

prospecting for oil in Wyoming and Kentucky.

Chas. H. Richardson. Some results of recent geological research in Vermont.

February 6. H. S. Steensland. The action of benzol on animals.

Frank P. Knowlton. The electrocardiogram, with demonstration.

March 14. E. D. Roe, Jr. The irreducible factors of $1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^{(n-1)}$.

R. R. Tatnall. The production and measurement of low pressures.

April 11. L. M. Hickernell. The habits and structure of the 17-year cicada.

H. F. A. Meier. The fixation of atmospheric nitrogen by plants.

May 9. Louis Mitchell. The use of diagrams in the solution of hydraulic problems.

Rich D. Whitney. The destruction of underground structures by electrolysis.

THE TROPICAL RESEARCH STATION OF THE NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY IN BRITISH GUIANA

AFTER two years of temporary suspension on account of the war, the Tropical Zoological Station of the New York Zoological Society, in British Guiana, is again proceeding with its various activities. Director William Beebe now has with him Inness Hartley, research associate, Alfred Emerson, research assistant, and John T. Van, artist. In a short time two visiting zoologists will arrive at the station for the pursuit of special studies.

In order to live and work in close proximity to the jungle and the river life of British Guiana, the old station at Kalacoon was vacated, and the new one was planted in the government Penal Settlement, at Katabo. There, in an ideal spot, a commodious laboratory and dormitory have been developed, and an extensive program of investigation has been laid out. Three tropical rivers of considerable importance, the Essequibo, Cuyuni and Mazaruni, render the whole western half of British Guiana available to the station near the meeting-place of their waters. The Mazaruni Rapids are eight miles above the station.

A garden has been planted, and Indian hunters bring to the table of the station varied supplies of tapir, deer and agouti meat and fish. Animal life in close proximity to the

station is abundant, and the choice of subjects for investigation is fairly bewildering.

Again has the government of British Guiana been most liberal in promoting the objects of the station, and the Zoological Society looks forward with lively interest to the year's record of results.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE RT. HON. JOHN WILLIAM STRUTT, LORD RAYLEIGH, the great English physicist, died on July 1, at the age of seventy-six years. His eldest son is the Hon. Robert John Strutt, professor of physics in the Imperial College of Science, London.

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY, at its recent commencement, conferred the degree of doctor of science on Edward Lee Thorndike, '96, professor of psychology at Teachers' College, Columbia University; Frank Bowers Littell, '91, astronomer, Naval Observatory, Washington, D. C., and George Arthur Burrell, recently in command of United States Army Chemical Service.

At the commencement of the University of Vermont the degree of doctor of letters was conferred on Dr. Liberty Hyde Bailey, formerly director of the college of agriculture of Cornell University, and the honorary degree of doctor of science on Dr. Marshall Avery Howe, curator of the museums of the New York Botanical Garden. Dr. Bailey delivered the commencement address, taking for his subject, "The aspiration to democracy."

THE honorary professional degree of master of horticulture has been conferred upon Edmund H. Gibson, of the U. S. Bureau of Entomology, by the Michigan Agricultural College.

THE agricultural building at the Kansas State Agricultural College has been named Waters Hall in honor of Dr. Henry Jackson Waters, former president of the college, now managing editor of the *Kansas City Weekly Star*.

DR. D. T. MACDOUGAL, director of the department of botanical research, Carnegie Institution of Washington, was elected a corresponding member of the Société Nationale