

omy and efficiency. The following departments were created: Finance, agriculture, labor, mines and minerals; public works and buildings, public welfare, public health, trade and commerce and registration and education. A director of each was appointed by the governor. Provision is made for the preparation of a state budget in connection with each department, and in this and in many other ways it is expected that increased economy and efficiency will be secured in the administrative work of the state.

The Department of Registration and Education has charge of the work previously under the Board of Education of the state of Illinois, and the boards of trustees of the state normal schools. It also exercises the powers and duties vested by law in the boards of examiners for physicians, dentists, pharmacists, etc., and supervises the work of the Natural History Survey, Geological Survey and Water Survey of the state. In exercising the latter duty the director of the department is assisted by a Board of Natural Resources and Conservation, which acts through five or more subcommittees, each of which is composed of the director of Registration and Education, the president of the University of Illinois, or his representative, and the expert adviser, specially qualified in each of the fields of investigation covered by the surveys.

The first meeting of the full Board of Natural Resources and Conservation was held at the University of Illinois on Saturday, December 15, 1917. There were present, Director Francis W. Shepardson, who presided at the meeting, Dean David Kinley, representing the president of the University of Illinois, Professor T. C. Chamberlin, Professor John M. Coulter, Mr. John W. Alvord, Professor William Trelease and Professor W. A. Noyes, members of the board, and Professor S. A. Forbes, Mr. Frank W. DeWolf, Professor T. E. Savage, Mr. G. C. Habermeyer and Mr. W. T. Monfort, representing the Natural History Survey, the Geological Survey and the Water Survey.

Professor W. A. Noyes was chosen secretary of the board. The following divisions were organized in accordance with the provisions of

the Civil Administrative Code of the State of Illinois:

1. The State Natural History Survey Division, which includes the duties formerly exercised by the state entomologist and the State Laboratory of Natural History,
2. The State Geological Survey Division, and
3. The State Water Survey Division.

The board was organized to include the following subcommittees:

- (a) A subcommittee in the Natural History Survey Division, including the director, the representative of the president of the University of Illinois, Professor S. A. Forbes, *chief*, Professor John M. Coulter.
- (b) A subcommittee in the Natural History Survey Division, including the director, the representative of the president of the University of Illinois, Professor S. A. Forbes; *chief*, Professor William Trelease.
- (c) A subcommittee in the Geological Survey Division, including the director, the representative of the president of the University of Illinois, Mr. Frank W. DeWolf; *chief*, Professor T. C. Chamberlin.
- (d) A subcommittee in the Water Survey Division, including the director, the representative of the president of the University of Illinois, Mr. W. T. Monfort, Professor W. A. Noyes.
- (e) A subcommittee in the Water Survey Division, including the director, the representative of the president of the University of Illinois, Mr. G. C. Habermeyer, and Mr. John W. Alvord.

Professor S. A. Forbes was appointed chief of the Natural History Survey Division, Mr. Frank W. DeWolf, chief of the Geological Survey Division, and Professor Edward Bartow, chief of the Water Survey Division.

The chiefs of the respective surveys were requested to prepare a brief statement of the character of the work done by similar scientific surveys and bureaus in other states, and to recommend directions in which the work of our surveys should be developed.

Reports were received from the chiefs of the respective surveys with regard to the work which is now in progress and which has been completed during the past year.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

At the annual election for officers of the American Philosophical Society, held on Jan-

uary 5th, 1918, the following were elected to serve for the ensuing year: *President*, William B. Scott; *Vice-Presidents*, Albert A. Michelson, George Ellery Hale, Joseph G. Rosen-garten; *Secretaries*, I. Minis Hays, Arthur W. Goodspeed, Harry F. Keller, Bradley Moore Davis; *Curators*, Charles L. Doolittle, William P. Wilson, Leslie W. Miller; *Treasurer*, Henry La Barre Jayne; *Councilors*, to serve for three years, Bertram B. Boltwood, Ernest W. Brown, Francis B. Gummere, Herbert S. Jennings.

OFFICERS of the Geological Society of America for 1918, were elected at the recent meeting, as follows: *President*, Whitman Cross, Washington, D. C.; *First Vice-President*, Bailey Willis, Stanford University, Cal.; *Second Vice-President*, Frank Leverett, Ann Arbor, Mich.; *Third Vice-President*, F. H. Knowlton, Washington, D. C.; *Secretary*, Edmund Otis Hovey, New York; *Treasurer*, E. B. Mathews, Baltimore, Md.; *Editor*, Joseph Stanley-Brown, New York; *Librarian*, Frank R. VanHorn, Cleveland, Ohio; *Councilors* (1918-1920), Joseph Barrell, New Haven, Conn., R. A. Daly, Cambridge Mass.

THE officers of the Brooklyn Entomological Society elected at the annual meeting on January 10 are as follows: W. T. Bather, *president*; W. T. Davis, *vice-president*; Chris. E. Olsen, *treasurer*; J. R. de la Torre Bueno, *corresponding secretary*; R. P. Dow, *corresponding secretary*. *Publication Committee*: R. P. Dow; *Editor*, C. Schaefer and J. R. de la Torre Bueno.

PROFESSOR R. A. SAMPSON has been elected president of the Scottish Meteorological Society.

THE portrait of Professor Thomas C. Chamberlin, head of the department of geology at the University of Chicago, referred to in a recent issue of SCIENCE, will be presented to the university at the June convocation.

MAYOR HYLAN has appointed Dr. J. Lewis Amster, of the Bronx, health commissioner of New York City, to succeed Dr. Haven Emerson. Dr. Amster is a graduate of the Cornell University Medical School, class of 1902.

DR. R. W. SHUFELDT, of Washington, D. C., having made application for duty on the active list of the Medical Corps of the Army, has been assigned by General Gorgas to the Army Medical Museum. His work will consist in modernizing the present collection and preparing for the incoming medical and surgical material from the front.

THE following committee on the supply of organic chemicals for research during the war has been appointed by the American Chemical Society: E. Emmet Reid, chairman, Roger Adams, H. L. Fisher, J. W. E. Glattfeld, W. J. Hale.

At the ninth annual meeting of the American Phytopathological Society a movement was started which indicates that plant pathologists are not merely ready but determined to transform their assets and resources into war energy. In order that crop production may be increased by a more concerted effort than ever before put forth to stop the enormous leaks due to plant diseases, a War Emergency Board of seven members was created. The members of the board with the regions which they represent and the special lines of activity which they will supervise are as follows: *Chairman*, H. H. Whetzel, Cornell University, for the northeast, College and Extension Education; F. D. Kern, the Pennsylvania State College, for the central east, Man-power Census and Publicity; H. W. Barre, Clemson College, for the south, Southern Problems and Needs; G. H. Coons, Michigan Agricultural College, for the central states, Fungicides and Machinery, Supplies and Prices; E. C. Stakman, University of Minnesota, for the great plains, Emergency Research; H. P. Barss, Oregon Agricultural College, for the west, Western Problems and Needs; G. R. Lyman, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Plant Disease Survey, and Crop Loss Estimates.

VILHJALMUR STEFANSSON, the arctic explorer, according to Captain A. Lane, who arrived on January 15 at Fairbanks, Alaska, from the Arctic Ocean, bringing direct news from the explorer, was preparing to make a 300-mile dash over the ice north and west of the western Canadian Arctic coast during the

summer of 1918, in search of more new land. Stefansson, he said, intended to leave his present base in April and hoped to reach Wrangel Island, off the northern Siberia coast, in July or August. He planned to spend the 1918-19 winter on the island and end his explorations by sailing through the Behring Strait to Nome, Alaska, in 1919.

NEW YEAR honors in Great Britain, as reported in *Nature*, include: *K.C.B. (Civil Division)*: Mr. A. D. Hall, F.R.S., secretary of the Board of Agriculture; Sir George Newman, principal medical officer to the Board of Education. *C.B. (Civil Division)*; Mr. F. L. C. Floud, assistant secretary to the Board of Agriculture. *Baronet*: Professor James Ritchie, Irvine professor of bacteriology, University of Edinburgh. *C.I.E.*: Mr. P. H. Cluttbuck, Indian Forest Service, chief conservator of Forests, United Provinces. *Knight-hoods*: Mr. W. N. Atkinson, who has contributed largely to a knowledge of the dangers of coal-dust in mines; Dr. J. Scott Keltie, editor of *The Statesman's Year-Book*, and for many years secretary of the Royal Geographical Society; Dr. A. Macphail, professor of the history of medicine, McGill University, Montreal. In addition a large number of medical men have received honors for services rendered in connection with military operations in the field.

THE lecture arrangements at the Royal Institution include the following: Professor J. A. Fleming, a course of six experimentally illustrated lectures, adapted to a juvenile auditory, on "Our useful servants: magnetism and electricity"; Professor W. M. Flinders Petrie, three lectures on Palestine and Mesopotamia—discovery, past and future; Professor Arthur Keith, three lectures on the problems of British anthropology; Dr. Leonard Hill, two lectures on (1) the stifling of children's health, (2) the climatic adaptation of black and white men; Sir R. T. Glazebrook, two lectures on the National Physical Laboratory; Sir Napier Shaw, two lectures on illusions of the atmosphere; Professor W. J. Pope, two lectures on the chemical action of light; M. Paul H. Loyson, two lectures on the ethics of the war;

Sir J. J. Thomson, six lectures on problems in atomic structure. The Friday meetings will commence on January 18, when Sir James Dewar will deliver a discourse on studies on liquid films. Succeeding discourses will probably be given by Professor J. Townsend, Professor A. S. Eddington, Principal E. H. Griffiths, Professor A. G. Green, Professor E. H. Barton and Sir J. J. Thomson.

At the annual meeting of the Washington Academy of Science Dr. W. H. Holmes, of the U. S. National Museum, gave an address on "Man's place in the cosmos as shadowed forth by modern science."

A SERIES of illustrated lectures dealing with science in relation to the war will be presented before the Washington Academy of Science during the present year. The first address of this series was given by Major S. J. M. Aul, of the British Military Mission, on "Methods of gas warfare," on January 17.

MR. W. C. MASON, British imperial entomologist, died at thirty-three years of age on November 28, at Zomba, Nyasaland, of black-water fever.

PROFESSOR C. CHRISTIANSEN, professor of physics in the University of Copenhagen from 1886 to 1912, died on December 28, aged seventy-four years.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE bond issue of \$1,000,000 voted by the legislature for the University of Tennessee has been sold and it is expected that the money will be immediately available.

THE Carnegie Corporation will defray the expense of repairing the buildings of Dalhousie University, Halifax, which were damaged by the explosion on December 6. It is estimated that the amount necessary for repairs will be about \$20,000.

MISS E. C. TALBOT, of Margam, has presented to University College, Cardiff, an endowment of about \$150,000 for a chair in preventive medicine. The first occupant of the