

MEDICAL COMMISSION TO ECUADOR

To prepare for after-the-war commerce and make possible, by prevention of diseases such as yellow fever, a great expansion of trade between the United States and the west coast of South America, the Rockefeller Foundation sent, last summer, a commission to Ecuador. The three American members of this commission, which returned to Chicago early in October, are members of the medical school faculty of Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois, Dean Arthur I. Kendall, who is a director of the Rockefeller Foundation for experimental work; Professor Charles A. Elliott, and Professor H. E. Redenbaugh. Dean Kendall for two years served under General Wm. C. Gorgas during the construction of the Panama Canal.

The commission left the United States in July and spent most of the time investigating conditions in the hospitals, pest houses and laboratories of the city of Guayaquil, which is the capital and principal city of Ecuador. Latin American papers received here from Guayaquil and other places show that a warm welcome was accorded the investigators who, in their words, were "putting into practise scientific methods for the purpose of investigating the parasite responsible for the yellow fever." The South Americans were also pleased with the prospect that the work of the commission in allaying this disease would prepare the way for the opening of commerce on a larger scale with the United States. At present, there is in preparation a complete report with recommendations of the commission. This will soon be issued by the Rockefeller Foundation and should prove of special interest, not only to scientific men, but to business men and others who are looking to after-the-war commercial expansion.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE autumn meeting of the National Academy of Sciences will be held in Baltimore on Monday and Tuesday, November 18 and 19, 1918, at the Johns Hopkins University, Homewood. Scientific sessions will be held on both days. Luncheons will be served at the Johns

Hopkins Club, where the meetings will also be held. The academy dinner will take place at the Maryland Club on Monday evening.

ON account of the epidemic of influenza the public meetings of the American Ornithologists' Union which were to have been held in New York, November 12 to 14, will be omitted. The regular meeting of the fellows and members for the election of officers and the transaction of other business will be held on Monday evening, November 11, at 8 P.M. at the American Museum of Natural History.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL W. C. SPRUANCE has been placed in charge of chemicals in the Ordnance Department.

PROFESSOR H. A. KENYON, of the college of engineering of the University of Michigan, was commissioned as captain during the month of August, and assigned to the executive division of the general staff.

DR. FRANK T. F. STEPHENSON, past president of the Detroit Section of the American Chemical Society, has been commissioned captain in the Medical Corps.

PROFESSOR I. W. BAILEY, of the Bussey Institute for Research in Applied Biology, has been given leave of absence by Harvard University and has accepted a position in the materials engineering department, Bureau of Aircraft Production, Dayton, Ohio.

PROFESSOR W. R. DODSON, dean of the college of agriculture and director of experiment stations of the Louisiana State University, is working with the Food Administration in the division of agricultural relations.

FRANCIS D. FARRELL, dean in the Kansas State Agricultural College, has been appointed by Governor Arthur Capper to membership in the Kansas council of defense. Dean Farrell has also been made a member of the committee on agricultural production of this body.

MR. PHILIP G. WRIGHTSMAN, formerly instructor in chemistry at Iowa State College, is now in the Chemical Warfare Service working on toxic gases in the Research Division, American University, Washington, D. C.