

Mr. Allen C. Clark, 816 14th St., Vice-president from Historical Society.

**SAMUEL J. MELTZER<sup>1</sup>**

THE scientific staff of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research has learned with profound grief of the death of Dr. Samuel J. Meltzer. At a special meeting of the staff, held on November 12, 1920, it was resolved: That an expression be recorded of the sense of great loss which his passing away has occasioned.

Dr. Meltzer has been associated with the institute from the time of its inception. His great learning, his devotion to medical science, and his love for his fellow men continuously prompted the expenditure of his utmost effort in the causes to which the labor of the institute is dedicated. In this service he spent wholeheartedly the last sixteen years of his life, and in this service, in the fulness of his powers, he has died. He did not know how to spare himself in the devotion of his life to this great purpose.

The staff of the institute is conscious, however, not only of his service to the idea of the institute, but delights to recall the direction and purpose his inspiration gave to the development of medicine and medical research in the United States. His leadership and his contributions are second to the contributions of no other man in their significance for this generation of medical men. Dr. Meltzer's interest in humanity transcended the field of his medical activities. In the spirit of human co-operation he desired to include all men, so that there might flow, across the boundaries of nations, a desire for progress in the direction of universal ideals. These great interests were recognized, not only in this country, but in Europe as well, and gave Dr. Meltzer a unique position as a lover of his kind.

These are the thoughts which the staff desires to record. They indicate how widely the influence of Dr. Meltzer was spread, how intensely his example was appreciated here.

The staff desires to convey its profound sympathy to the family of Dr. Melzer, and in

<sup>1</sup> Resolutions passed by the Scientific Staff of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

this resolution to acquaint them with a measure of the regard in which he was held. For the staff, Dr. Meltzer has not died; by the spirit of his example, he has helped to make the spirit of the institute, and this spirit will continue while the institute endures.

**SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS**

DR. J. NORRIS RUSSELL, of Princeton University, has been awarded the gold medal of the Royal Astronomical Society. Professor Russell will sail for London on January 29 to be present when the presentation is made.

PROFESSOR J. F. KEMP, of Columbia University, was elected president of the Geological Society of America, at the recent Chicago meeting.

PROFESSOR GILBERT AMES BLISS, of the department of mathematics at the University of Chicago, has been elected president of the American Mathematical Society.

DR. JAMES P. SOUTHALL, professor of physics in Columbia University, has been elected president of the American Optical Society.

A LUNCHEON has been given in the Smithsonian Building in honor of the seventieth birthday of Dr. J. W. Fewkes, chief of the Bureau of American Ethnology.

DR. EDWIN HERBERT HALL, Rumford professor of physics in Harvard University, will, on September 1, become professor emeritus.

At the recent Chicago meeting, the council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science directed the permanent secretary to appoint an assistant secretary, the duties of this officer being to aid the permanent secretary in the editorial and scientific aspects of the work of the association. Dr. Sam F. Trelease has been appointed assistant secretary. Dr. Trelease has recently returned to America after several years of service in the school of agriculture of the University of the Philippines at Los Baños. The assistant secretary will devote part of his time to the work of the association, being also on the staff of the laboratory of plant physiology of the Johns Hopkins University.

SAMUEL WAGNER, president of the Board of trustees of the Wagner Free Institute of Science since the death of the founder in 1885 resigned on January 18 and was elected president emeritus. Samuel Tobias Wagner, chief engineer of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway, was elected president of the board.

CHARLES E. THORNE, who has been director of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station since June, 1887, has been released from the directorship at his own request, but remains in charge of the station's investigations in soil fertility. Mr. C. G. Williams, agronomist of the station since 1902 and associate director since 1917, has been appointed acting director.

MR. LLOYD R. WATSON, assistant in apiculture, U. S. Bureau of Entomology, has accepted the position of apiculturist with the Division of Entomology of the Texas State Agricultural Experiment Station, made vacant recently by the resignation of Mr. H. B. Parks. Mr. Parks has accepted a position with the Texas State Honey Producers Association and is secretary of the National Honey Producers League.

THE government of Czecho-Slovakia has secured the services of Dr. Selskar M. Gunn, formerly of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, as technical adviser to the ministry of public health and physical education. This appointment is in accordance with an official request from the ministry to the Rockefeller Foundation, with which Dr. Gunn has for the last three years served as associate director of the International Health Board, to supply them with such an adviser. Dr. Gunn has sailed for Europe en route to Prague and will remain indefinitely, although he has not severed his connection with the foundation.

DR. OSCAR KLOTZ, professor of pathology in the University of Pittsburgh Medical School, has been appointed a representative of the International Health Board of the Rockefeller Foundation for work in medical research and education in São Paulo, Brazil. It is expected that Dr. Klotz will spend a number of years in Brazil, during which time he will serve as director of a pathologic institute. He will be assisted by several Brazilian physicians who

have received training in the United States.

DR. DONALD B. MACMILLAN plans to leave the United States next spring for a two-year scientific expedition to the Arctic region.

SIR ARTHUR NEWSHOLME, M.D., resident lecturer in charge of Public Health Administration, School of Hygiene and Public Health, Johns Hopkins University, will deliver the sixth Harvey Society Lecture at the New York Academy of Medicine on January 29. His subject will be "National changes in health longevity."

DR. VERNON LYMAN KELLOGG, permanent secretary of the National Research Council, recently gave, under the Charles K. Colver Fund at Brown University, three lectures on "Human life as a biologist sees it." These lectures were delivered on January tenth, seventeenth and twenty-fourth.

DR. KENNETH E. MEES, director of the research laboratory of the Eastman Kodak Company, gave, last week, an illustrated lecture on "Color photography," at Cornell University.

PROFESSOR DOUGLAS W. JOHNSON, of Columbia University, who was chief of the Division of Boundary Geography on the American Commission to Negotiate Peace, addressed the *Public Ledger* forum on the Peace Conference at the Academy of Music in Philadelphia, January 7, on the subject of "Fiume and the Adriatic problem." Professor Johnson is also delivering a series of four illustrated lectures on "The rôle of geography in world affairs," before the Columbia Institute of Arts and Sciences in New York City.

PROFESSOR EDGAR JAMES SWIFT, head of the department of psychology and education in Washington University, has been invited by the administrative officers of the post graduate school of the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis to repeat the lectures which he gave before the officers and students last spring. Professor Swift will lecture on "Thinking and acting," on February 19, and on "The psychology of managing men," on April 9.

A CEREMONY was held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on the first anniversary of the death of Richard Cockburn Mac-

laurin, formerly president. Reginald H. Smithwick, of Boston, president of the senior class and chairman of the Institute Committee, placed a wreath on the memorial which has been erected in memory of Dr. Maclaurin in the lobby of the Walker Memorial building.

We learn from the *Journal* of the Washington Academy of Sciences that Mr. Ralph W. Howell, geologist with the U. S. Geological Survey, was killed by native raiders in Beluchistan in the latter part of November, 1920. He was engaged at the time in oil exploratory work for Pearson & Son, of London, and was working near the Beluchistan-Punjab border in an area that had been considered safe from bandits. Mr. Howell was born in 1886, and had been a member of the Survey staff since 1913. He was granted leave of absence from the survey in October, 1919, to engage in private work.

On December 21, at a conference between representatives of the Department of Commerce and the Department of Agriculture held in the office of the secretary of commerce, the Bureau of Chemistry of the Department of Agriculture made known its willingness to withdraw from future investigations of fishery products, and at the same time agreed to ask Congress to transfer to the Bureau of Fisheries the item for fish investigations included in the pending estimates for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1921.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE faculty of Mount Holyoke College has voted to raise a fund of \$100,000 to endow the president's chair in recognition of Miss Mary E. Woolley's twenty years' service as president of Mount Holyoke.

THE first Congress of the Universities of the British Empire was held in London in 1912 when all, to the number of fifty-three, were represented. It was decided to hold the congresses every five years, but the war made it impossible to do so in 1917. The second congress will accordingly be held in the summer of 1921. The number of British univer-

sities has in the meantime increased to fifty-eight.

PROFESSOR EUGENE TAYLOR, of the University of Wisconsin, has been appointed head of the department of mathematics at the University of Idaho.

DOAK B. CARRICK has been elected professor of pomology, and Arno H. Nehrling assistant professor of floriculture in the college of agriculture, Cornell University.

PROFESSOR EDWIN T. HODGE, head of the department of mining geology in the University of British Columbia, has joined the department of geology of the University of Oregon.

THE *Bulletin* of the American Mathematical Society states that in the faculty of sciences of the University of Paris, the following changes have been made: Dr. Emile Borel, professor of the theory of functions, has been appointed professor of the calculus of probabilities and mathematical physics, as successor to Professor B. J. Boussinesq, who has retired; Dr. Paul Painlevé, professor of rational mechanics, has been appointed professor of analytical and celestial mechanics, as successor to Professor Paul Appell; Professor Elie Cartan succeeds Professor Painlevé in the chair of rational mechanics, and Professor Ernest Vessiot, recently appointed assistant director of the Ecole normale supérieure, succeeds Professor Cartan in the chair of the differential calculus; Dr. J. Drach has been appointed professor of general mathematics, and Dr. Paul Montel maître de conférences in mathematics.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

##### A METEOR FALL IN THE ATLANTIC

It may be of interest to put on record the subjoined account of a fall of meteorites, that was reported in the *New York Times*, of November 5, 1906, a clipping from which paper I have just come across. The fall was observed from the Phoenix Line steamship "St. Andrew," en route from Antwerp to New York, on October 30, 1906, "about 600 miles northeast of Cape Race." The more