

Dr. J. W. Trask, Dr. Victor C. Vaughan, Dr. William H. Welch, Dr. George C. Whipple, Dr. C.-E. A. Winslow, Dr. William C. Woodward.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

PROFESSOR R. A. COOLEY, state entomologist and professor of zoology at the Montana State College, has been elected president of the American Association of Economic Entomologists.

At the annual meeting of the Society of American Bacteriologists officers were elected as follows: *President*, Professor L. F. Rettger, of the Sheffield Scientific School; *Vice-president*, Dr. R. E. Buchanan, Iowa State College; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Dr. A. Parker Hutchins, Glenolden; *Delegate* to council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Dr. P. F. Hadley, Kingston, R. I.; *council members*, Miss Jean Broadhurst, New York; Dr. P. F. Clark, Wisconsin; Dr. L. A. Rogers, Washington, D. C., and A. E. Ingham, Boston.

PROFESSOR W. F. M. GOSS, dean of the college of engineering of the University of Illinois, has resigned to accept the presidency of the Railway Car Manufacturers' Association of New York. The resignation will take effect as soon as Dr. Goss can be relieved.

GENERAL GEORGE W. GOETHALS, recently chief engineer of the Panama Canal and governor of the Canal Zone, has announced the opening of consulting engineering offices in New York City. General Goethals has associated with him specialists, including George M. Wells, former resident engineer in charge of building construction, Canal Zone, and will engage in a general consulting practise in civil, electrical, mechanical and hydraulic engineering.

IN memory of Judge Harvey H. Baker, of the Boston Juvenile Court, there has been established a Judge Baker Foundation. Dr. William Healy, director of the Psychopathic Institute of the Juvenile Court of Cook County, will have charge of the work of the new foundation.

THE Delalande-Guérineau prize of the Paris Academy of Sciences has been awarded to Sir Ernest Shackleton, for his explorations in the Antarctic continent.

THE Boyle medal of the Royal Dublin Society has been conferred on Professor Henry H. Dixon, professor of botany in the University of Dublin.

At a stated meeting of the New York Academy of Medicine on February 1, Dr. Walter B. James announced that the portrait of Dr. William M. Polk had been presented to the academy, and that this completed the full line of portraits of presidents of the academy. Dr. George D. Stewart made the address of acceptance on behalf of the academy. The portrait is the work of Miss Belle Isaacs.

THE twelfth annual banquet of the Cornell Society of Civil Engineers at the Hotel Breslin, New York, on January 19, was given in honor of Professor Irving Porter Church. Nearly a hundred and fifty engineers were present.

BEFORE leaving the United States to spend a year in the far east, Dr. Liberty Hyde Bailey was the guest at a dinner given by the members of the Ithaca Board of Commerce and his fellow members of the Cornell faculty. Roger B. Williams, trustee of the university, was toastmaster. The speakers were Dr. W. H. Jordan, head of the State Experimental Station at Geneva; Dean A. W. Smith, of the College of Mechanical Engineering; Dean A. R. Mann, of the College of Agriculture; Dean C. A. Martin, of the College of Architecture; Dean E. H. Haskell, of the College of Civil Engineering; Professor Nathaniel Schmidt, of the department of Semitics, and Jacob Rothschild, chairman of the Board of Commerce.

DR. GREGORY D. WALCOTT, professor of philosophy and psychology in Hamline University, has been given a year's leave of absence to teach psychology and logic in the government college of Tsing Hua, China. He expects to sail from San Francisco about the first of next July and to be abroad until September, 1918.

DR. R. SAUNDBY has been appointed by the Royal College of Physicians, London, Harveian Orator; Dr. E. S. Reynolds to be Bradshaw Lecturer for this year, and Dr. T. M. Legge to be Milroy Lecturer for 1918.

At the Royal Institution Professor C. S. Sherrington is giving a course of six lectures on "The Old Brain and the New Brain, and their Meaning," and Mr. A. R. Hinks, F.R.S., two lectures, on "The Lakes and Mountains of Central Africa."

RUDOLF VON VIRCHOW's family have donated to the Berlin "Goldsammelstelle" seven gold medals that had been conferred on Virchow by foreign scientific organizations. The medals have a total weight of 1,200 gm. and are valued at about \$650. The heirs of Mommsen have taken a similar step, turning in to the gold reserve the medals that had been awarded to Mommsen in his day.

THE Chemical Society of France held a memorial meeting, on December 9, on the hundredth anniversary of the birth of the French chemist, C. F. Gerhardt, 1816-1856, known for his work on the structure of the molecule.

MR. ANDREA ANGEL, chief chemist at the factory at Woolwich where the recent explosion occurred, the story of whose self-sacrifice is told in the official report of the disaster, was born in 1877. Educated at Christ Church, Oxford, he was lecturer in natural science at Brasenose and also hon. tutor in chemistry to the non-collegiate students.

PROFESSOR E. GAUPP, professor of anatomy in Breslau, died on November 24, 1916.

THE death is announced of the former professor of ophthalmology at the Universities of Bern and Rostock, Dr. von Zehender, aged ninety-one years.

IN preparation for the next annual meeting of the American Medical Association, which is to be held in New York during the week of June 4-10, a large committee of local physicians has been formed charged with perfecting the details necessary to make such a meeting a success. Dr. Wendell C. Phillips is chairman, Dr. Alexander Lambert is treas-

urer and Dr. Floyd M. Crandall is secretary of the New York Committee of Arrangements. The headquarters of the committee are in the Academy of Medicine, 17 West 43d Street. Subcommittees have been formed dealing with finance, registration, entertainment, hotels, sections, scientific exhibit, commercial exhibit, press and publicity, and golf. On the two days preceding the meeting, namely, on June 4 and 5, there will be a clinical congress, during which clinics, demonstrations and tours of inspection will be conducted in hospitals, laboratories, clinics and scientific institutions throughout the city. The organization of the features to be made available at this time has been entrusted to over thirty different sections, representing general medicine, pharmacology and therapeutics, pathology and physiology, preventive medicine and hygiene, pediatrics, dermatology, neurology, mental diseases, general surgery, orthopedic surgery, gynecology, obstetrics, urology, rectum and colon, ophthalmology, otology, rhinology and laryngology, stomatology, roentgenology, anesthetics, and women physicians. In addition to this, there are sections dealing with allied topics, such as trained nursing and training schools, district nursing, hospital social service, planning and financing of municipal and non-municipal hospitals, hospital superintendents and executives, and military surgery and Red Cross.

A BILL prepared by the California state board of health carrying with it an appropriation of \$500,000 provides for the establishment of a state psychopathic hospital to be located near the University of California Medical School in San Francisco, to be governed by the university regents with the professor of psychiatry as ex-officio director. The hospital is to provide not only a research laboratory but treatment for all patients requiring special or intensive study for a short period.

A NUMBER of members of the Kaiser Wilhelm Association have planned a German institute for research on psychiatry. The funds subscribed as yet do not permit an independent establishment, but it is proposed to organize an institute of the kind as a branch of the Munich psychiatric clinic.

THE governor of Minnesota has recommended to the legislature that \$25,000 be appropriated at the present session for the use of the state entomologist in combating white pine blister rust in Minnesota. As arranged, the plant pathologist of the experiment station and the state entomologist will work in cooperation the coming season; the plant pathologist to have charge of scouting and eradication along the eastern border of Minnesota in the St. Croix Valley; the state entomologist, by virtue of his office as nursery inspector, will take care of inspection and eradication in nurseries, parks, cemeteries and private plantings. It is expected that the state of Wisconsin will cooperate energetically on its side of the St. Croix River.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THROUGH the generosity of a friend of Harvard University, who prefers to remain unknown, there has been established an assistant professorship of bacteriology in the Harvard Medical School, to be known as the Silas Arnold Houghton Professorship. In the words of the donor, the gift is made "in grateful memory of Dr. Houghton as a physician and a friend."

M. G. KAINS, professor of horticulture and horticulturist at the Pennsylvania College and Station, has resigned and has been succeeded by Dr. S. W. Fletcher, formerly director of the Virginia Station.

DR. H. B. FANTHAM, of Christ's College, Cambridge, has been appointed to the professorship of zoology at the South African School of Mines and Technology, Johannesburg, and Dr. C. E. Moss, of Emmanuel College, has been appointed professor of botany to the same institution.

AT London University Mr. James John Guest, B.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge, has been appointed to the university readership in graphics and structural engineering, tenable at University College, in succession to Dr. W. H. Eccles, reader in graphics, who has been appointed professor of applied physics and electrical engineering at Finsbury Technical College.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

THE SLIDES OF THE PANAMA CANAL

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: In view of the fact that portions of the annual report of the governor of the Panama Canal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916, containing criticisms of the writer's views of the canal slides have been published recently in many newspapers throughout the country, the writer is impelled to make the following statement.

The governor implies in his report that the sole basis for the writer's expressed opinion that "practically all of Gold Hill and much of Zion Hill must be removed" "before the Canal can be said to be completed and permanently opened to traffic" was, as he states, an investigation of "fully three or four hours" and says that he (the writer) stated that he had made a "thorough examination." In the first place, the writer did not state that he had made a "thorough examination," these words being used without the writer's knowledge. Whether the examination was sufficiently thorough and enough information obtained to justify an expression of opinion may be determined from the following statements.

It is doubtful whether any other activity of the government has ever received equal publicity through the press, official reports, lectures and descriptions of returned visitors and employees as has the Panama Canal during its construction, so that there has been no excuse for any interested person not having exact and detailed information concerning the canal project.

The writer, as well as most geologists, had his interest aroused several years ago, by the unexpected difficulties encountered by the Panama Canal engineers. This was especially the case because it was evident that the combination of geological and climatic conditions prevailing there were mainly responsible for the troubles. From careful studies of much published and unpublished data the writer was fairly familiar with the situation long before the opportunity came to visit the region.

On returning from an extensive trip through the South American continent, the writer