

report by a committee composed of MM. Jordan, Lippmann, Emile Picard, d'Arsonval, Haller, A. Lacroix, Tisserand and Le Chatelier on this question. It is pointed out that all the great industrial nations possess national laboratories of scientific research, systematically directed towards the study of technical problems. The National Physical Laboratory in England, the Bureau of Standards and the Carnegie Institution in the United States, the Physikalische Reichsanstalt and the institutes founded by the Wilhelm Gesellschaft in Germany are given as examples. France has no corresponding institution, and after a full discussion of the questions of control, staff, and work to be done, the following resolution was unanimously carried:

The Academy of Sciences, convinced of the necessity of organizing in France, in a systematic manner, certain scientific researches, expresses its wish that a National Physical Laboratory should be started, for the prosecution of scientific researches useful to the progress of industry. As in other countries, this laboratory would be placed under the control and direction of the Academy of Sciences.

On November 27 this question was further considered by the academy, and it was suggested that the general direction of the laboratory should be entrusted to a council, one half of the members to be nominated by the academy, one quarter representatives of the state departments, and the remaining quarter delegated by the principal industrial interests. Certain existing state laboratories might be affiliated to the national laboratory. A considerable grant for establishment and maintenance will be necessary.

DEDICATION OF THE NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM

ALTHOUGH the New York State Museum at Albany has been open to the public for some months past, it seemed wise to the regents of the university to bring the public into closer touch with the new museum by formal dedicatory exercises. These took place in the chancellors' hall of the education building at Albany on the afternoon and evening of Friday, December 29. The afternoon exercises consisted of a series of addresses from eminent

speakers, each representing a special phase of community interest in the museum. The Honorable Charles B. Alexander, chairman of the regents committee of the State Museum, presided, and the speakers were President John H. Finley on behalf of the university and the educational system of the state; Senator Henry M. Sage on behalf of the state government; Doctor Francis Lynde Stetson on behalf of the people; the Honorable Charles D. Walcott, speaking as a representative of science in its broadest sense, and Director John M. Clarke on behalf of the museum.

In the evening the principal address was by Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, who spoke under the title "Productive Scientific Scholarship," and gave an interesting speech to a large audience. Colonel Roosevelt was introduced by Governor Charles S. Whitman, who very happily set forth the value of the research work of the scientific corps attached to the museum. The evening exercises were felicitous and successful throughout, and were followed by a reception in the halls of the museum. Colonel Roosevelt's address on this occasion, or the part of it that related especially to his scientific theme, has been already printed in *SCIENCE*, and all the addresses of the occasion will be published as a bulletin of the university.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

PROFESSOR FRANK D. ADAMS, of McGill University, has been elected president of the Geological Society of America. Dr. Charles P. Berkey, of Columbia University, continues as acting secretary, in the absence in the Arctic regions of Dr. E. O. Hovey.

OFFICERS of the Mathematical Association of America elected at the New York meeting, on December 29, are: *President*, Florian Cajori, Colorado College; *Vice-presidents*, Oswald Veblen, Princeton University, and D. N. Lehmer, University of California; *Secretary-treasurer*, W. D. Cairns, Oberlin College; *Members of the Council* to serve until January, 1920: E. R. Hedrick, University of Missouri; Helen A. Merrill, Wellesley College; R. E. Moritz, University of Washington; D. E.

Smith, Columbia University; *Member of the Council* to take the place of Florian Cajori (elected president): E. V. Huntington, Harvard University.

DR. F. W. TAUSSIG, professor of political economy at Harvard University, is reported to have accepted the chairmanship of the tariff commission created by the present congress.

THE title of emeritus professor of physics in the University of London has been conferred by the senate on Dr. F. T. Trouton, who held the Quain chair of physics until 1915.

DR. A. YERSIN, director of the Pasteur Institute of Indo-China, has been awarded the Lasserre prize for the present year for his work on anti-plague serum.

PRIVAT-DOZENT J. KYRLE, of the University of Vienna, has been awarded \$200 by the Austrian Academy of Sciences to continue his experimental researches on leprosy.

MR. WILLIAM GRUNOW, eighty-seven years old, who was for thirty-six years custodian of the United States Military Academy Observatory at West Point and a skilled instrument-maker, died on January 5.

A CORRESPONDENT writes that Mr. Orville Wright has moved into his recently completed laboratories at Dayton, Ohio. The death of Wilbur Wright a year ago caused the suspension of work on the problems of aviation for a time. But in November Mr. Wright resumed flying at his aviation field and dropped his experiments only when the winter weather interfered. Mr. Wright states that there are certain experiments having to do with the theoretical side of aeronautics which the Wright brothers had made prior to 1905. They gave up experimentation for flying. One of the experiments with which Orville Wright will busy himself is the wind funnel. He began observing the effect of wind currents on plane surfaces early in the year. As soon as spring comes, Mr. Wright will begin flying again at his aviation field and will continue his experiments in the new laboratories.

PROFESSOR FREDERICK E. BREITHUT, of the department of chemistry of the College of the City of New York, has issued a report to the

New York Section of the American Chemical Society, urging a statistical investigation of the chemists of the United States so that the conditions of employment and opportunities for young men entering the profession may be ascertained. The committee, appointed by Dr. J. Merrit Matthews, chairman of the New York Section, consists of Professor Frederick E. Breithut, chairman; Elwood Henrick, Bernhard C. Hesse and Otto H. Klein.

DR. RICHARD M. PEARCE, the John Herr Musser professor of research medicine in the University of Pennsylvania and adviser in medical education to the International Health Board of the Rockefeller Foundation, sails on January 15 for Argentina and Uruguay to study medical conditions in these countries.

A GRANT of \$250 has been made by the C. M. Warren Committee of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences to Professor E. L. Mark, of Harvard University, for the investigation of certain properties of sea water at the Bermuda Islands.

THE Association of Military Surgeons of the United States has announced the results of the Henry S. Wellcome prize competition. Capt. Mahlon Ashford, of the Army Medical Corps, who wrote on "The Organization of Medical Officers," was awarded a gold medal and \$300. A silver medal and \$200 was awarded to Assistant Surgeon-General W. C. Rucker, of the Public Health Service, whose essay was entitled: "The Influence of the European War on the Transmission of the infections of Disease."

UNDER the Herter Foundation the faculty of the University and Bellevue Hospital Medical College announces five lectures by Professor Archibald B. Macallum, of the University of Toronto, on "The Distribution of Inorganic Compounds in Animal and Vegetable Tissues and the Forces that determine it." These lectures began January 8, at 4 o'clock, at the Carnegie Laboratory, and will continue daily at the same hour.

DR. FOREST RAY MOULTON, professor of astronomy in the University of Chicago, will give in February, five lectures at Western Reserve University on the MacBride Foundation.

WE learn from *Nature* that a fund is being raised to purchase the very valuable scientific library of the late Professor Silvanus Thompson and to present it to the Institution of Electrical Engineers as a memorial of his life and work, the library to be accessible to the public on the same conditions as the Ronalds Library. Those who wish to subscribe to this fund or to have further information regarding it are requested to communicate with Mr. W. M. Mordey, 82 Victoria Street, London, S.W.

A CORRESPONDENT writes: "In the death, on December 2, of Dr. Herbert Armistead Sayre, professor of mathematics and sometime professor of physics at the University of Alabama, there passed a true gentleman, and thousands of his past students will ever keep within their hearts a warm appreciation of his kindly friendliness and sterling worth."

THE death is announced of Mr. William Ellis, F.R.S., in his eighty-ninth year. Mr. Ellis was formerly superintendent of the Magnetical and Meteorological Branch of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich. He joined the Observatory in 1841, and was attached to the astronomical department until 1874, having during the preceding eighteen years been in charge of the chronometric and electric branch.

DR. RAYMOND TRIPIER, former professor of pathologic anatomy at the Lyons School of Medicine, has died at the age of seventy-eight years.

WORD has come to this country of the death on the battlefield at Artois, France, on September 15, 1915, of Dr. Bernard Collin, of the staff of the zoological station of the University of Montpellier, situated at Cette. Dr. Collin had made a brilliant record by his researches on the cytology of the Suctoria and was regarded as one of the most promising of the younger protozoologists of France.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE University of Cincinnati has received by the will of Francis H. Baldwin, of Cincinnati, a bequest of approximately \$675,000 for the unspecified uses of the university.

JEFFERSON MEDICAL COLLEGE at Philadelphia has received a gift of \$150,000 from Miss Anna J. Magee to endow the Magee professorship for the practice of medicine and clinical surgery, now held by Professor Thomas McCrae. During the year, the college has received \$100,000 from Daniel Baugh to establish the provost professorship of therapeutics, held by Dr. Hobart A. Hare, and an equal sum from friends of the college to endow the Samuel D. Gross professorship of surgery, held by Dr. J. Chalmers Da Costa. It is understood that these gifts are intended to make unnecessary the merging of the Jefferson Medical College with the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania.

THE board of trustees of the Emma Willard School, Troy, N. Y., announces that, continuing her benevolence toward this school and the new Russell Sage College of Practical Arts, Mrs. Russell Sage has given \$250,000 toward the advancement of the work of this latter institution, the only requirement being that the money so given should be used the same way as the original gift of a like amount a year ago to establish the college.

FRIENDS of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, have expressed their intention of contributing £100,000 to the funds of the college, subject to a reservation of their right to make proposals to the council as to either the capital or the income.

HAROLD VEATCH BOZELL, E.E., director of the University of Oklahoma Electrical Engineering School, is temporarily serving on the Sheffield Scientific School faculty of Yale University. Dr. Alois Francis Kovarik has been appointed assistant professor of physics in the school.

MR. F. R. GRIFFITH, JR., A.M. of Washington University, who has been research assistant in physiology at Tulane University, has been elected assistant professor of biology at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas.

DR. H. A. L. FISHER, vice-chancellor of Sheffield University, has been appointed president of the Board of Education in the new British cabinet.