to combine the meetings of students and members of the society for mutual benefit. This arrangement has enabled the society to entertain some of the foremost anthropologists of the country, keeping the members in touch with the important work being done in other university centers, and making this body the center of things anthropological in Philadelphia.

At the first formal meeting of the society in 1914, Professor W. Max Müller, the Egyptologist, was elected president for the current four years. The president for the current year is Professor Walter Woodburn Hyde, of the department of Greek. Professor Speck, of the department of anthropology, has been an active member of the executive committee from the beginning, contributing largely to the success of the society.

Among the outside speakers who addressed the society in the past two seasons were:

Dr. Robert H. Lowie, curator of ethnology, American Museum of Natural History, New York. (Two papers.)

Dr. Alexander A. Goldenweiser, Columbia University. (Two papers.)

Professor Franz Boas, head of the department of anthropology, Columbia University.

Professor Alfred L. Kroeber, head of the department of anthropology, University of California.

Professor Spencer Trotter, department of biology, Swarthmore College.

Professor Phineas W. Whiting, department of biology, Franklin and Marshall College.

Honorable Gifford Pinchot, formerly chief forester of the U. S.

THE BRITISH NATIONAL PHYSICAL LABORATORY

THE custom which held before the war of inviting a number of visitors to the National Physical Laboratory in June has had to be suspended during the last four years, but it was revived on June 24 on the occasion of the annual inspection by the general board, the chairman of which, Sir J. J. Thomson, O.M., received the guests.

The London *Times* states that those who had not seen the laboratory since the war could scarcely recognize the place, so numerous are the extensions that have been made, and yet the accommodation is even now inadequate for the work that has to be done. Perhaps the most conspicuous of the additions is a new aeronautics building which, among other things, is to house a huge wind channel, 14 feet across, for the testing of aircraft models.

Arrangements had been made by the director, Sir Richard Glazebrook, who is retiring in September, for conducting the visitors over the laboratory, and numerous demonstrations illustrating the work that is being carried on in the various departments had been arranged for their edification. Thus, in the metallurgy department the new rolling mill was shown in operation rolling high-tensile aluminium alloys down to very thin sheets suitable for covering the wings of aeroplanes in place of fabric. In the existing wind channels of the aeronautics department experiments were being conducted on the balancing of airship rudders, the mutual interference of airscrew and body and the flow of air in the neighborhood of the airscrew, the spinning of aeroplanes, and other points. The William Froude National Tank was being employed for the testing of seaplane floats, some of the experiments relating to the resistance, running angle and longitudinal stability of the float while planing on the water, and others to the impact of a seaplane when alighting on water. In the metrology department various munitions gauges, in the supply of which the laboratory did such good work during the war, were on view, and there was a minimeter capable of registering differences of one millionth of an inch. An electrical device for indicating at a distance the depth of petrol in the tanks of an aeroplane was to be seen, and in the department of electrotechnics there was the Paterson-Walsh electrical apparatus which was used as part of the London air defenses for ascertaining the height of hostile aircraft, while experiments with wireless telegraphy were conducted in a hut in the meadow. The engineering department and the optics division of the physics department were also open among other sections.

THE NEW BRITISH ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

MR. J. L. COPE, who is organizing and will lead the British Imperial Antarctic Expedi-

tion which is to sail next June, and will be absent about six years, is shortly leaving England for Canada to make arrangements for the bringing to this country for the necessary fitting up of the *Terra Nova,* which has been secured for the venture.

Mr. Cope is at present engaged in appointing the personnel of the expedition. Professor R. C. Mossman, who has been appointed chief of the scientific staff, was meteorologist to the Scott Antarctic Expedition; Mr. A. H. Larkman, who sailed in the *Terra Nova* as chief engineer with the Shackleton Expedition, has signed on with the British Imperial in the same capacity; and Mr. T. H. R. Hooke, R.A.F., who was also with the Shackleton Expedition, has been appointed chief of the wireless staff. Captain Hurley, who during the war was one of the official photographers to the Australian forces and who accompanied the Mawson Expedition as photographer, will go with Mr. Cope as photographer. A cable has been received by Mr. Cope from Mr. Ernest Joyce, who was a member of the Scott and Shackleton expeditions. It is probable that Mr. Joyce will accompany the present expedition, and in the meanwhile he is in charge of the organization in Australia. Lieutenant E. Healy, late Dublin Fusiliers, has been appointed a member of the shore party, which will leave the *Terra Nova* when the vessel becomes fast in the ice, and will explore the district to the south of the great ice barrier.

It is the intention of Mr. Cope to take an aeroplane on board the *Terra Nova* and make a flight to the South Pole. Already two firms of aeroplane makers have offered to supply the expedition with a machine free of cost. Generous support is being given the expedition by commercial firms.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDALS

The distinguished service medal has been awarded as follows: Colonel William H. Welch, United States Army. For exceptionally meritorious and conspicuous service. From his rich experience in scientific medicine, sanitation, public health and medical education he helped materially in guiding the medical profession both in and out of the Army safely through many difficulties of war. Colonel Victor C. Vaughan, United States Army. For exceptionally meritorious and conspicuous service. During his service in the office of the surgeon-general his contributions of advice and information have been of great value to the Army in connection with the control of communicable diseases. During the recent epidemic of influenza, in particular, his work was of extreme value. Lieutenant-Colonel Richard P. Strong, Medical Corps, United States Army. For exceptionally meritorious and distinguished services. Possessed of the highest professional qualification and actuated by zealous devotion to duty, he has rendered service of inestimable value to the American Expeditionary Forces, notably as president of a board appointed to investigate the cause of trench fever, a disease which has caused serious losses to the effectives of the allied armies. The scientific research of this board under his skilful direction led to the discovery of the means by which trench fever is transmitted and in the establishment of effective measures for its prevention.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

Dr. Christopher Addison has been appointed the first minister of health in the Ministry of Health which has been established by the British Parliament. Dr. Addison was at one time professor of anatomy, University College, Sheffield. He was parliamentary secretary to the Board of Education, 1914–15, minister of munitions, 1916–17; minister of reconstruction, 1917, and has latterly occupied the office of president of the Local Government Board.

Professor F. Soddy has been elected a foreign member of the Swedish Academy of Sciences in succession to the late Sir William Crookes.

Dr. Chas. B. Davenport, of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, has been elected associate of the Académie des Sciences de Belgique.

Dr. Henry G. Barbour, assistant professor of pharmacology in Yale University, has received a grant of $200 from the committee on