

concerned in an increased agricultural production" will be held on Friday afternoon, December 28, at 2 o'clock, the subject to be considered under the following five heads:

Present status of production, Dr. John Lee Coulter, dean of agriculture, West Virginia University.

Feasibility of increasing production, Dean E. Davenport, college of agriculture, University of Illinois.

Obstacles to enlarged production, Professor W. D. Hurd, assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture.

Limiting factors in production, Professor Chas. E. Thorne, director of the Ohio Experiment Station.

The human element, Mr. Herbert Quick, member of the Federal Farm Loan Board.

The address of the retiring vice-president of the section, Dr. W. H. Jordan, director of the New York State Experiment Station, upon "The future of agricultural education and research in the United States," will be given on Saturday morning, December 29, at 11 o'clock. The sessions will be presided over by Dr. H. J. Waters, president of the Kansas State Agricultural College. They will be held in Room 105, Thaw Hall, University of Pittsburgh.

The symposium deals with a subject of the first importance to agriculture and to the welfare of the nation. It will be treated in a semi-popular manner, having in mind the broad general interest relating to it.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Royal Society has conferred Royal medals on Dr. John Aitken, for his researches on cloudy condensations, and on Dr. Arthur Smith Woodward, for his researches in vertebrate paleontology, and the Copley medal on M. Emile Roux, for his services to bacteriology and as a pioneer in serum therapy; the Davy medal on M. Albin Haller, for his researches in organic chemistry; the Buchanan medal on Sir Almroth Wright, for his contributions to preventive medicine; and the Hughes medal on Professor C. G. Barkla, for his work on X-ray radiation.

DR. CHRISTOPHER ADDISON, minister of reconstruction in Great Britain, has been ap-

pointed minister of public health, and hopes to carry a bill through parliament before Christmas, forming a new ministry to forward a place for the nationalization of the medical profession with free medical attendance for every one.

MAJOR BENEDICT CROWELL, of Cleveland, an engineer officer, now in charge of the Washington office of the Panama Canal, has been appointed assistant secretary of war to succeed William Ingraham, who has become surveyor of the Port of Portland.

DEAN KLEIN, of the veterinary department of the University of Pennsylvania, is at present in France, having been sent by the government on a special mission to General Pershing to consult him regarding the organization of the Veterinary Corps, and to make a survey of the situation in France.

DR. R. B. OWENS, secretary of the Franklin Institute, now in France on leave of absence, acting as head of the Army Intelligence Bureau, has been elevated to the rank of major. He is serving under General Pershing.

MR. GEORGE E. HOLM, research assistant in the division of agricultural biochemistry of the University of Minnesota, has been commissioned first lieutenant in the Sanitary Corps. He will be assigned to investigational work in the Gas Defense Service.

DR. CHARLES L. REESE, chemical director of the du Pont Powder Company, has been elected a member of the board of directors of that company.

MR. F. G. MOSES has been appointed hydrometallurgist in the U. S. Bureau of Mines, with headquarters at Salt Lake City station.

J. W. TURRENTINE is directing the work of the government's experimental kelp-potash plant at Summerland, near Santa Barbara, Cal. The plant is in operation and is producing crude potash. Apparatus is now being installed which will make possible the production of refined potash and by-products, particularly iodine, for both of which chemicals there is a large demand for industrial and military purposes.

PROFESSOR H. E. GREGORY, of Yale University, has left for the Hawaiian Islands, where he plans to spend a few months in geological investigation.

PROFESSOR C. C. NUTTING, who will lead a party of Iowa scientific men in an expedition to the West Indies next summer, has received word that the English government buildings on the Pelican islands, which will be the base of the expedition, will be turned over to the explorers without cost. Some of the men who intended to go with this expedition at first have since entered war service, but plans are going forward rapidly and the outlook is promising. Professor Nutting made a preliminary visit to the islands last summer and reported that he had never seen a place where the opportunity for scientific research was greater.

PRESIDENT STIEGLITZ, of the American Chemical Society, has appointed the following committee on the supply of organic chemicals for research during the war: E. Emmet Reid, *Chairman*, Roger Adams, H. L. Fisher, J. W. E. Glattfeld, Wm. J. Hale.

At the annual meeting of the Cambridge Philosophical Society held on October 29 the following were elected officers of the society for the ensuing session: *President*, Professor Marr; *Vice-presidents*, Professor Newall, Dr. Doncaster and Mr. W. H. Mills; *Treasurer*, Professor Hobson; *Secretaries*, Mr. A. Wood, Mr. G. H. Hardy and Mr. H. H. Brindley; *New Members of Council*, Sir J. Larmor, Professor Eddington and Dr. Marshall.

At the anniversary meeting of the Mineralogical Society, held on November 6, the following were elected officers: *President*, Mr. W. Barlow; *Vice-presidents*, Professor H. L. Bowman and Mr. A. Hutchinson; *Treasurer*, Sir William P. Beale, Bart.; *General Secretary*, Dr. G. T. Prior; *Foreign Secretary*, Professor W. W. Watts; *Editor of the Journal*, Mr. L. J. Spencer.

At Yale University, Director Russell H. Chittenden and Professor Irving Fisher have delivered the first two of the special University Lectures on Food Conservation, and

Frederic C. Walcott, '91, of Mr. Hoover's staff, will give the third lecture, on "Governmental aspects of food conservation," in January.

ALONZO DORUS MELVIN, chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, since 1905, known for his work on animal diseases and their bearing on human health, died at his home in Washington, aged fifty-five years.

### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE Harvard University Corporation has announced the receipt of securities to the value of \$89,946.50 from James Byrne, '77, of New York City, to establish the "Byrne professorship of administrative law." The securities are the first payment towards a total foundation of \$150,000.

THE following telegram was sent by Dr. Hollis Godfrey, December 5, to presidents of all institutions giving degrees in technical courses: "I have just been authorized by the Secretary of War to request you to inform all your technical students that if they wait until drafted they can, upon summons to the draft camp, take with them a letter from you stating their special qualifications, such letter to be filed with occupational census questionnaire of the War Department. Under authority of this authorized telegram, the Secretary of War also authorizes me to say that every effort will be made to use each student's special training in connection with specialized occupations in the army, so as to afford technical students of draft age fully as great an opportunity through the draft as if they enlisted now."

THE annual meeting of the American Mathematical Society will be held in New York City on Thursday and Friday, December 27-28. The fortieth regular meeting of the Chicago Section will be held at the University of Chicago on Friday and Saturday, December 28-29. Friday afternoon will be devoted to a joint meeting with the Mathematical Association of America, at which Professor W. B. Ford will deliver his retiring address as chairman of the section.