involved to form an Institute for the Study of Nutrition, to be connected with and a part of the League of Nations in precisely the same manner as the League of the Red Cross will stand with reference to sanitation."

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. ERNST HEINRICH HAECKEL, professor of zoology at the University of Jena since 1865, died on August 9 at the age of eighty-five years.

AT a meeting of the Royal Society of London, held on June 26, Dr. Simon Flexner, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, was elected a fellow.

THE former students of Dr. T. C. Chamberlin, for twenty-seven years head of the department of geology at the University of Chicago, are planning to hold a dinner in his honor on the evening of September 27 in Chicago. Dr. Chamberlin has recently retired with the title of professor emeritus and expects to celebrate his seventy-sixth birthday in September. Further information concerning the dinner may be obtained from Kirtley F. Mather, Granville, Ohio.

OUR attention has been called to the fact that prior to the election of Dr. George E. Hale to be a foreign associate of the Paris Academy of Sciences the distinction had been conferred on five other Americans: Benjamin Franklin (1772), Count Rumford (1803), Louis Agassiz (1872), Simon Newcomb (1895), and Alexander Agassiz (1904).

IN recognition of his fifty years' service as a teacher of physical education, Dr. Dudley A. Sargent, retiring director of the Hemenway Gymnasium, was presented on August 7 with a large loving cup and punch bowl. The gift comes from students in the department of physical education of the Harvard Summer School.

THE Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, acting through its Committee on Science and the Arts, has awarded to Joshua J. Skinner, of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture, its Edward Longstreth Medal of Merit for a paper on "Soil Aldehydes," appearing in the five issues of the *Journal* of The Franklin Institute from August to December, 1918. In awarding this medal, the committee reported:

> These papers present the results of scientific study of a new class of deleterious soil constituents, clearly described and effectively illustrated, the whole forming a valuable contribution to the science of agricultural chemistry, and one of marked practical importance.

In 1912 this medal was awarded to Dr. Oswald Schreiner and Dr. E. C. Lathrop, also of the Bureau of Animal Industry.

DR. ASA C. CHANDLER, assistant professor of zoology and physiology at the Oregon Agricultural College, who made a study in the trenches at the European war front of rats and parasites in their relation to transmitting diseases to human beings, is now in California and will return to the college next school year.

DR. D. G. BYERS, of the University of Washington, has been appointed chief of the division of chemistry in the Bureau of Soils, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Mr. W. O. Robinson, of the Chemical Warfare Service, has returned to the bureau.

MR. W. E. PERDEW recently resigned his position as chemical engineer in the Petroleum Division of the Bureau of Mines to enter the employ of the Union Petroleum Company of Philadelphia.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM PETERSON, geologist for the Utah Agricultural Experiment Station and College, has been granted a six-months' leave of absence to make an appraisal of the mining properties of Utah for the State Board of Equalization.

PROFESSOR W. M. COBLEIGH, professor of chemistry in the State College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts, of the University of Montana, has been appointed state chemist under provisions made in an oil inspection law passed by the Montana legislature. The work of the state chemist will be organized as a part of the required work of the department of chemistry.

PAUL ASHLEY WEST, formerly instructor of chemistry, The Jessup Scott High School, has

accepted the directorship of The Research Laboratories Company of Toledo, and Dr. G. A. Kirchmaier, for twenty-two years city chemist of the city of Toledo and for the State Agricultural Department, has accepted the position of consulting and analytical chemist with this company.

Dr. Norman A. Shepard, assistant professor of chemistry at Yale University, has resigned to accept the position of research chemist with the Firestone Tire and Rubber Co., Akron, Ohio.

The *Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry* reports that a "Fixed Nitrogen Research Laboratory" has been organized in the nitrate division of the Ordnance Department, with headquarters at the American University, in buildings formerly occupied by the Chemical Warfare Service. Lieutenant Colonel A. B. Lamb, of the Chemical Warfare Service, is director; Dr. R. C. Colman, formerly of the Chemical Warfare Service, and Professor W. C. Bray, of the University of California, are associate directors; and Dr. H. A. Curtis, formerly of the nitrate division, Ordnance Department, is executive officer. The work carried on during the war on the fixation of nitrogen in the Department of Agriculture laboratories at Arlington, Virginia, the geophysical laboratory, and elsewhere, will be concentrated at the American University. In the absence of Colonel Lamb in Europe, Dr. Tolman is acting director. At present the staff consists of fifty-five persons.

Dr. W. J. V. Osterhout, professor of botany in Harvard University, will deliver a series of six lectures on the Hitchcock Foundation of the University of California from August 20 to 29 on the general topic, "Fundamental life processes." Dr. Osterhout was assistant professor of botany at the University of California from 1907 to 1909.

A French edition of Professor Vernon Kellogg's "Headquarters Nights," with a special preface by Minister Brand Whitlock, has just been issued by the Paris publishing house of Payot et Cie.

Nature states that Dr. H. R. Mill has retired from the position of director of the British Rainfall Organization and from the editorship of *British Rainfall* and *Symon's Meteorological Magazine,* which he has carried on since 1901. Serious impairment of eyesight consequent on overwork led Dr. Mill to make arrangements for retiring in 1914, when the outbreak of the war caused him to postpone the step; he now finds his health unequal to the strain of adapting the work to post-war conditions.

The *Journal* of the American Medical Association reports that having reached the age limit of seventy-five, Camillo Golgi retires from the chair of general pathology and histology at the University of Pavia, but still retains charge of the institute connected therewith where he has been uninterruptedly at work for almost fifty years. A scholarship has been founded in his honor by his friends and pupils, the scholarship to be given to the orphan of some physician killed during the war. At an imposing ceremony he was presented with a gold medal and souvenir album signed by the citizens of Pavia, with other honors. His discovery of the stain which first revealed the finer structure of the nervous system was made during his service in a small hospital at Abbiategrasso, remote from the centers of learning. The Nobel prize in medicine in 1906 was divided between Golgi and Ramõn y Cajal.

According to a statement recently issued by the Surgeon General of the United States Army, 442 casualties occurred among the medical officers of the American Expeditionary Forces in France from July 1, 1917, to March 13, 1919. Of these 22 died of wounds, 9 of accidents, 101 of disease; 46 were killed and 7 were missing in action; 4 were lost at sea. There were 38 prisoners unwounded, 47 wounded in action (degree undetermined), 93 severely wounded in action, and 72 slightly wounded.

The summer meetings of the American Astronomical Society, American Mathematical Society, and Mathematical Association of America will be held at Ann Arbor, Mich., during the week September 2–6. A joint session of the three organizations is arranged

for the afternoon of September 4, at which the program will include the retiring address of President E. V. Huntington, of the Mathematical Association, report on the international conference of scientists at Brussels, and report by Professor E. W. Brown, of Yale University, on the work of the National Research Council with reference to mathematics and astronomy. Special railroad rates may be available for this meeting if the attendance is sufficiently large.

THE eighth meeting of the technical personnel of the experiment stations, and of the officers of the Department of Agriculture, of the Dutch East Indies, was held in Medan, Deli, Sumatra, April 23–29, 1919. On the first day a session was held at the Deli Proefstation voor Tabak; papers on botany, geology and chemistry were read by E. C. J. Mohr, J. G. J. A. Mass, F. C. van Heurn, A. A. L. Rutgers, S. Tijmstra, and P. E. Keuchenuis. From April 24 to April 28, an excursion was made over the east coast of Sumatra, visiting oil-palm, rubber, tea, coffee and tobacco estates. A trip was also made over the beautiful Toba Lake and the Karo Plateau. The largest rubber estate in the world was among those visited. This is owned by the Hollandsche-Amerikaansche Plantage Maatschappij, a subsidiary of the United States Rubber Co. Here a banquet was given in honor of the visiting scientists. After the return to Medan, another session was held at the Deli Proef-station, at which papers were read by Carl D. La Rue, and Ir. Kalshoven. At the same session an organization was made under the name of "Vereeniging van Proef-station Personneel." The society is intended to bring about closer cooperation between the various public and private experiment stations, and to promote the interests of science and scientific men in the Dutch East Indies.

Nature states that the council of the British Association recently instructed a deputation, consisting of Professor Arthur Keith, Sir Edward Brabrook and Professor A. W. Kirkaldy, to wait upon the Ministry of Pensions in order to urge the utilization of anthropometric and kindred data collected by the disbanded Ministry of National Service. The deputation was received on behalf of the Minister of Pensions by Colonel Arthur L. A. Webb, director-general of Medical Services, Ministry of Pensions, who explained that the medical statistical department of the Ministry of National Service, of which Dr. H. W. Kaye was in charge, and the data collected by that department, had been taken over by the Ministry of Pensions Dr. Kaye had not only to direct the compilation of medical recruiting statistics, but also to organize a special branch to deal with medical data connected with the Ministry of Pensions. It was thus impossible for Dr. Kaye's department to give its undivided attention to the preparation of returns relating to the physique of recruits in the various areas and trades of the country. At the present time all the data relating to Grade IV. men were being examined and compiled. Colonel Webb also explained that Dr. Kaye's department was endeavoring to obtain data for comparison from Canada, New Zealand and the United States. The deputation, before withdrawing, thanked Colonel Webb, and urged the early publication of results, which are now needed by all who are studying problems connected with the present physical condition of the population.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association quoting from the report of the New York Milk Commission on the infant mortality rates of the different cities of the United States for the year 1918, states that the infant death rate for New York City was 92 per thousand living births. Although the estimates show that the death rate for the country increased seven points last year, the milk commission believes these rates are remarkably low when all the elements conspiring against the baby are considered. The infant mortality rate of seventy-nine cities with populations under 50,000 was 97.2. The rate for thirty-eight cities of between 50,000 and 100,000 was 113.8, and that for forty-five cities of 100,000 population was 103.5 The average baby death rate for the registration area of the United States is 104. Twenty-two of the cities of 100,000 are above this average, and twenty-

two are below. The rates for a number of the larger cities are reported as follows: Chicago, 104.3; Philadelphia, 126; Boston, 114.9; Baltimore, 147.8; Pittsburgh, 122.5; Buffalo, 121.5; Milwaukee, 108.2; Cincinnati, 104.1; Newark, N. J., 104.7; New Orleans, 123.3; Washington, D. C., 110.9; Jersey City, 118.7; Louisville, Ky., 117.3; Denver, 107.3; Syracuse, N. Y., 117.4; Birmingham, Ala., 133.5; Memphis, Tenn., 145; Scranton, Pa., 144.3; Richmond, Va., 146.3; Fall River, Mass., 161.3; Lowell, Mass., 159.1; Albany, New York, 107.4. Only three cities reported baby death rates below 50. These cities are all of the class below 50,000. Brookline, Mass., has the lowest rate, 35.4; Madison, Wis., is next with 38.1, and Pasadena, Calif., third, with 43.8.

As a result of meetings between the government and representatives of technical and scientific societies, a department of glass technology was opened at Sheffield University. From very small beginnings the department has grown quickly and to-day it is turning out work equal to anything the Germans have done. As most of the work has been of an experimental nature the cost has been heavy. Much has yet to be done, with this object in view, if the industry is to be commercially sound and able to compete in the world's markets. A Glass Research Association is being formed. The government being asked to provide £75,000 over a period of five years and the manufacturers are expected to contribute another £25,000. The Controller of the Glass Ware Department of the Ministry of Munitions has called a meeting of manufacturers to discuss the scheme. Substantial promises have already been received from manufacturers interested and a provisional committee has been appointed. The Association will first turn its attention to problems of machinery and labor-saving devices.

The *American Museum Journal* states that about twenty miles south of the great fossil quarry at Agate, Nebraska, there is a peculiar fossil deposit of somewhat later geological age, which has been called the Snake Creek beds. They consist of a series of small pockets in the sand and gravel beds near the surface, full of fossil teeth and bones, mostly fragments, but with many jaws and complete bones and occasional skulls among them. Three-toed horses are the most numerous; many thousands of teeth have been found, hundreds of jaws, and one fairly complete skeleton. A great number of other animals of the Lower Pliocene are represented in the American Museum collections from the pockets, obtained in 1908 and 1916. During this last summer Mr. Albert Thomson has obtained for the Museum an additional collection which includes a few specimens, the best being fine skulls of the long-legged rhinoceros, *Aphelops*, and the rare rodent, *Mylagaulus*. The collection which he has brought back to the museum will add materially to our knowledge of the mammalian life of the Lower Pliocene.

We learn from the *Journal* of the American Medical Association that four measures appropriating funds and authorizing the United State Public Health Service to investigate and combat a recurrence of the influenza epidemic are now before Congress. Senator Warren G. Harding, of Ohio, has introduced a joint resolution appropriating $5,000,000 for an investigation of influenza and pneumonia. His measure cites that the recent influenza epidemic caused 500,000 deaths in the United States. The Public Health Service and research institutions are authorized to make this investigation. A bill introduced in the House by Congressman Simeon D. Fess, of Ohio, authorizes the Public Health Service and the medical departments of both the Army and the Navy to investigate and combat the disease and appropriates $1,500,000 for this purpose. Congressman William W. Larsen, of Georgia, and Congressman Black, of Texas, have introduced similar bills for making an investigation of influenza and allied subjects. The Larsen and Black measures carry an appropriation of $500,000 each. All four measures charge the United States Public Health Service with carrying out the provisions of the act, although cooperation with the army and navy medical departments is advised.

WE learn from the *Journal* of the American Mathematical Society that the technical staff of the United States Ordnance Department has been authorized to secure the services of five experts in mathematics and dynamics, at salaries ranging from $2,500 to $5,000, to conduct scientific research on ordnance problems, act as advisers on all mathematical and scientific problems, for the ordnance department, and keep up connections between the department and the scientific world.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

GEORGE EASTMAN, head of the Eastman Kodak Company, has given the sum of $3,500,000 for the establishment of a school of music in connection with the University of Rochester. The school will aim to aid the development of an appreciation of the highest type of motion pictures as an ally of the highest type of music.

IT is stated in *Nature* that to a private deputation from the Education Committee of the Parliamentary Labor party, which urged upon him the desirability of an inquiry into the organization and financial position of the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, Mr. Fisher has made the announcement that the government has decided to appoint commissions to inquire into the position of the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. At both universities the existing resources have proved inadequate to meet the increased cost of maintenance of the various departments, and a few months ago the authorities of each independently applied to the government for financial aid. In reply to these requests Mr. Fisher, on behalf of the government, stated that such grants out of Parliamentary funds could be sanctioned only on the condition that in due course comprehensive inquiries into the whole resources of the universities and their colleges and the use made of them should be instituted by the government. The Cambridge senate on May 31 authorized the vice-chancellor to inform Mr. Fisher that the university would welcome a comprehensive inquiry into its financial resources, and at Oxford a similar decision was taken by convocation on June 10.

DR. ERNEST SACHS, hitherto associate professor of surgery in the medical school of Washington University, St. Louis, has been appointed professor of clinical neurological surgery in the same institution. This is the first instance in which any medical school has recognized neurological surgery by creating for it a separate department.

DR. L. J. GILLESPIE, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, has been appointed professor of physical chemistry in Syracuse University.

DR. N. A. LANGE, formerly instructor in organic chemistry at the University of Michigan has been appointed assistant professor of organic chemistry at the Case School of Applied Science, Cleveland.

DR. HARRY D. KITSON, instructor in psychology at the University of Chicago, has accepted the position at Indiana University made vacant by Professor E. C. Lindley, who accepted the presidency of the University of Idaho.

DR. CLIFFORD H. FARR has resigned his position in the Bureau of Plant Industry to accept appointment as assistant professor of plant physiology in the University of Iowa.

AT the University of Georgia, Paul Weatherwax, Ph.D. (Indiana), has been appointed associate professor of botany with special reference to physiology and genetics. Joseph Krafka, Jr., Ph.D. (Illinois), has been appointed associate professor of zoology, and John Moore Reade, Ph.D., professor of botany, has been made director of the biological laboratories.

APPOINTMENTS for next year at the college of arts and sciences, University of Buffalo, include the following: Daniel B. Leary, formerly head of department of education at Tulane University, to be professor of psychology and instructor in Russian; Edward J. Moore, associate professor of physics at Oberlin College, to be professor of physics, and Albert R. Shadle, assistant professor of zoology at Cornell, to be assistant professor of biology.

PROFESSOR A. FINDLAY, professor of chemistry, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth,