

search during the absence of Colonel Walter Dill Scott on war service, has been released from these duties for work in educational research, through the return to Pittsburgh of Colonel Scott. At the close of the present academic year, however, Colonel Scott will devote himself to commercial practise as consultant on industrial personnel and will then give only a limited portion of his time to the Carnegie Institute of Technology.

Dr. Beardsley Ruml, who was on leave of absence with the War Department as head of the Trade Test Standardization Division of the Committee on Classification of Personnel, has resigned his position at Carnegie to enter commercial practise with the Scott Company.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

A TESTIMONIAL dinner to Dr. N. L. Britton, director of the New York Botanical Garden, given by the managers at the Metropolitan Club on the evening of May 7, was attended by men of science from all parts of the country. Dr. D. T. MacDougal, director of the Desert Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution of Washington acted as toastmaster, and speeches reviewing the history of the organization of the garden by Dr. Britton twenty-three years ago, and of his widely inclusive and important researches were made by Dr. W. Gilman Thompson, president of the board; Professor R. A. Harper, chairman of the scientific directors; Professor H. F. Osborn, president of the American Museum of Natural History; Provost William H. Carpenter, of Columbia University; Dr. Arthur Hollick, director of the Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences, and Professor Geo. T. Moore, director of the Missouri Botanical Garden, at St. Louis. At the conclusion of the ceremonies Mr. Robert DeForest presented Dr. Britton with a loving cup appropriately inscribed on behalf of the board of managers. Congratulatory letters and telegrams from distinguished scientific men were read.

DR. THEODORE W. RICHARDS, professor of chemistry at Harvard University, has been

elected president of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

PROFESSOR PAUL P. BOYD, dean of the college of arts and sciences at the University of Kentucky, has been elected president of the Kentucky Academy of Science.

REAR ADMIRAL JOHN E. PILLSBURY, U. S. N., has been elected president of the National Geographic Society.

THE John Fritz Medal of the four national societies of civil mining, mechanical and electrical engineering has been awarded to Major General George W. Goethals, for his achievement in the building of the Panama Canal. The presentation was made on May 22 by Ambrose Swasey, past president of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. The speakers included W. L. Saunders, past president of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers; Henry L. Stimson, former secretary of war, and Colonel G. I. Fieberger, of West Point. Among those to whom the medal has been awarded in former years are: Lord Kelvin, for his work in cable telegraphy; Alexander Graham Bell, for the invention of the telephone; George Westinghouse, for the invention of the airbrake; Thomas A. Edison, for the invention of the duplex and quadruplex telegraph, and other devices, and Sir William H. White, for achievements in naval architecture.

DR. C. G. ABBOT, of the Astrophysical Observatory, Smithsonian Institution, sailed for South America on May 1, to inspect the Smithsonian solar constant observing station at Calama, Chile, and to observe the total solar eclipse at La Paz, Bolivia. He expects to return to Washington in August.

THE following members of the Princeton University faculty have returned from service abroad: Lieutenant Colonel Augustus Trowbridge (Engineers), professor of physics; Captain E. P. Adams, Royal Engineers, British Expeditionary Force, professor of mathematical physics, and Captain H. L. Cook, also of the Royal Engineers, assistant professor of physics.

ARTHUR H. BLANCHARD, consulting highway engineer, has been appointed chief of the Bureau of Public Works, Department of Citizenship, under the Army Overseas Educational Commission.

MAJOR GEORGE F. SEVER, Engineers, U. S. A., has been honorably discharged from the United States Army after a service of fifteen months and will make his headquarters in New York City for consulting engineer practise. Major Sever during his service made extensive and detailed investigations of the electric power conditions in New England as well as on the Pacific coast from Seattle to Los Angeles. His investigations covered analyses of the production of power by coal, oil and water, and the comparisons of these different methods.

SECOND LIEUTENANT ASA C. CHANDLER, Sanitary Corps, formerly assistant professor of zoology at Oregon Agricultural College, has undertaken parasitological work at the Central Medical Department Laboratory of the A. E. F. at Dijon, France.

PROFESSOR J. M. ALDRICH, formerly professor of zoology in the University of Idaho, has been appointed associate curator of the Division of Insects in the National Museum, but more recently has been working with the Bureau of Entomology.

DR. HERMANN VON IHERING, formerly director of the Museum of the State of São Paulo, Brazil, has been appointed director of the State Museum of Sta. Catharina, Brazil, to be organized by him at Flerianopolis (Estado de Santa Catharina, Brazil).

At its meeting held May 14, 1919, the Rumford Committee of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences voted the following appropriations: To Professor P. W. Bridgman, of Harvard University, in aid of his research on the effect of temperature and pressure on the physical properties of materials, particularly their thermal conductivity (additional to previous appropriation), \$400; to Professor Horace L. Howes, of the New Hampshire College, in aid of his research on the experimental study of the effect of temperature on the

luminescence and selective radiation of the rare earths, \$500.

A NEW acoustical laboratory has just been completed at Riverbank, Geneva, Illinois. This laboratory was built for the late Professor Wallace C. Sabine, of Harvard University, by his friend, Colonel George Fabyan. In this laboratory Professor Sabine proposed to carry on the study of a number of problems in architectural acoustics requiring special building construction and entire freedom from extraneous noises. The building was constructed with the most careful attention to details, according to Professor Sabine's plans, and has many interesting structural features. It was just ready for occupancy at the time of his death. Colonel Fabyan, the founder of the laboratory, proposes to carry out, as far as possible, the original purpose for which the building and its equipment were intended. Dr. Paul E. Sabine has resigned his position as assistant professor of physics in the Case School of Applied Science to take charge of the research program which had been laid out.

AN entomological expedition to South America is planned by Professor J. Chester Bradley, '06, of the college of agriculture of Cornell University. Leaving Ithaca next September, Professor Bradley will visit Brazil, Argentina and Chile; in the following spring he will be joined in Peru by Professors Cyrus R. Crosby and Dr. W. T. M. Forbes, of the agricultural college, and the party will work on the Amazon River as far as Peral near the headwaters. The expedition is conducted under the auspices of the university for the two-fold purpose of securing entomological specimens and of forming closer relations with South American institutions of learning.

DR. S. M. ZELLER, who has been special investigator in timber pathology for the Southern Pine Association, of New Orleans, La., with laboratory at the Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, has been appointed investigator in fruit diseases at the Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.

AFTER being at work for one year, the technical personnel of the Bacteriological Insti-

tute of Buenos Aires, has been reappointed in a recent decree reorganizing the institution. The sections and the individuals in charge are: hygiene, Dr. Carbonnell; plague, Dr. Uriarte; serotherapy, Dr. Sordelli; physics and chemistry, Dr. Wernicke; experimental physiology and pathology, Dr. Houssay; medical zoology, Dr. Bachmann, and parasitology, Dr. Wolffhugel.

PROFESSOR I. NEWTON KUGELMASS, head of the department of chemistry at Howard College, addressed the Southern Child Health Association on "Applied Nutrition for Raising the Standard of Child Vitality in the Service of the Newer National Domism," in Birmingham, on May 1.

At the London meeting of the Institute of Metals on May 19, Professor F. Soddy, F.R.S., delivered the ninth annual May lecture on "Radio-Activity."

PROFESSOR J. H. JEANS, F.R.S., delivered a lecture on "The Quantum Theory and New Theories of Atomic Structure" at a meeting of the Chemical Society in London on May 1.

DR. AARON AARONSON, agricultural expert, of Haifa, Palestine, was killed in a fall of an airplane on May 15, near Boulogne, while flying from London to Paris. Dr. Aaronsohn had been a technical adviser of the United States Department of Agriculture.

THE next annual meeting of the American Chemical Society will be held in Philadelphia, from September 2 to 6, inclusive. The Philadelphia section is already planning to continue the rising curve of success and attendance for the meeting next fall.

SURGEON-GENERAL IRELAND has authorized during the present "emergency," the preparation and application of psychological tests to recruits, that men of low mentality may be barred from the army.

THE thirty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture occurred on May 9. When the bureau began operations in 1884 it had a staff of less than twenty employees; it has now more than 5,200, working through thirteen divisions and offices.

HOMER P. RITTER, for many years an officer of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey and a member of the Mississippi River Commission, died at Washington, D. C., April 21, 1919. He was returning from a meeting of the Mississippi River Commission at Memphis and was taken ill on the train. On his arrival at Washington, on Saturday morning, he was taken to the Emergency Hospital, and died there. Mr. Ritter was born in Cleveland, Ohio, March 4, 1855. He attended the high school in Cleveland from 1869 to 1873 and Columbia College School of Mines from 1873 to 1880. He was afterwards employed for several years on railway surveys. He entered the Coast and Geodetic Survey in 1885; was appointed an assistant in 1895, and continued in the service until the time of his death. Mr. Ritter had been employed on field work in all parts of the United States and in Alaska and his last duty was in charge of the Field Station of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, at Boston, Massachusetts.

PROFESSOR JOEL STEBBINS, secretary of the American Astronomical Society, writes: "In SCIENCE for May 10 there is an announcement that representatives of certain foreign observatories will be at the meeting of the American Astronomical Society at Ann Arbor on September 1. This is a mistake because so far as known to the officers of the society there will be no such representation from abroad." The erroneous statement was taken from the *Michigan Alumnus*.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE seismological library of Count F. de Montessus de Ballore, director of the Seismological Service of Chile, has recently been purchased by Dr. J. C. Branner and presented to Stanford University. This is probably one of the most complete collections of seismological literature in existence and it is accompanied by a manuscript catalogue containing nearly 5,000 titles.

THE department of medicine of the University of Toronto is to be the recipient of a gift