the Royal College of Surgeons, England, had the honorary degree of doctor of laws conferred on him at a special convocation of the University of Toronto, November 5. At the Academy of Medicine on the evening of the 4th, Sir Rickman delivered an address on foreign bodies in the air passages.

DR. LUDWIG RADLKOFER, professor of botany at Munich, has been permitted to retire from the active duties of his chair.

THE special board for biology and geology of Cambridge University has approved a grant of £30 from the Balfour Fund to Mr. George Matthai, B.A., research student of Emmanuel College, in aid of his research on the comparative morphology of the madreporaria.

THE address by Professor G. A. Miller entitled "Some Thoughts on Modern Mathematical Research," which appeared in *SCIENCE*, June 7, 1912, has been reprinted in the October, 1913, number of *The Journal of the Indian Mathematical Society*, Madras, India. It has also been reprinted in the "Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institution of Washington" for 1912.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

COMPLETE plans for the new home of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have been made public. There are to be nine contiguous buildings, each devoted to a separate department. Construction has already been started on the Cambridge side of the Charles River, east of Harvard Bridge. The principal buildings are expected to be ready for occupancy in two years. Of the \$10,000,000 necessary, \$7,300,000 has already been pledged.

THE Chamber of Commerce of New York City announces a gift from a donor whose name is withheld of \$500,000 for a building for a college of commerce. Gifts have also been received of \$50,000 from four other subscribers. The Chamber of Commerce proposes to

provide a building and to install a commercial and civic museum on condition that the City of New York provides the running expenses.

THE University of California announces that the income of the \$120,000 given by Mrs. Jane K. Sather to endow the Sather professorship in classical literature is to be used for a visiting Sather professor. Annually some distinguished scholar, from Europe or from America, will be called to Berkeley to spend a half year or a year teaching in the University of California. The first incumbent is to be Professor John L. Myres, of Oxford University, who will come from his present work of excavation in the island of Cyprus. Besides liberally endowing the Sather professorship in classical literature, Mrs. Jane K. Sather, of Oakland, gave a like amount to endow the Sather professorship of history, now held by Professor H. Morse Stephens; endowed the three Sather book funds, to purchase works in classics, history and law; built the Sather Gate, in memory of her husband, at a cost of \$37,000, and gave \$200,000 for the three-hundred-foot white granite Sather campanile, now being built on the campus, and \$25,000 for the Sather bells, a set of chimes which are to be placed in the open belvedere of the campanile, 250 feet above the level of the campus.

THE University of Florida will use two new buildings for the first time at the coming session: the Language Hall, costing \$45,000, will house departments of law, languages, English history, mathematics and administrative offices; the George Peabody Hall, for the teachers college and normal school, costing \$40,000, the gift of the General Education Board, will house the general library, departments of education and philosophy, normal school and practice high schools.

THE president of the Ohio State University and a group of members of the legislature have visited the universities of Wisconsin, Michigan and Illinois to obtain information for the development of the Ohio State University.

DR. HOLLIS GODFREY, an engineer of Philadelphia, the author of contributions to chem-