

papers of unusual interest. The intrinsic value of his method has proved so great that it is quite probable that the name of the author is more widely known from these scientific contributions than from any others published during his long and active life.

In the foregoing review of the scientific work of Professor Wright there has been no effort to do more than sketch the contents of the papers of chief importance, a large number of notes and minor contributions to science have been ignored. It would hardly be just, however, to fail to note his activities in X-ray experiments. At a time when Röntgen's discovery was hardly more than a rumor and the greater number of physicists, perhaps somewhat skeptically, were awaiting more definite descriptions of methods and results, Professor Wright immediately applied the test of experiment and secured the first of these photographs made in this country. This showed in a very striking way his command of all the resources of his science at the time; nor did he stop with a mere verification of the most wonderful features of the phenomena. He made many studies of the nature of the radiations and their reactions on various forms of matter, but, like other contemporary investigations, the results were hardly more than negative and he did not publish them in a permanent form.

Professor Wright was a fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society of Great Britain and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; he was a member of the American Physical Society, of the National Academy of Sciences and of other learned societies.

C. S. H.

#### THE LOUTREUIL FOUNDATION

It is stated in *Nature* that the first distribution of this fund under the auspices of the Paris Academy of Sciences has been made.

The grants recommended fall into three classes:

1. To institutions specially mentioned in the will of the founder. The Natural History Museum, 1,000 francs for the continuation of researches on orchids undertaken by Professor

J. Costantin, and 5,700 francs for the purchase of accumulators, and 4300 francs for a radiographic installation needed in the laboratory of Professor Jean Becquerel. The Collège de France, 4,000 francs to G. Gley, for the installation of an apparatus in his laboratory for the production of cold; 5,000 francs to L. Cayeux, for completing the equipment of his geological laboratory for petrographical researches; 2,400 francs to M. Müntz, director of the laboratory of vegetable chemistry of Meudon; 2,000 francs to L. Nattan-Larrier for the purchase of a centrifuge and incubator for cultures of microorganisms. As the provincial observatories are all attached to the universities which have already received a special legacy from M. Loutreuil, the council will only consider claims for grants relating to researches of a personal order. Under this head 3,000 francs is granted to M. Gonessiat, director of the Algiers Observatory, for the construction of an apparatus designed to measure the intensity of Hertzian waves and for a vertical seismograph. Polytechnic School, 3,000 francs to E. Carvallo, for the continuation of his researches on a method of shooting at airships. The veterinary schools of Lyons and Alfort, each 5,000 francs, for the upkeep of their libraries; the veterinary school of Toulouse, 3,000 francs for the same purpose, and 1,000 francs to M. Montane, for the reorganization of the anatomical collections of this school.

2. To institutions admitted by the president of the academy to participate in grants from the Loutreuil Fund. The Conservatoire des Arts et Metiers: 3,000 francs to Marcel Deprez, for his experiments relating to the transmission of the heat of gases to metallic walls, constantly cooled, and for experiments on electrical phenomena arising from internal-combustion motors; 4,500 francs to A. Job, for the purchase of a calorimetric bomb, an electric transformer, and other apparatus necessary to his researches on the velocities of oxidizing reactions; 6,000 francs to Jules Amar, for improving his equipment for the study of the muscular forces of man at work by the graphic and chronophotographic methods.

3. To other societies and to individuals. The Société de documentation bibliographique, 2,000 francs; 2,000 francs to Henri Piéron, for the equipment of his laboratory at the Sorbonne for physiological psychology; 2,400 francs to Louis Mengaud, professor at the Lycée of Toulouse, for exploratory work in the province of Santander; 10,000 francs to Charles Marie, for assistance in the publication of tables of physical constants; 3,000 francs to Camille Flammarion, for his private observatory at Juvisy; 4,000 francs to Emile Miège, for experiments at Rennes; 1,000 francs for the preparation of plates illustrating fossils collected by J. Couyat-Barthoux.

The total grants recommended amount to 82,300 francs, and this does not exhaust the sum available. During the war it has been impossible for all the investigators to carry on work already commenced or to undertake new researches, and other expenditure considered desirable by the council has been excluded by the terms of the legacy.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

IVAN PAVLOV, the eminent Russian physiologist, died at Petrograd at the age of sixty-seven years. In 1904 he was awarded the Nobel prize for medicine.

SIR WILLIAM TURNER, principal of Edinburgh University, distinguished as an anatomist, has died at the age of eighty-three years.

DR. ELMER L. CORTHELL, of New York City, who has had charge of important work in bridge, railway, canal and harbor construction, has been elected president of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

DR. L. D. RICKETTS, president and general manager of the Canadian Consolidated Copper Company, has been elected president of the American Institute of Mining Engineers.

THE Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia has elected as correspondents the following named: William Bateson, Charles E. Barrois, Thomas C. Chamberlin, Carl Diener, Alfred C. Haddon, Wilhelm Ludwig Johannsen, Stanislas Meunier, Albrecht Penck, William Trelease and Samuel W. Williston.

DR. EDWARD BAGNALL POULTON, Hope professor of zoology at Oxford University, has been elected a foreign member of the Swedish Royal Academy of Science.

DR. ALBERT EINSTEIN, of Berlin, has been elected a corresponding member of the Göttingen Academy of Sciences in the section of mathematics and physics.

THE gold medal of the Royal Astronomical Society has been presented to Dr. J. L. E. Dreyer, for his contributions to astronomical history and his catalogues of nebulae.

A GRANT of \$500 from the C. M. Warren Fund of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences has been made to Professor James F. Norris, of Vanderbilt University, for the study of factors which influence the valency of carbon.

C. A. McLENDON, field pathologist of the South Carolina Experiment Station, has accepted a position as expert in cotton breeding with the Georgia State Board of Entomology, Atlanta, Ga.

DR. ALBERT ERNEST JENKS, professor of anthropology in the University of Minnesota, has returned after a leave of absence to study the question of mixed-blood Indians. Congress passed an act in 1907 allowing "mixed-blood Indians" on White Earth Reservation, Minnesota, to sell their lands. In time the government brought suit against citizens of Minnesota to set aside titles to certain lands, under the claim that the Indians who sold such lands were pure-blood Indians, instead of mixed-blood Indians. Dr. Jenks was called to attempt to settle the question of blood status by anthropometric methods. Of the nine court cases tried so far with anthropological evidence the court has held that the sellers in eight cases were mixed-blood Indians.

DR. H. L. SHANTZ, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, delivered the annual address before the local chapters of Sigma Xi and Phi Beta Kappa at the University of Nebraska on the evening of February 12, 1916. The subject of the illustrated lecture was: "Water as a Factor in Plant Growth."