

Plans have been made for a joint session of the American Electrochemical Society with the Mining Institute upon the subject of "Electric steel and electric furnaces" on Wednesday of the week. This will be followed by another joint session on "Pyrometry," probably on Friday, when the following phases of the subject will be considered and discussed: Methods of Pyrometry, Industrial Pyrometry, Pyrometry and its Relation to Science. The Electrochemical Society is arranging a meeting on "Catalysis." About a hundred papers have been prepared for the meeting of the Mining Institute. Addresses of general interest include one by Dr. H. E. Howe, on "The organization and plans of the National Research Council with special reference to the Industries."

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. THEODORE W. RICHARDS, professor of chemistry at Harvard University, has been elected president of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

MAJOR GENERAL WM. L. SIBERT, director of the Chemical Warfare Service, U. S. A., has been made a commander of the French Legion of Honor.

PROFESSOR ALEXANDER SMITH, head of the department of chemistry at Columbia University, was granted on July 10, the honorary degree of doctor of laws by the University of Edinburgh. The following was the introduction: "Alexander Smith, B.Sc., Ph.D., director of the chemistry department of Columbia University, New York.—A most distinguished graduate of our own university, Professor Smith has risen to the rank of a super-chemist in the United States, head of a department embracing many specialized professorships, and director of one of the most important laboratories in the new world. We congratulate Columbia University on the possession of a teacher and investigator of such rare ability, and we congratulate ourselves on the opportunity of laureating an *alumnus* whose success reflects no little lustre on the institution where he received his early training."

CLARENCE OUSLEY, assistant secretary of agriculture, has resigned, leaving the Department of Agriculture on July 31. He gave as his reasons that he had finished the work for which he went to the department during the war and that he could not afford longer to hold public office. In transmitting the resignation to the president, Secretary Houston expressed deep regret that Mr. Ousley felt obliged to leave the department and stated that he was constrained to recommend the acceptance of the resignation only in deference to Mr. Ousley's wishes. The retiring assistant secretary remains in Washington.

DR. SAMUEL T. ORTON, of the University of Pennsylvania Hospital, has been appointed head of the new psychopathic hospital at Iowa City, which is being erected at a cost of \$150,000.

DR. M. OZORIO DE ALMEIDA has been placed in charge of the recently organized section of physiology of the Institute Oswaldo Cruz in Rio de Janeiro.

MR. F. J. CHITTENDEN, the head of the Wisley scientific station and laboratory, has been appointed director of the Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens at Wisley.

It is stated in *Nature* that Dr. Shaiffer, of the University of Toronto, has been appointed expert in animal husbandry to the government of Mysore. He will work under Dr. Coleman, the director of agriculture.

THE Bessemer medal of the Iron and Steel Institute for the present year has been awarded to Professor F. Giolitti, of Turin.

LORD LEE, of Fareham, has been appointed to the presidency of the British Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, in succession to Lord Ernle.

GONVILLE and Caius College, Cambridge, has elected to a fellowship Lieutenant-Colonel C. S. Myers, who has been university lecturer in experimental psychology since 1907, and is director of the university laboratory of experimental psychology.

DR. S. W. PATTERSON has been appointed director of the Eliza Hall Institute of Re-

search, in connection with the Melbourne Hospital.

NILS B. ECKBO, a member of the Forest Service since 1907, has left for Pretoria, South Africa, to assume the duties of chief of wood investigations in the Forest Department.

DR. J. P. STREET, chemist in charge of the analytical laboratory of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station and recently major in the Sanitary Corps of the United States Army, has been assigned by the National Canners' Association as chief inspector for the state of Indiana.

CAPTAIN EDWARD B. STEPHENSON, Engineers, U. S. A., formerly assistant professor of physics, University of North Dakota, who has been connected with experimental and development work in sound ranging for the past two years and with the Engineer School at Camp Humphreys, Va., has been honorably discharged from the military service and employed as physicist in charge of Ranging and Camouflage Development, Office, Chief of Engineers, Washington, D. C.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL C. G. STORM, Ordnance Department, U. S. A., chief of the Research Section, Ammunition Division, has been honorably discharged from the service and is now engaged in research work with the Pennsylvania Trojan Powder Company, Allentown, Pa.

MR. H. E. HARING, for the last two years in the inspection division of the Ordnance Department, is now connected with the Bureau of Standards where he will be engaged in electrochemical research.

S. T. DANA, forest economist in the Forest Service, has been assigned to the joint congressional committee for the reclassification of salaries to assist in the formulation of a report to the congress.

PROFESSOR J. E. KIRKWOOD, head of the department of botany at the State University of Montana, has been granted leave of absence for the coming academic year. He will spend much of his time in research and study at the University of California.

DR. W. ARMSTRONG PRICE, assistant professor of geology at West Virginia University, has resigned this position to devote full time to his duties as paleontologist of the West Virginia Geological Survey.

CHARLES CONRAD ABBOTT died at Bristol, Pa., on July 27, in the seventy-seventh year of his age. Dr. Abbott was the author of "Primitive Industries" published in the early '70's, and of a number of books on natural history, including the "Archeology of the Delaware Valley."

SAMUEL T. WELLMAN, past-president of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, well known in the iron and steel industry of the Great Lakes, died on July 11, at the age of seventy-two years.

DR. JOSEPH ZEISLER, professor of dermatology at Northwestern University since 1889, died on September 1.

GEORGE STEPHEN WEST, professor of botany in the University of Birmingham, has died at the age of forty-three years.

DR. J. GÓMEZ OCAÑA, professor of physiology at the University of Madrid, and life senator, has died, aged fifty-nine years.

THE Civil Service Commission of the state of New York will hold examinations on September 27 for the position of assistant director, Division of Laboratories and Research, State Department of Health, with a salary of \$4,000. This position is open to men between the ages of thirty and forty-five years and to non-residents and non-citizens. Applicants will be rated on education, experience and personal qualifications. An interview may be required. There will also be an examination for a bacteriologist-pathologist, Division of Laboratories and Research, State Department of Health with a salary of \$2,500, open to men and women, twenty-five to forty-five years of age. Candidates will be rated on a written examination relating to the duties of the position, weight 1; and on their education, experience and personal qualifications, weight 1.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY announces that Dr. Thomas M. Legge, chief medical inspector of factories in Great Britain, has been invited to

give a course of Lowell Lectures and the Cutter Lectures in Preventive Medicine for the coming year. These lectures will be given under the auspices of the school of public health of Harvard University, the division of industrial hygiene and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Dr. Legge will lecture in Boston on November 18 and ensuing dates upon the following subjects:

- "Twenty years' experience of the notification of industrial disease."
- "Twelve years' experience of workman's compensation act and industrial diseases."
- "Medical supervision in factories."
- "Industrial poisons and their prevention."
- "Anthrax."
- "Fumes and gases."
- "Industrial fatigue."
- "Industry as a subject for art."
- "Manufacture under the medieval trade guilds."

It is stated in *Nature* that a conference of representatives of the Meteorological Services of the British Dominions is to be held in London on September 23-27, when the subjects to be considered will include the meteorological arrangements for the exchange of observations by wireless at comparatively long distances; specification of observations for the surface and the upper air with the codes for transmission; the consideration of instruments and material for the investigation of the upper air; the selection of stations of the "Réseau Mondial" for the purpose of the general climatology of the globe; the provision of current meteorological information for the main air routes of the world; cooperation in the investigation of the meteorological conditions of aerial navigation; and the trade routes and the meteorological survey of the oceans by observations transmitted by radiotelegraphy from ships. The following official meteorologists of the Dominions beyond the seas are expected to be present: Captain A. J. Bamford (director of the Meteorological Service of Ceylon), the Rev. D. C. Bates (director of the Meteorological Office of New Zealand), Mr. H. A. Hunt (director of the Weather Bureau of the Commonwealth of Australia,

Melbourne), Mr. H. Knox Shaw (director of the Meteorological Service of the Public Works Ministry, Egypt), Mr. C. Stewart (chief meteorologist of the Union of South Africa), Sir Frederick Stupart (director of the Meteorological Service of Canada), and Dr. G. T. Walker (director-general of Indian Observatories).

THE publication of annual or semiannual vital statistics reports was suspended in France during the war. We learn from the *Journal* of the American Medical Association that the *Journal officiel* has now printed the official statistics for 1915, 1916 and 1917 of seventy-seven departments, and the figures for 1913 are given for purposes of comparison. For the seventy-seven departments concerned, the number of births and deaths was as follows:

	Births	Deaths
1913 .....	604,811	587,445
1914 .....	594,222	647,549
1915 .....	387,806	655,146
1916 .....	315,087	607,742
1917 .....	343,310	613,148

These statistics show that while in 1913 the number of births exceeded the number of deaths by 17,366, the deaths in 1917 exceeded the births by 269,838. It should be noted that these statistics do not include the eleven invaded departments in which war was waged for fifty-two months and in which the losses caused by the war were not counted, but which officially have been stated as being 1,400,000 men.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association states that an elaborate scheme for graduate medical education in Great Britain has been formed, and it is hoped will receive support from the government. Graduate teaching is required for the following classes: (1) physicians in Great Britain who would like to spend a portion of their holidays in getting up to date in all branches of their work, or who wish to spend a few months in learning all that they can about some particular subject in which they desire to specialize, either completely or in conjunction with general practise;

(2) medical officers of the Royal Navy, the Royal Army Corps, the Royal Air Force, and the Indian and Colonial Medical Services, who have to attend postgraduate courses at stated intervals; (3) graduates from British colonies, India and Egypt, including those who have recently qualified, and wish to complete their medical education in England, and some senior men who fall into the same category as the men in Class 1; (4) graduates of allied countries, especially Americans, large numbers of whom have in the past studied in Germany and Austria, in many instances simply because they were unable to obtain equal facilities in England, as well as the French, who have hitherto rarely studied abroad, and the Japanese.

THE Civil List pensions granted by the British government during the year ended March 31 last, includes, as we learn from *Nature*, the following: Mrs. Edith Harrison, in consideration of the services rendered by her late husband, Colonel W. S. Harrison, in connection with inoculation against enteric and typhoid fevers, £50; Mrs. Cash, in view of the contributions of her late husband, George Cash, to the study of Scottish topography, £50; Mr. William Cole, in view of his contributions to the study of natural history and to scientific education, £50; Mrs. R. O. Cunningham, in view of the services of her late husband, Professor Cunningham, as naturalist on board H.M.S. *Nassau* during the survey of the Straits of Magellan and the west coast of Patagonia, and as professor of natural history in Queen's College, Belfast, £50; Mr. Benjamin Harrison, in view of his devotion to scientific work (in addition to his pension of £26 a year), £25; Mrs. E. A. Mettam, in view of the distinction of her late husband, Professor A. E. Mettam, as professor of pathology and bacteriology, and of his contributions to veterinary science, £75; Miss Helen Tichborne, in view of the late Professor Tichborne's scientific discoveries in chemistry and pharmacology, £60; Miss Eliza Standerwick Gregory, in view of her eminent services to botanical science, £60, and Lady Eleanor Charlotte Turner, in view of her late

husband, Sir George Turner's services in the investigation and prevention of rinderpest, and in consideration of his death through contracting leprosy in the public service, £50.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

BENNO LOEWY, a lawyer, has left the residue of his estate, said to amount to \$250,000, in trust to his wife, to revert to Cornell University after her death. He gave his collection of stamps, pamphlets, engravings and illustrations to Cornell for immediate possession.

THE Connecticut state appropriations for the agricultural stations were increased by the last legislature. For the ensuing biennium the State Station will receive \$45,000, an increase of \$7,500, and the Storrs Station \$25,000, an increase of \$10,000.

DR. EDWARD G. BORING, recently of Cornell University, has been appointed professor of experimental psychology and head of the psychological laboratory at Clark University, to succeed the late Professor Baird. The staff of the department of experimental psychology will consist of Professor Boring, Professor Samuel W. Fernberger and Mr. Carroll D. Pratt.

THE department of forestry in Colorado College, which was suspended for the period of the war, is being revived under the charge of Mr. Gordon Parker, M.F. (Harvard), who has had charge of the Montezuma National Forest as supervisor for the past five years.

DR. HERMAN L. IBSEN, formerly connected with the University of Wisconsin, has been appointed assistant professor of animal genetics at the Kansas Agricultural College.

W. S. NELMS, Ph.D. (Columbia, '13), has been elected associate professor of physics, in charge of the department, of Emory University, in Atlanta, Georgia. He has been recently discharged from the army in which he was a first lieutenant in the technical staff of the Ordnance Department.