

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE annual meeting of the New York Academy of Sciences was held on Monday evening, December 15, at which the following officers were elected. *President*, Dr. Edward L. Thorndike; *Vice-presidents*, Dr. C. L. Bristol, Dr. Isaiah Bowman, Dr. W. J. Giles, Dr. R. S. Woodworth; *Recording Secretary*, Dr. R. W. Tower; *Corresponding Secretary*, Dr. Henry E. Crampton, *Treasurer*, Mr. John Tatlock. The retiring President Dr. Ernest E. Smith delivered an address on "Applied Science and the War," after which two interesting and illustrated talks were given by Professor Douglas W. Johnson on "A Geographer at the Front and at the Peace Conference" and Professor Henry E. Crampton on "Tahiti and the South Seas."

THE president of Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill., and the board of control of the Michigan College of Mines at Houghton, Mich., have each received from the chief of the Bureau of Ordnance of the U. S. Navy a formal letter of appreciation thanking them for permitting the time and experience of Dr. John F. Hayford, director of the College of Engineering at the former institution, and of Dr. F. W. McNair, president of the College of Mines, to be devoted to the service of the government and in particular to problems of naval gunnery. They were on the staff of the U. S. Bureau of Standards during the war and with Dr. Lyman J. Briggs, chief of the wind tunnel at that bureau worked on problems concerning the large guns of the navy. For purposes of test and demonstration they accompanied the Pacific Fleet on its recent voyage from Hampton Roads to the California coast, attached to the U. S. S. *Mississippi*. The letter of the chief of the Bureau of Ordnance states that the work of these scientific men has resulted in a considerable advance in the gunnery of the U. S. Navy.

THE gold medal of the Society for the Protection of Wild Life has been presented to Dr. John M. Clarke, New York state geologist and director of the State Museum at Albany.

At its meeting held December 10, 1919, the Rumford Committee of the American

Academy of Arts and Sciences appropriated the sum of three hundred dollars to Dr. Frederick G. Keyes, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in aid of his research on the heats of neutralization at different temperatures.

SIR DONALD MACALISTER, president of the British General Medical Council, has been invested by President Poincaré with the Cross of Commander of the Legion of Honour.

THE University of Leeds has conferred the following honorary degrees: D.Sc.: Admiral Sir Henry Jackson, First Sea Lord, 1915-1916; Surgeon-General Sir Alfred Keogh; Sir Almroth Wright; Professor W. H. Bragg, and Mr. J. G. Baker.

DR. J. E. STEAD has been nominated by the council of the British Iron and Steel Institute as president for next year in succession to Mr. Eugene Schneider.

W. F. RUDD, of the department of chemistry at the Medical College of Virginia, has been elected president of the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties.

MR. H. A. NELSON, formerly of the Bureau of Standards, is now with the New Jersey Zinc Company.

DR. N. F. DRAKE, head of the departments of geology and mining engineering at the University of Arkansas, will sail on December 25 from Vancouver for China, where he will do research work until April of 1920.

PROFESSOR W. A. NOYES, of the University of Illinois, delivered an address on a "Career in Research" at the fiftieth meeting of the Medical Research Club of the University of Illinois held on December 9."

DR. G. F. LOUGHLIN, of the Geological Survey, is giving a course lecture on metalliferous geology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, temporarily filling the place of Professor Waldemar

THE Thomas Vicary Lecture of the Royal College of Surgeons of England was delivered by Sir John Tweedy on December 3, on "The surgical tradition." The Bradshaw Lecture before the same College was delivered by Sir

Charles A. Ballance, on December 11 on "The surgery of the heart."

At a meeting of the Royal Aeronautical Society at the Royal Society of Arts, on November 10, Dr. C. A. Swan gave a lecture on some physical and psychical effects of altitude.

ACCORDING to the Madrid correspondent of the London *Times* an International Conference of the Mediterranean has been held in that city. The principal object of the conference was to discuss the organization of a permanent central office of fisheries to be opened at Monaco. This office will be formed of delegates from each Mediterranean nation, and will allot and centralize the fisheries research work to be undertaken in the spring and autumn campaign, lasting from April 1 to May 31 and from October 1 to November 30 of each year, by the countries interested. The results of the work done will be published by the central office in a bulletin printed in the French, Spanish, Italian and English languages. Four ships will be at the disposal of the central office, the *Hirondelle II.* belonging to the Prince of Monaco, the specially built Italian ship *Tremitti*, and a French and a Spanish ship not yet detailed. The central office will coordinate the work hitherto carried out by each nation separately, with a view to developing the fishing industry by the scientific investigation of the habits of edible fishes, their migration and spawning periods. The central office will also coordinate the work of exploring the bottom of the Mediterranean and the study of its surface and under currents, about which very little is known at present, and the importance of which in the Straits of Gibraltar and in the Dardanelles is very great. Without waiting for the spring campaign the Italian government is starting work next month in the Dardanelles, at which two Spanish scientific men have been invited to assist. The first work of the spring campaign will probably be in the Straits of Gibraltar.

An oil shale laboratory, with an initial expenditure of at least \$20,000, is to be established at the University of Colorado at Boul-

der immediately by the United States Bureau of Mines and the state of Colorado. The laboratory is to be operated under the department of mechanical engineering, and will be under the direction of Professor John A. Hunter. The department at present maintains an oil laboratory which can be utilized to some extent in the new work. To house the machinery and equipment which will be necessary for the experimental treatment of shales a separate building will be erected. The Federal Bureau of Mines will send men to the university to look after the government's end of the work, and it is expected that eventually the department will grow to the magnitude of the radium research laboratory established several years ago at the School of Mines at Golden. The last named work at present requires the services of a dozen men and occupies a three-story building. The new department is designed for the research and experimentation consideration necessary for the exploitation of the huge deposits of oil shales in western Colorado and Utah on a commercial basis.

THE board of directors of the American Electrochemical Society has approved and ordered sent to members of Congress and the officials of the War Department the following resolution concerning the Chemical Warfare Service:

WHEREAS, The development of science and research is of paramount importance not only to the military establishment of the United States, but to the welfare and security of the entire nation; and

WHEREAS, The bill introduced into Congress for the reorganization of the Army (Senate 2171—66th Congress) is not only clearly destructive of the Chemical Warfare Service, but is so drawn as to belittle all scientific and technical work in the Army and make it subordinate to the unscientifically trained officer:

Therefore, be it Resolved, That the American Electrochemical Society urges strongly that any legislation for the reorganization of the Army shall provide for the continuing of the Chemical Warfare Service as a separate staff bureau as at present; shall provide for the commissioning of staff officers in the corps and departments in which they are to serve; and shall in general accord to the technical man full recognition and opportunity

throughout every grade and department of the military establishment.

ARTHUR D. LITTLE, Inc., chemists and engineers, Cambridge, Mass., through its Information Department, is planning a series of Bibliographic Studies, to be circulated among the public, university and special libraries of the United States, and the firms and individuals interested in the various studies. Those in course of preparation are: Chemical Warfare; Alcohol from Waste Sulfite Liquors; Industrial Research; The Automobile and Tractor at the Front; The Electric Furnace; Industrial Laboratories; Molasses; The Chemical Action of Light; Woods and Fibers used as Paper Making Materials. Copies of the first three of them are ready and may be had upon request.

THE REV. DR. WILLIAM T. MANNING, rector of Trinity Parish, New York, offered a resolution in the House of Deputies of the Episcopal Church at the recent general convention in Detroit, providing for the appointment of a committee of three bishops, three presbyters, and three laymen "to consider the fuller recognition of the ministry of healing in the Church and the need of its revival under proper sanctions and safeguards." The resolution was unanimously adopted and sent to the House of Bishops for concurrence. Dr. Manning, who is a trustee of Columbia University, has been interested in an English faith healer who has held clinics at Trinity Church.

In connection with the statement issued by the United States Public Health Service in regard to the probable return of the influenza epidemic this year, it is announced that the laboratories of Harvard University have been chosen to conduct exhaustive research into the causes, effects and complications of the disease, together with their prevention and cure. Dean David L. Edsall, of the Harvard Medical School announces that a large corporation which suffered losses as a result of the epidemic last year has given \$50,000, the greater portion of which will be used by Dr. Milton Joseph Rosenau, professor of preventive medicine and hygiene of the Harvard Medical

School and a corps of assistants to carry on the exhaustive studies and research to discover some means to prevent future outbreaks of the epidemic.

It is stated in *Nature* that under the will of the late Dr. Joseph Wigglesworth, his ornithological library passes by bequest to the University of Bristol. This library of more than 1,000 volumes, including finely-bound copies of the works of Gould, Seebohm, Dresser, Lilford, Levaillant and other leading authorities, is probably one of the best in England. It will be housed in a separate room in the new university buildings, and will be kept up to date. Dr. Wigglesworth gave the residue of his estate to the university after his widow's death for the furnishing and maintenance of this special library.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

At the recent meeting of the Yale Corporation several gifts were announced. Mr. Austin C. Dunham, of Hartford, has given \$64,000 to cover the amount advanced by the Sheffield trustees in constructing the electrical engineering building of the Sheffield Scientific School. The building is to be known hereafter as the Dunham Laboratory of Electrical Engineering. By the death of the widow of Dr. Levi Shoemaker, of Wilkes-Barre, property valued at about \$200,000 goes to the university for the general endowment of the School of Medicine. A fund of \$6,000 has been received from Edith Meacham Hitchcock and Standish Meacham of Cincinnati, to establish a scholarship in the Sheffield Scientific School in memory of Robert Douglas Meacham of the class of 1907 of the Scientific School.

THE sum of five thousand dollars from a "friend of the university" has been received by the University of California for the support of special research work in the department of paleontology during the year 1920.

DR. ROSWELL P. ANGIER, professor of psychology at Yale University, has been appointed to the newly established deanship of the common freshman year.