

that it is not so far, after all. From the highways and byways from one end of this country to the other are coming the men who are to fight the battle for freedom; in last analysis the idealism for which this nation stands is rooted in the minds of its people; and the extent to which the government can prosecute the war, it may be even victory itself, depends upon the strength of that idealism in the minds of even the most humble and least traveled of our citizens.

But after the war will come peace, when we will resume to a large degree our former daily habits of life and thought, when the communities in which we live will once more take up the tasks of civic and industrial development, when our nation will turn again to those problems of government and society upon the successful solution of which its future prosperity, if not its existence, depends. Then will be needed more than now the idealism which a crisis like the present calls forth in such strength, but which slumbers in time of peace; then will we need to consider most seriously the means by which that idealism may be developed and kept active. Then will democracy even more than at the present time need to be fostered and will we need to make use of every agency which will educate people to a broader view of their responsibilities and increase sympathy, the love of truth, right and justice, regard for the welfare of others, and a feeling of kinship with all mankind. And if the study of animal life can contribute even in a small degree to the effectiveness of our people and to the development of that idealism upon which the future of democracy depends, then is it worthy of consideration and the value of zoological science has one more claim to recognition.

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SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

TIN IN VIRGINIA

THE United States is almost entirely dependent on foreign countries for its supply of tin. As this metal is a war-time necessity, and as a domestic source of supply is urgently needed, all known deposits of tin ore (cassiterite) in the United States have recently been examined by geologists of the United States Geological Survey, Department of the Interior. One of the most promising of these deposits is in the Irish Creek district, in the eastern part of Rockbridge County, Va., near the summit of the Blue Ridge. This deposit was recently examined by H. G. Ferguson, of the United States Geological Survey, which in this research is acting in cooperation with the Virginia Geological Survey. The existence of tin ore in the Irish Creek district has been known for many years, and between 1883 and 1893 the deposit there was actively mined. The mining company, however, became involved in litigation as to land titles and abandoned work in 1893. Work on the deposit was never resumed, and the old workings are now caved and heavily overgrown with brush, so that a thorough examination of them is difficult, but what Mr. Ferguson saw in the field and the information he derived from old reports led him to conclude that the deposits along the Blue Ridge in this vicinity offer some promise as a source of tin, both through the systematic working of the known veins and the possible discovery of other deposits. The cassiterite occurs in quartz veins that cut a granitic rock of peculiar appearance known as a hypersthene granodiorite. The veins do not continue for long distances and their content of tin is probably very irregular from place to place. Some high-grade ore was found, however, and some tungsten ore occurs with the cassiterite. It is believed that the district is worthy of further investigation. A copy of the report may be secured on application to Dr. Thomas Leonard Watson, director, Virginia Geological Survey, Charlottesville, Va.

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC NOMENCLATURE¹

IN the *Comptes rendus* of the Paris Acad-

¹ From *Nature*.

emy of Sciences for February 11 there is a manifesto in the form of a memorandum entitled "Observations on Modern Scientific Language" by a number of French men of science, MM. Bigourdan, Blondel, Bouvier, Branly, Douvillé, Guignard, Haller, Haug, Henneguy, Lacroix, Lallemand, Laveran, Lecomte, Lecornu, Lemoine, Maquenne, Emile Picard, Roux, Schloessing, jun., and Tisserand. The writers of this note enter a protest against a tendency they have observed on the part of the younger generation of scientific workers both to neglect literary form in their publications and to introduce new and strange words which are often unnecessary or badly constructed.

It is suggested that youthful authors may perhaps think that the use of outlandish expressions lends an air of learning to their communications, whereas the impression sometimes produced upon the reader is that he has come upon a bad translation of a work originally published in some foreign language.

It is pointed out that, owing to the international character of science, words and expressions which are quite appropriate in one language have been transferred bodily into another language without proper steps having been taken to adapt them to their new home. For example, our words "control" and "to control" have been translated "contrôle" and "contrôler." But "contrôler" means "to register," and, therefore, ought not to be used in the sense of "to regulate" or "to exercise an influence over." The English expression "self-induction" sometimes appears in French papers on electricity in the shortened form of "le self." Even an Englishman would find it difficult to discover the meaning of such an expression, so that a Frenchman may be pardoned if he finds it barbarous.

The writers of the note express the hope that the more closely the bonds between the Allied nations are drawn, the more care may be taken in translating scientific terms and expressions. It is suggested that international congresses and all forms of international cooperation afford a means of "controlling" the international language of science.

APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY AT THE CARNEGIE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND ITS WAR-TIME WORK

DR. GUY M. WHIPPLE has resigned from the University of Illinois to accept appointment at the Carnegie Institute of Technology as professor of applied psychology and director of educational research. During the present year, Dr. Whipple has been in Pittsburgh part time as acting director of the Bureau of Salesmanship Research during the absence of Dr. Walter Dill Scott, who since last July has been in Washington as director of the Committee on Classification of Personnel in the Army. Dr. Whipple will continue as acting director of the Bureau of Salesmanship Research as long as Dr. Scott is engaged in war work. He will then enter on his duties as director of educational research and will carry forward scientific studies in engineering and technical education as they arise in the administration of instruction at the Carnegie Institute of Technology.

Announcement is made of the promotion to the rank of associate professor of Dr. James Burt Miner, who is acting as head of the division of applied psychology at the Carnegie Institute of Technology during the absence of Dr. W. V. Bingham on war work in Washington. Dr. L. L. Thurstone has been advanced to the rank of assistant professor. Dr. A. J. Beatty, assistant to the director of the Carnegie Bureau of Salesmanship Research, will on June 1 become director of education of the American Rolling Mills Company, at Marietta, Ohio. Dr. Kate Gordon has been granted leave of absence from the Carnegie Institute of Technology for the fall quarter to enable her to carry out for the California State Board of Control a psychological investigation of children who are wards of the state.

Dr. Beardsley Ruml has been given leave of absence from the Carnegie Institute of Technology to devote his full time to the direction of the work of the Trade Test Standardization Division of the Committee on Classification of Personnel in the Army. Dr. L. L. Thurstone has been granted half-time leave for similar work. Dr. T. J. Kirby has been granted