

Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

7:30 P.M. Trustees' Banquet. Liederkrantz Club.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE British government has appointed a committee to consider questions in relation to the supply of drugs as affected by the war. The members of the committee are: Dr. J. Smith Whitaker, Sir Thomas Barlow, Sir Lauder Brunton, Dr. A. Cox, Professor A. R. Cushny, Dr. E. Rowland Fothergill, Dr. B. A. Richmond, Dr. F. J. Smith, Dr. W. Hale White, with Dr. E. W. Adams as secretary.

DR. WILLIAM H. WELCH, of the Johns Hopkins University, president of the National Academy of Sciences, is among the large number of American men of science detained on the continent by the war.

DR. EWALD HERING, professor of physiology at Leipzig, celebrated on August fifth his eightieth birthday.

THE Paris Academy of Sciences has awarded a prize of \$600 to Dr. H. Vincent, for his work on typhoid fever.

DR. JOSEF MELAN, professor of bridge building at Prague, has been given an honorary doctorate of engineering by the Technical School at Brunn.

DR. FRANZ FISCHER has been appointed head of the newly established institute for fuel investigation at Mülheim.

DR. S. W. PATTERSON has been engaged by the government of Madras to undertake an investigation into the causation, prevention and possible cure of diabetes. The sum of 50,000 rupees has been given by the Raja of Pithapuram for the purpose.

DR. G. ANGENSEHEIMER has been appointed director of the Geophysical Observatory at Apia, Samoa.

DR. VIRGIL H. MOON, of the Memorial Institute for Infectious Diseases, Chicago, has been appointed head of the pathological department.

THE convocation orator at the University of Chicago on August 28 was Dr. Roscoe Pound,

professor of jurisprudence in Harvard University and formerly professor of law in the University of Chicago. The subject of his address was "Legalism." Dr. Pound was for eleven years director of the Botanical Survey of the state of Nebraska. He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a member of the Botanical Society of America.

LIEUTENANT SEDOFF, who two years ago headed an Arctic expedition to Franz Josef Land, fell ill and died, it is said, in an effort to reach the North Pole. Survivors of the expedition have arrived at Archangel.

DR. ALFRED HEGAR, formerly professor of medicine at Freiberg, has died at the age of eighty-five years.

SIR ANTHONY HOME, late surgeon-general in the British army, died on August 9, aged eighty-seven years.

PLANS have been made for the founding of an Australian Institute of Engineers.

NEXT year's conference of the British Pharmaceutical Society is to be held at Scarborough under the presidency of Mr. Saville Peck.

THE International Seismological Congress, which was to have been held at St. Petersburg, has been postponed, as has also the Meteorological Conference, which was to have taken place in Edinburgh in September.

DR. KARL BENSINGER, of Mannheim, has given 30,000 marks to the University of Freiburg for the investigation of wireless telegraphy.

THE Prussian Academy of Sciences has offered a prize of 5,000 marks for the best study of "Experience as a Factor in Perception." The articles may be in German, Latin, French, English or Italian and must reach the academy by December 31, 1916.

A SPECIAL despatch from Philadelphia furnished by the American Osteopathic Association, begins with the remarkable statement: "Announcement was made here to-day at the International Osteopathic convention that

osteopathy has been discovered to be a cure for all acute infectious diseases."

It is stated in *Nature* that at least two English expeditions to observe the total solar eclipse of August 2, reached their destinations and observed the eclipse under most favorable weather conditions. The two parties were the observers from the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, consisting of Messrs. Jones and Davidson, and the expedition sent out by the joint permanent eclipse committee of the Royal and Royal Astronomical Societies, composed of Fathers Cortie and O'Connor and Messrs. Atkinson and Gibbs. The Greenwich party, stationed at Minsk (Russia), observed the eclipse under good conditions in a clear sky, and photographs of both the corona and chromosphere were secured. It is stated that the form of the corona was of the intermediate type, *i. e.*, of the square type, there being no larger equatorial streamers or streamers in the regions of the solar poles. The corona is also stated to have been very bright. The party under Father Cortie, S.J., took up their position at Hernoesand in Sweden, and his telegram to the Royal Astronomical Society says, "Weather perfect. All operations successful. Intermediate corona."

THERE will be examinations on October 19 for admission to the grade of assistant surgeon in the United States Public Health Service. Candidates must be between 23 and 32 years of age, graduates of a reputable medical college, and of good moral standing. The examinations are: 1, physical; 2, oral; 3, written; 4 clinical. Successful candidates will be numbered according to their attainments on examination, and commissioned in the same order. Assistant surgeons receive \$2,000; passed assistant surgeons, \$2,400; surgeons, \$3,000; senior surgeons, \$3,500, and assistant surgeon generals, \$4,000 a year. For invitation to appear before the board of examiners, application should be made to the "Surgeon General, Public Service, Washington, D. C."

A BRIEF report by Edgar T. Wherry describing a deposit of carnotite near Mauch Chunk, Pa., is published as Bulletin 580-H of the United States Geological Survey. Carnotite is

one of the radium-bearing metals and this deposit is believed to have been formed by precipitation from the ground water and can now be seen in process of formation where water trickles out through cracks in the rocks. The deposit is of interest, but the present knowledge regarding it is insufficient to warrant any statement as to its workability. So far as is now known the total area covered by the carnotite-bearing lenses is very small, the observed outcrops being confined to a strip but a few hundred feet in extent.

THE Berlin correspondent of the *Journal* of the American Medical Association reports that more than a year ago, under German initiative, an international health office was established in Jerusalem under the direction of Mühlens, the scientific assistant in the Hamburg Institute for Marine and Tropical Diseases. According to a recently published article of Nocht, director of the Institute for Marine and Tropical Diseases, the support of the institute at Jerusalem at present is shared in common by the German Committee for the Campaign against Malaria in Jerusalem; by Nathan Strauss of New York, and by the Society of Jewish Physicians and Scientists for Sanitary Interests in Palestine. The German committee supports the general department for combating malaria, and its chairman is at the same time the director of the institute. Nathan Strauss supports the hygienic and bacteriologic department of which the heads are Drs. Brünn and Goldberg. The Society of Jewish Physicians and Scientists has taken over the department for protection against rabies, originated by a German committee, the director of which is Dr. Behan. An accessory department for the prevention of eye diseases (director, Dr. Feigenbaum) has been added.

THE British War Office has issued to officers of the royal army medical corps the following memorandum on antityphoid inoculations:

1. There is no need to remind officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps of the disastrous effects of typhoid in recent campaigns.
2. It can hardly be hoped that improved

sanitary precautions will succeed completely in safeguarding the force from infection, since it will certainly be exposed to three sources of infection, difficult or impossible to control, namely: (a) Men in the incubation stage of typhoid who have accompanied or joined the force. (b) Unsuspected typhoid carriers. (c) Contact with the inhabitants of the country in which typhoid may be present.

3. The preventive value of antityphoid inoculation is now universally recognized, and is well known to all who have served in India.

4. As it was not found possible to inoculate the force on mobilization, only a small percentage of the men will have been protected, but it should be practicable, by seizing every opportunity, to raise the number of inoculated very considerably. If a unit is likely to be stationary for a short time, advantage might be taken of this with the consent of the general staff, to inoculate a certain number of men,—for example, a company or half a company, and in this way a whole regiment or other unit might be protected, without any serious interference with its duties. In the same way individual men temporarily disabled by minor ailments, or otherwise available, might be inoculated. It is strongly urged that medical officers lose no opportunity of introducing and carrying through some such system.

5. Antityphoid vaccine has been sent to the base depot of medical stores, and will be issued, as required, on requisition.

THE value of the output of recoverable gold, silver, copper, lead and zinc from mines in California in 1913, according to Charles G. Yale, of the United States Geological Survey, was \$26,812,489, an increase of \$428,543 over the 1912 production. All the metals except zinc showed an increased yield, although the ore treated was less in quantity and there were fewer mines reporting a production than in 1912. The total recoverable value of gold from California in 1913 was \$20,406,958, of which the deep mines produced \$11,570,781, or 56.7 per cent. The total increase in the gold production was \$693,480, of which \$502,966 was in the yield from deep mines. The gold production was larger than in any other year except

one since 1864. This great output was due entirely to the operations of the dredging companies and the larger deep mines, as the number of mines operated in 1913 was 245 less than in 1912. Of the gold recovered from placer mines the gold dredges reported \$8,090,294, which was nearly 92 per cent. of the placer gold mined and nearly 40 per cent. of the total state yield in 1913. Since the commencement of gold dredging in California, 15 years ago, the gold recovered from this source has amounted to \$63,505,485. Most of this large yield has been derived from ground which could not have been mined profitably under any of the old methods of gravel mining. The 410 deep mines sold or treated 2,495,958 tons of ore, a decrease of 145,539 tons, compared with 1912. Most of the siliceous ore, which amounted to 2,031,429 tons, was treated at gold and silver mills, yielding an average recovery of \$5.61 a ton in gold and silver. The 448,439 tons of copper had a recoverable value of \$1.84 a ton in gold and silver and \$11.74 in copper. The 14,267 tons of lead ore treated had a recoverable value of \$11.24 in gold and silver and of \$23.11 for all metals. The zinc ore shipped in 1913 amounted to 1,823 tons, which was considerably less than in 1912. The recoverable silver in 1913 amounted to 1,378,399 fine ounces, valued at \$832,553, an increase of 78,263 fine ounces in quantity and of \$32,969 in value. The copper ores from Shasta county contained about 60 per cent. of the 1913 production of silver from California.

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#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

DR. WILLIAM J. YOUNG has given \$25,000 to the Medical Department of the University of Georgia for the improvement of its library.

THE Company of Drapers of the City of London has made a grant of £500 a year for three years in aid of the work of the Department of Applied Statistics at University College, London, including the Galton Laboratory of Eugenics and the Drapers' Biometric Laboratory.

DR. FREDERICK A. SAUNDERS has resigned the professorship of physics in Syracuse Univer-