

present-day methods, not only of cure, but of prevention. The efficacy of improved water-supply and sewerage systems, of the campaign against the fly, and of other sanitary precautions is strikingly shown by the reduction of the typhoid mortality rate to the extent of more than five ninths in 14 years.

The principal epidemic maladies of childhood—*whooping-cough*, *measles* and *scarlet fever*—were together responsible for no fewer than 15,617 deaths of both adults and children, or 23.7 per 100,000, in the registration area in 1914, the rates for the three diseases separately being 10.3, 6.8 and 6.6, respectively. In 1913 *measles* caused a greater mortality than either of the other diseases, but in 1914 *whooping-cough* had first place. In every year since and including 1910, as well as in several preceding years, *measles* has caused a greater number of deaths than the much more dreaded *scarlet fever*. The mortality rates for all three of these diseases fluctuate greatly from year to year. The rates for *measles* and *scarlet fever* in 1914 were the lowest in 15 years, while that for *whooping-cough* was considerably above the lowest recorded rate for this disease, 6.5 in 1904, although far below the highest, 15.8 in 1903.

Deaths due to railway accidents and injuries totaled 7,062, or 10.7 per 100,000. This number includes fatalities resulting from collisions between railway trains and vehicles at grade crossings. The death rate from railway accidents and injuries is the lowest on record and shows a most marked and gratifying decline as compared with the rate for 1913, which was 13 per 100,000, and a still more pronounced drop from the average for the five-year period 1906–10, which was 15 per 100,000.

Deaths resulting from street-car accidents and injuries numbered 1,673, or 2.5 per 100,000. This rate, like that for railway fatalities, is the lowest on record and shows a material falling off as compared with 1913, when it was 3.2, and as compared with the average for the five-year period 1906–10, which was 3.7.

The number of suicides reported in 1914 was 10,933, or 16.6 per 100,000 population. Of this number, 3,286 accomplished self-destruction

by the use of firearms, 3,000 by poison, 1,552 by hanging or strangulation, 1,419 by asphyxia, 658 by the use of knives or other cutting or piercing instruments, 619 by drowning, 225 by jumping from high places, 89 by crushing, and 85 by other methods.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

A SUPPER will be given by the Harvey Society in honor of Dr. William H. Welch following his lecture upon Medical Education before the society on April 29. The supper will be given in Sherry's ballroom.

OSCAR T. SCHULTZ, M.D., professor of bacteriology and pathology in the University of Nebraska College of Medicine, Omaha, has been made director of the Nelson Morris Memorial Institute for Medical Research, Chicago. Max Morse, Ph.D., assistant professor of biochemistry in the college, has been appointed associate in chemistry in the institute.

R. E. COKER, Ph.D. (Johns Hopkins, '06), for several years director of the United States Fisheries Station for pearl-mussel investigation at Fairport, Iowa, has been promoted to be head of the division of scientific inquiry in the Bureau of Fisheries at Washington.

DR. D. H. SCOTT, F.R.S., professor of botany in the London Royal College of Science, has been elected a foreign member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, in succession to the late Count Solms-Laubach.

THE Founder's medal of the Royal Geographical Society has been awarded to Lieutenant-Colonel P. H. Fawcett, for his explorations and surveys on the upper waters of the Amazon; and the Patron's medal to Captain F. M. Bailey, Indian Army, for his exploration of the Tsangpo-Dihang River in the hitherto almost unexplored country where it breaks through the Himalayas. The Murchison award has been made to Lieutenant-Colonel Whitlock, R.E., for his work in connection with the delimitation of the Yola-Chad boundary in 1903–5, and the Yola Cross River boundary in 1907–9; the Back award to Mr. Frank Wild, second in command of Sir Ernest Shackleton's transcontinental Antarctic Expe-

dition, for his long-continued services in the exploration of Australia; the Cuthbert Peek award to Mr. F. Kingdon Ward for his journeys in the frontier regions between China and Burma, and to assist him in the further exploration of those regions; the Gill Memorial to Lieutenant-Colonel E. M. Jack, R.E., for his service in the delimitation and demarcation of the Uganda-Congo boundary.

As has been noted here the Nichols medal, awarded by the New York Section of the American Chemical Society for the best original contribution to the publication of the society during the year 1915, was conferred upon Dr. Claude Silbert Hudson, of the Bureau of Chemistry, in recognition of his research in the field of organic chemistry, at the regular meeting of the section, in Rumford Hall, Chemists' Club, March 10, 1916. In presenting the medal Dr. T. B. Watson, chairman of the New York Section of the society, quoted the specific character of chemical research represented by the different awards of the William H. Nichols medal in past years:

- 1903—Agricultural chemistry, E. B. Voorhees.
- 1905—Rare earths, C. L. Parsons.
- 1906—Organic chemistry, M. T. Bogert.
- 1907—Analytical chemistry, H. B. Bishop.
- 1908—Chemical engineering, W. H. Walker.
- 1908—Physical chemistry, W. A. Noyes and H. C. P. Weber.
- 1909—Organic chemistry, L. H. Baekeland.
- 1911—Physical chemistry, M. A. Rosanoff and C. W. Easley.
- 1912—Organic chemistry, C. James.
- 1914—Organic chemistry, M. Gomberg.
- 1915—Physical chemistry, I. Langmuir.

THE New York *Medical Record* states that the trustees of the New York Medical College and Hospital for Women gave a luncheon at Delmonico's on April 8 in honor of the fiftieth anniversary of the graduation of Dr. Anna Manning Comfort, the only surviving member of the first class graduated from the college. Dr. Comfort and Mr. Jefferson Levy, one of the incorporators of the institution, were the guests of honor. At the commencement exercises of this first class addresses were made by Henry Ward Beecher, Peter Cooper, Horace

Greeley, Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Dr. Lozier, dean of the college. The endowment of a scholarship at the college, to be known as the Anna Manning Comfort scholarship, was announced at the luncheon.

DR. CARLOTTA J. MAURY will make a paleontological expedition to the Island of Santo Domingo to study the Tertiary paleontology and stratigraphy, making collections and sections. This work will be carried on by the Sarah Berliner endowment. Dr. Maury has also been appointed special lecturer in paleontologic research at Cornell University for 1916-1917 on the Sarah Berliner Foundation.

THE University of Notre Dame has conferred the Lætare medal this year on Dr. James J. Walsh, author of publications on the history of science.

WE learn from *Nature* that at the University of Cambridge the Smith's prizes are awarded to H. M. Garner, St. John's College, for two papers on orbital oscillations about the equilateral triangular configuration in the problem of three bodies, and to G. P. Thomson, Corpus Christi College, for four papers on aeroplane problems. A Rayleigh prize is awarded to W. M. Smart, Trinity College, for an essay on the libration of the Trojan planets.

DR. L. JOST, professor of botany, has been elected rector of the university at Strassburg.

AT its meeting held on April 12, the Rumford Committee of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences voted a grant of \$100 in addition to a former appropriation to Professor Frederick Palmer, Jr., of Haverford College, in aid of his research on the properties of light of extremely short wave-length.

DR. CHARLES WEISMAN, of the United States Public Health Service, has been transferred to Pittsburgh, which is the new headquarters of the service for work on industrial hygiene.

W. F. HORTON, mining technologist of the Bureau of Mines, has resigned to accept services with a steel company.

DR. H. H. MITCHELL has been appointed epidemiologist to the Indiana State Board of Health.

A. W. RICHTER, dean of engineering at the Montana State College, was elected president of the Montana Society of Engineers at the annual meeting which took place at Helena on April 7 and 8.

THE 722d meeting of the Philosophical Society of Washington will be held at the Cosmos Club, on April 20, when the address of the evening will be by Dr. R. A. Millikan, of the University of Chicago, on "Some Recent Aspects of the Radiation Problem." Members of the American Physical Society are invited to attend this meeting, which will be followed by a social hour.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Cosmos Club, Washington, held on April 10, Dr. W. T. Swingle delivered an address on "Impressions of a Visit to Japan."

DR. FREDERICK H. GETMAN delivered a lecture on the "Nature of the Chemical Elements" before the Science Club of Wellesley College on April 11.

PROFESSOR W. S. FRANKLIN delivered a lecture on "Electric Waves" before the department of Electrical Engineering of the University of Illinois on April 6. He also spoke before the Physics Club on "Some Mechanical Analogies in Electricity and Magnetism." Two other lectures were given by Professor Franklin, one on the "Curved Flight of a Baseball" and the other on "Bill's School and Mine."

PROFESSOR LIBERTY H. BAILEY, of Ithaca; Dr. Ernest Burnham, of Kalamazoo; President Kenyon L. Butterfield, of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, and Professor E. R. Groves, of the New Hampshire College, will deliver courses of lectures at the summer graduate school of the Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations which will be held this year at Amherst, Mass., at the Massachusetts Agricultural College.

THE anniversary meeting of the British Chemical Society was held on March 30, when Dr. Alexander Scott delivered his presidential address, entitled "Our Seventy-fifth Anniversary."

DR. WILLIAM PALMER BOLLES died at Santa Barbara, Cal., on March 18. He was professor of materia medica and botany in the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy from 1874 to 1884, and instructor in materia medica and therapeutics in the Harvard Medical School from 1880 to 1884. He was until his retirement in 1908 surgeon at the Boston City Hospital.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

WITH the exception of chemistry, all the departments of the Johns Hopkins University will be transferred to Homewood by October, 1916. The Johns Hopkins Club has contracted to take over the Carroll House on the Homewood campus.

By the will of the late Colonel E. A. Knox the New York Medical College and Hospital for Women receives a bequest of \$5,000.

DR. E. D. BALL, director of the experiment station and school of agriculture of the Utah Agricultural College has resigned to take effect at the end of the present year. Dr. Ball plans to go back into entomological work. Dr. F. S. Harris, professor of agronomy, has been elected director of the experiment station, and Dr. G. R. Hill, professor of botany and plant pathology, director of the school of agriculture.

DR. NELLIS B. FOSTER, assistant professor of medicine at Cornell University Medical School, has accepted the appointment of professor of medicine at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

DR. FRANK WORTHINGTON LYNCH, formerly associate professor of obstetrics at the University of Chicago, has been made full professor of obstetrics at the University of California, succeeding J. Morris Slemmons, 1900, who has accepted a similar chair at Yale.

DR. ERNEST LAPLACE, who has been professor of surgery and clinical surgery in the Medico-Chirurgical College, Philadelphia, for the last twenty years, has accepted also the duties of professor of principles of surgery and clinical surgery held by the late Dr. Rodman.