

The stations at which magnetic observations were made by the observers of the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism were: Goldendale, Wash.; Corona, Colo.; at an altitude of 12,000 feet; Moraine Lake, Colo.; Lakin, Kans.; Brewton, Ala., and Washington, D. C. At Lakin, furthermore, and at Washington, D. C., atmospheric-electric observations were made. Reports on the results obtained will be published in the September issue of the journal *Terrestrial Magnetism and Atmospheric Electricity*. At various universities also series of magnetic observations were obtained and data will likewise be furnished by the Canadian magnetic observatories.

The magnetic survey vessel *Carnegie* arrived safely at her home port, Washington, D. C., on June 10, where she will be put out of commission probably during the period of the war. During her cruise from Buenos Aires, Argentina, around The Horn to Valparaiso, Chile, Callao, Peru, thence through the Panama Canal to Newport News, she was in command of Dr. H. M. W. Edmonds; the other members of the scientific staff aboard were: Messrs. A. D. Power, Bradley Jones, L. L. Tanguy, J. M. McFadden, and Walter E. Scott.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. THEODORE W. RICHARDS, Erving professor of chemistry and director of the Wolcott Gibbs Memorial Laboratory at Harvard University, has been made a foreign member of the Accademia dei Lincei, Rome. He has been elected an honorary member of the Royal Irish Academy.

SIR JAMES DEWAR has been awarded the medal of the Society of Chemical Industry in recognition of the conspicuous services which, by his research work in both pure and applied science, he has rendered to chemical industry.

THE French Geological Society has awarded the Conrad Ealte-Brun prize to Professor Lawrence Martin, of the University of Wisconsin, for his studies on the glaciers of Alaska.

DR. VICTOR C. VAUGHAN, of the University of Michigan, and Dr. George E. Crile, of Western Reserve University, have been promoted to

the rank of Colonel in the Medical Corps of the National Army.

DR. LEONARD P. AYRES has been made a colonel and is attached to General Pershing's staff in France. Dr. Ayres has had charge of the statistical work of the War Department in Washington.

CAPTAIN PAUL H. DEKRUUF, Ph.D. (Michigan), has been ordered to return to the United States for the purpose of making special investigations on gas gangrene. Captain DeKruif has been in France for some months studying at the Pasteur Institute in Paris. He expects to remain in this country for about three months, when he will return to France.

SUPERVISORY authority over several of the largest explosive manufacturing plants in the country has been granted to Professor Arthur H. Hixson, of the chemistry department at the University of Iowa. He holds the position of consulting chemical engineer in the ordnance department.

DR. ARTHUR CARLETON TROWBRIDGE, of the geology staff of the State University, for the past few months in charge of the work at Camp Dodge, has been called to New York to take a place on the national war work council of the Y. M. C. A.

DR. CHAS. W. BURROWS, associate physicist of the National Bureau of Standards in charge of the magnetic section of that institution, has resigned and will take up the work of commercial research and consultation, with laboratories equipped for research on problems involving magnetic materials and apparatus located at Grasmere, Borough of Richmond, New York City.

DR. VERN B. STEWART, of Cornell University, has accepted an appointment in the Bureau of Plant Industry, and is at present engaged in work on the pathological aspects of markets inspection of vegetables.

MR. H. J. MORGAN, of the General Chemical Company, has been transferred from the Delaware Works at Marcus Hook, Pa., to the main laboratories of the company at Laurel Hill, Long Island, where he will be chemist in charge.

MISS MILDRED P. STEWART has resigned her position as instructor in physiology and chemistry at Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y., to take charge of the work of the Dutchess County (N. Y.) Public Health Association, with headquarters at Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

It is stated in *Nature* that the British minister of munitions, in agreement with the secretary of state for the colonies and the petroleum executive, has appointed a committee to inquire into certain matters relating to the production of fuel oil from home sources. The terms of reference are: "To consider the report which has been rendered by the Petroleum Research Department on the production of fuel oil from home sources, and to advise to what extent, and within what time, it should be possible under present conditions to carry out the proposals made in this report; and to consider the steps which have been taken by the Ministry of Munitions in this connection." The members of the committee are: Marquess of Crewe (chairman), Colonel A. Stirling, Major G. Collins, Engineer Vice-Admiral G. G. Goodwin (Engineer-in-Chief of the Navy), Sir Richard Redmayne (representing the Controller of Coal Mines), Sir Lionel Phillips (representing the Ministry of Munitions); secretary, Mr. G. O. Smallwood (Ministry of Munitions).

THE British Army Medical Advisory Board, established in 1901 has been in abeyance since the beginning of the present conflict. We learn from the *British Medical Journal* that it has now been considered advisable to appoint a new advisory board somewhat differently constituted and with a smaller number of members. The Director-General, Lieutenant-General T. H. J. C. Goodwin, is president, and the other members are Major-General Sir Bertrand Dawson, Major-General Sir Berkeley Moynihan, Colonel W. H. Horrocks, Colonel Sir Robert Jones and Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Harold J. Stiles. Sir Bertrand Dawson, who is physician to the London Hospital, is a consulting physician with the British Expeditionary Force in France. Sir Berkeley Moynihan, who is surgeon to the Leeds Infirmary, is consulting surgeon to the Northern

Command. Sir Robert Jones is the Inspector of Military Orthopedics, and Sir Harold Stiles, of Edinburgh is assistant inspector of Military Orthopedics for Scotland and was a member of the commission of inquiry in France. Colonel Horrocks, who was a member of the old board, again serves on the new board as sanitary expert. The secretary is Mr. A. T. Gann, who was the secretary of the old board. It will be observed that the new board does not contain, as did its predecessor, representatives of the India Office and of the directorates of military operations and of fortifications and works.

MR. D'ARCY POWER has been appointed Bradshaw lecturer of the Royal College of Surgeons of England for the ensuing year.

THE annual Halley lecture at Oxford University was delivered on May 28 by Sir Napier Shaw, director of the Meteorological Office. The subject was "The first chapter in the story of the winds

DR. WILLIAM MECKLENBURG POLK, professor of gynecology and dean of Cornell Medical School, died on June 24, in his seventy-fourth year.

ALBERT MCCALLA, Ph.D., a past-president of the American Microscopical Society and of the Illinois Microscopical Society, died on June 6, aged seventy-two years.

TITLES of articles upon physiological subjects, both plant and animal, which are not published in the regular journals devoted to such studies are solicited by the *Physiological Abstracts*. Authors may send titles to Dr. Withrow Morse, 2900 Ellis Avenue, Chicago.

FREE public lectures have been delivered in the lecture hall of the Museum building of the New York Botanical Garden, Bronx Park, on Saturday afternoons, at four o'clock, as follows:

April 6. "How to prepare the soil for gardening," by Mr. J. G. Curtis.

April 13. "Vacant lot gardens," by Carl Bannwart.

April 20. "Tree-planting for forests," by Professor S. W. Allen.

April 27. "Home gardens," by Henry G. Parsons.

May 4. "Drug plants and their cultivation," by Dr. H. H. Rusby.

May 11. "How to grow fruits in limited areas," by Professor M. A. Blake.

(Exhibition of Flowers, May 11 and 12)

May 18. "Fiber plants and their cultivation," by Lyster H. Dewey.

May 25. "Women as gardeners," by Delia W. Marble.

June 1. "Diseases of garden crops and their control," by Dr. Mel. T. Cook.

June 8. "Insect pests and their control," by Dr. F. J. Seaver.

THE following lecture course was given by the Illinois Audubon Society during March. March 9, Ernest Harold Baynes, Meriden, N. H., "Birds in the nesting season." March 16, Norman McClintock, Pittsburgh, Pa., "Moving pictures of wild birds and animals." March 23, Edward Howe Forbush, Boston, Mass., "How birds help to win the war." March 30, Louis Agassiz Fuertes, Ithaca, N. Y., "Birds and their conservation."

It is related in *Nature* that the staff of the Natural History Museum, London, has been of assistance to various public departments in connection with the war. The following are examples of some of the questions which its members have been asked to answer: (1) nature of some organisms which caused blocking up of certain sea-water pipes; (2) as to some mite-infested oats at the front; (3) application of a remedy for the rice weevil in connection with the disease of beriberi; (4) as to methods of destruction of bedbugs; (5) the identification of specimens of larvae found in drinking water; (6) nature of wood used in the construction of a propeller of a Zeppelin brought down in this country; (7) inquiries as to certain wood stated to possess luminous properties; (8) questions arising out of the Canadian commission to consider the alleged depredations of sea lions on the Pacific coasts of North America, in connection with the fishing and canning industries; (9) identification of certain animal forms of tinned food, such as Pacific lobsters, sardines or sprats; (10) the identification of poisonous fishes in the West Indies; (11) the sponge fishery in the West Indies, and (12) the introduction of

reindeer and other animals into South Georgia.

THE Osiris prize of the value of \$20,000 was founded for the recognition of the most important discovery or work in science, letters, arts, industries, or generally anything for the public benefit. The prize has been held in abeyance since the beginning of the war, but the Institute of France has decided to make an award this year.

PROFESSOR HENRY CHANDLER COWLES, of the department of botany at the University of Chicago, recently gave the annual address at Iowa State College for the national honorary societies Phi Kappa Phi and Gamma Sigma Delta.

THE Royal Society of Canada recently closed its thirty-seventh yearly meeting at Ottawa, Canada. There was an unusually large number of papers presented in all sections of the society, including those in the mathematical, physical and chemical, as well as the biological and zoological sciences. Abstracts of papers and discussions are expected in a forthcoming issue of *SCIENCE*.

It is announced in *Nature* that Mr. W. B. Randall of Waltham Cross, has generously provided funds for the establishment of a new research post at the Rothamsted Experimental Station, and the committee has appointed Mrs. D. J. Matthews (formerly Miss Isgrove) to occupy it. Mrs. Matthews will devote herself to the study of some of the problems connected with soil sterilization as it is now being carried out in certain types of nurseries.

ON the initiative of Professor Gradenigo stations of psycho-physiological research on the effects of aviation have lately been founded at Turin and Naples. They are chiefly intended for the examination of candidates for service as air pilots.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

CONGRESS has passed a vocational training bill which, carrying an appropriation of \$2,000,000, provides for an elaborate system of educating soldiers in trades. It provides for the teaching of more than 300 vocations. While a soldier is undergoing training he is to