

"Potash as a By-product from the Blast Furnace," by R. J. Wysor.

"Significance of Manganese in American Steel Metallurgy," by F. H. Willecox.

The committee on arrangements for the convention includes: David H. Browne, chairman; Lawrence Addicks, P. E. Barbour, George D. Barron, Karl Eilers, Louis D. Huntoon, H. A. Megraw, Thomas T. Read, Burr A. Robinson, F. T. Rubidge, E. Maltby Shipp, Bradley Stoughton, Edward B. Sturgis and Arthur L. Walker.

#### APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

THE House Bill making appropriations to the U. S. Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, is now under discussion. The main bill carries a total appropriation for routine and ordinary work of \$24,221,081. To this great amount are added other sums bringing the total amount carried in the bill to \$25,694,685. The amounts appropriated to the scientific bureaus are as follows:

Weather Bureau .....	\$1,778,320
Bureau of Animal Industry .....	3,528,286
Bureau of Plant Industry .....	2,769,630
Forest Service .....	5,711,195
Bureau of Chemistry .....	1,212,311
Bureau of Soils .....	363,855
Bureau of Entomology .....	911,980
Bureau of Biological Survey .....	589,510
Office of Public Roads and Rural Engineering .....	702,100

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

SIR WILLIAM CROOKES, the distinguished English chemist; Dr. C. A. Angot, director of the French Bureau of Meteorology, and Professor August Gärtner, professor of hygiene, University of Jena, have been elected foreign members of the Academy of Sciences of Sweden.

THE Elisha Kent Kane medal of the Geographical Society of Philadelphia was, on January 19, conferred on Dr. William Curtis Farabee. Dr. Farabee gave before the society an illustrated lecture on "Exploration in the Amazon Valley and in the Unknown Guinea,

1913 to 1916." Dr. Farabee has also had conferred upon him the gold medal of the Explorers' Club of New York.

PROFESSOR E. F. NORTHRUP, research physicist of Princeton University, has been awarded the Elliott Cresson medal by the Franklin Institute "in recognition of his electrical inventions and high temperature investigations."

PROFESSOR WILBUR M. WILSON, of the department of civil engineering at the University of Illinois, was honored by the Western Society of Engineers at its annual meeting on January 10, by having conferred upon him the Octave Chanute medal, in recognition of the fact that a paper presented by him in 1915 was judged to be the best in the field of civil engineering presented before the society during that year. The medal was established in memory of Dr. Octave Chanute, whose studies in the field of aerodynamics were notable.

BRIGADIER GENERAL JOSEPH E. KUHN has been appointed president of the War College.

E. D. BALL, formerly director of the Utah Station, has been made state entomologist of Wisconsin, vice J. G. Saunders resigned to succeed H. A. Surface as economic zoologist of Pennsylvania.

PROFESSOR WERNER has been appointed director of the Heidelberg Institute for the Investigation of Cancer established by the late Professor Czerny.

AFTER twenty years' service in the New York Department of Health, Dr. John S. Billings, now deputy commissioner of health and director of the bureau of preventable diseases, has offered his resignation, to take effect on May 1.

EARL B. SMITH, formerly with the U. S. Office of Public Roads and Rural Engineering has been transferred to the U. S. Bureau of Soils as mechanical engineer. His work will be on engineering lines in the design and construction of the new government potash plant at Summerland, California, where he, with Dr. Turrentine, of the Department of Agriculture, will investigate the commercial possibilities of extracting potash, iodine, tar