

of the nation the duration of the supply will be brief.

The public has a right, therefore, to demand that this natural asset be used to the greatest advantage of all and that no one be allowed to waste it. Natural gas in each city is a community asset and every consumer has a right to demand that wasteful use shall be prohibited in the interest of the public service. This is particularly important during cold spells in the winter when the supply is insufficient and actual suffering may occur. Clearly, it is not right that any consumer suffer at such times because of the extravagance and waste of other consumers, even though they are willing to pay for the gas wasted. Nor can the citizens justify demands for better service from the public utilities without making provision to correct abuses in their own homes. It must be recognized that the public has been and is to-day just as much a party to the crime of wasting this natural resource as are the companies that produce and market it.

SCIENTIFIC LECTURES

UNDER the auspices of the division of geology of Harvard University, Dr. James Mackintosh Bell, former government geologist of New Zealand, will give a series of nine lectures on topics in economic geology. These lectures are given in the Geological Lecture Room, Geological Museum, at 4.30 o'clock, and will be open to the public. The dates and titles are as follows:

January 5. "The Waihi goldfield, New Zealand."

January 7. "The Mount Morgan copper mine, Queensland."

January 9. "The Mount Bischoff tin mine, Tasmania."

January 12. "The Mount Lyell copper mine, Tasmania."

January 14. "The Spassky copper mines, Siberia."

January 16. "The Atbasar copper mines, Siberia."

January 19. "The Sudbury nickel-copper area, Ontario."

January 20. "The Cobalt Silver Camp, Ontario."

January 21. "The Porcupine goldfields, Ontario."

THE following are among the lectures to be given at the Royal Institution: Professor W.

H. Bragg, six lectures adapted to a juvenile auditory on The World of Sound; Sir John Cadman, two lectures on (1) Modern Development of the Miner's Safety Lamp and (2) Petroleum and the War; Professor G. Elliot Smith, three lectures on The Evolution of Man and the Early History of Civilization; Professor Ernest Wilson, two lectures on Magnetic Susceptibility; Professor Arthur Keith, four lectures on British Ethnology: The Invaders of England; Professor A. E. Conrady, two lectures on Recent Progress in Photography; Professor A. H. Smith, two lectures on Illustrations of Ancient Greek and Roman Life in the British Museum; Lieutenant-Colonel E. Gold, two lectures on The Upper Air; Sir F. W. Dyson, Astronomer Royal, three lectures on The Astronomical Evidence bearing on Einstein's Theory of Gravitation; and Sir J. J. Thomson, six lectures on Positive Rays. The Friday evening discourses will begin on Friday, January 16, 1920, at 9 o'clock, when Sir James Dewar will deliver a discourse on Low-temperature Studies. Succeeding discourses will probably be given by Sir C. A. Parsons, Mr. S. G. Brown, Professor W. M. Bayliss, Dr. E. J. Russell, Mr. W. B. Hardy, the Hon. J. W. Fortescue, Professor J. A. Fleming, Mr. E. McCurdy, Sir J. J. Thomson, and others.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

At a meeting of the Société de Pathologie exotique at the Institut Pasteur of Paris, held on December 10, Dr. Simon Flexner of The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, in New York, was elected an associate member. Dr. Flexner was also elected to associate membership in the Société Royale des Sciences Médicales et Naturelles of Brussels, at a meeting held on December 1, and to the Société Belge de Biologie of Brussels, at its meeting of December 6. On December 22, Dr. Flexner was made a corresponding member of the Bataafsch Genootschap der Proefondervindelijke Wijsbegeerte of Rotterdam, Holland.

OFFICIAL notice has been issued by the French Academy of Sciences of the award of

the Bordin prize in mathematics to Dr. S. Lefschetz, assistant professor of mathematics in the University of Kansas, and of the Lalande prize in astronomy to Dr. V. M. Slipher, director of the Lowell Observatory at Flagstaff.

FORMER assistants of Dr. Edwin R. Le Count, professor of pathology in Rush Medical College, tendered him a banquet on December 17 and presented him with two paintings as a recognition of esteem and gratitude. The presentation address was made by Dr. Frank R. Nuzum, Janesville, Wis., who presided. Addresses were also made by Drs. Herman A. Brennecke, Aurora; George E. Clements, Crawfordsville, Ind.; William H. Burmeister, George H. Coleman, Arthur H. Curtis, Morris Fishbein, Edward H. Hatton and James P. Simonds, Chicago.

SURGEON GENERAL SIR ALFRED KEOGH and Sir Almroth E. Wright have had the honorary degree of doctor of science conferred on them by the University of Leeds.

SIR DONALD MACALLISTER, superintendent of the British Medical Council, has been invested by President Poincaré, with the cross of the commander of the Legion of Honor.

DR. A. S. LOEVENHART, professor of pharmacology and toxicology at the University of Wisconsin, was elected president of the Pharmacological Society at the annual meeting held in Cleveland last week.

MR. ELMER H. FINCH, geologist of the U. S. Geological Survey, has recently been appointed chairman of the Mineral Division Land Classification Branch, U. S. Geological Survey, succeeding Mr. A. R. Schultz, resigned.

DR. FOREST B. H. BROWN, research fellow at Yale University, has been appointed botanist on the staff of the Bishop Museum at Honolulu. Dr. Elizabeth Wuist Brown has been appointed research associate in cryptogamic botany in the same institution.

DR. P. G. AGNEW, physicist in the Electrical Division of the Bureau of Standards, has resigned to become secretary of the American Engineering Standards Committee, with head-

quarters at the Engineering Building, 29 West 39th Street, New York City.

DR. ARTHUR LACHMAN, a well-known chemist of San Francisco, formerly professor in the University of Oregon, was last seen on the street at noon on December 11, 1919. Since then his family and friends have been unable to obtain any clue or any trace of his whereabouts. It seems probable that he had an attack of amnesia with loss of identity and wandered away. Dr. Lachman is known to many readers of SCIENCE. Any one having information in regard to him is requested to communicate with his family or with Dr. Felix Langfeld, 272 Post St., San Francisco, California.

LANCASTER D. BURLING, invertebrate paleontologist of the Geological Survey of Canada, has accepted the position of geologist with S. Pearsons and Sons, Limited, of London, England. His first assignment is to work in the old fields of Trinidad, for which he will leave upon the first available sailing.

CAPTAIN W. E. BROPHY, C.E. (Columbia, '15), formerly of the Barrett Company and later of the Chemical Warfare Service, U. S. A., has joined the engineering staff of Arthur D. Little, Inc., at Cambridge, Mass. In the early part of the war, Captain Brophy had charge of the construction and operation of the plant at Astoria, Long Island, for the manufacture of high absorbent carbon for use in gas masks and later he designed, constructed and operated an additional unit for the purpose at San Francisco.

DR. HIDEYO NOGUCHI, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, has landed at the port of Progreso from which he will proceed to Merida in order to carry on confirmatory studies of his discovery of *L. icteroides* and to try on a larger scale the curative properties of the specific serum prepared by him.

MR. N. H. DARTON, geologist of the U. S. Geological Survey, will spend two months in the Dominican Republic early in 1920 to investigate oil conditions for a New York company.

At the thirty-sixth Annual Convention of the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists held at Washington beginning on November 17 the following officers were appointed for the ensuing year: *President* H. C. Lythgoe, State Department of Health, Boston, Mass.; *Vice-president*, W. F. Hand, Agricultural College, Agricultural College, Miss.; *Secretary-Treasurer*, C. L. Alsberg, Bureau of Chemistry Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Additional members of the Executive Committee are C. H. Jones, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vt., and W. W. Skinner, Bureau of Chemistry, Washington, D. C.

At the annual meeting of the Washington Academy of Sciences, held on January 13, Dr. F. L. Ransome, delivered the address of the retiring president on "The Functions and Ideals of a National Geological Survey."

The sixth lecture of the series of The Harvey Society will be by Dr. Carl Voegtlin, professor of pharmacology, United States Public Health Service, on "Recent Work on Pellagra" at the New York Academy of Medicine on January 24 at 830.

DR. GEORGE MACLOSKIE, professor emeritus of biology of Princeton University, died at Princeton, on December 4 in his eighty-fifth year.

THE death is announced of Professor A. Ricco, director of the Observatory of Catania and vice-president of the International Astronomical Union.

THE death is announced of Professor E. H. Bruns the director of the University Observatory at Leipzig.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

AN anonymous gift of \$1,000,000 has been offered to Throop College of Technology, at Pasadena, California, conditional upon an equal amount being raised from other sources.

MR. GUSTAVUS F. SWIFT, of Chicago, has added \$8,000 to the previous endowment of the Gustavus F. Swift Fellowship of the University of Chicago, making the income from that

fellowship amount to \$925. This fellowship is awarded for the encouragement of research, and is given only to a student who has already proved his capacity for investigation.

DR. WILLIAM H. WALKER, head of the Research Library of Applied Chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has been appointed head of the new division of industrial cooperation and research.

DR. M. G. SEELIG, has accepted the position of professor of clinical surgery, at the School of Medicine of Washington University at St. Louis, Mo.

DR. WALTER H. EDDY, of Teachers College, Columbia University, associate in physiological chemistry, has been appointed assistant professor of physiological chemistry. Dr. Eddy has recently returned from France, where he served fifteen months with the A. E. F., as major in the Sanitary Corps.

HAROLD S. PALMER, instructor in geology in Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., leaves on February 1 for Honolulu to take charge of the department of geology in the University of Hawaii.

SIR RICHARD GLAZEBROOK, who recently returned from the directorship of the British National Physical Laboratory, has been appointed to the Zaharoff chair of aviation tenable at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, founded by Sir Basil Zaharoff, who gave to the university the sum of £25,000 for this purpose.

DR. G. M. ROBERTSON has been appointed to a professorship of psychiatry and Dr. J. H. Ashworth to a professorship of zoology in the University of Edinburgh.

DR. FRITZ PANETH, director of the chemical department of the German technical high schools at Prague, has been appointed professor of chemistry at the University of Hamburg.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE MUSICAL SANDS

THE article on "Singing sands of Lake Michigan" by W. D. Richardson, in SCIENCE,