

We learn from *Nature* that the British Air Ministry announces that the cabinet has approved, subject to parliamentary sanction, the grant of a sum for the direct assistance of civil aviation. During the financial year 1921-22 payments under this grant will be limited to a maximum sum of £60,000, and will be made to British companies operating on approved aerial routes. The routes at present approved are London to Paris, London to Brussels, and London to Amsterdam. Extensions to these routes and additional routes, such as England-Scandinavia, on which the possibilities of a service employing flying boats or amphibian machines or a mixed service of sea and land aircraft can be demonstrated, may be approved.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

ANNOUNCEMENT has been made at Brown University of the completion of the Nathaniel French Davis Fund in honor of Professor Davis, now emeritus, who was for forty-one years a teacher of mathematics in the university. The fund amounts to ten thousand dollars and the income is to supplement the regular library appropriations in purchasing mathematical books and periodicals for the mathematical seminary.

DR. VICTOR C. VAUGHAN, for thirty years dean of the University of Michigan Medical School, has resigned. Dr. Vaughan has been professor of hygiene and physiological chemistry since 1884.

At Colgate University, Associate Professor A. W. Smith has been made full professor and head of the department of mathematics as successor to Professor J. M. Taylor. Professor T. R. Aude, of the Carnegie Institute of Technology, has been appointed associate professor of mathematics.

DR. SOLON MARX WHITE, Minneapolis, professor of medicine at the University of Minnesota, has been appointed chief of the department of medicine to succeed Dr. Leonard G. Rowntree, now associated with the Mayo Clinic.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE ON THE OCCURRENCE OF *AËDES SOLLICITANS* IN FRESH WATER POLLUTED BY ACID WASTE

It is believed to be of interest to students of mosquitoes to report the occurrence of *Aedes sollicitans*, a salt marsh mosquito, in fresh water polluted by acid waste from a "guano factory." During October, 1920, while making investigations concerning fishes in relation to mosquito control at Savannah, Georgia, in cooperation with the U. S. Public Health Service and the city of Savannah, the writer found mosquito larvæ in ditches which were so strongly polluted that all other animal life appeared to be extinct. The larvæ were collected from time to time and reared to the adult stage. Dr. Bassett, bacteriologist for the city of Savannah, identified the species as *Aedes sollicitans* and this determination later was verified by Dr. Dyar, of the U. S. Bureau of Entomology.

The acid content of the water in the ditches where the pollution was greatest was not determined but a water sample taken downstream where the pollution had become greatly diluted and where *Aedes sollicitans* was replaced by *Anopheles crucians* and *Culex* sp. was titrated by Dr. Bassett and found to contain 2.08 per cent. of free acid and a large amount of iron. It is quite probable that the water in portions of the ditches in which the larvæ of *Aedes sollicitans* were common had an acid content of fully 3 per cent.

The larvæ occurred most frequently along the edges of the ditches among decaying vegetation and they displayed a stronger resistance to the toxicity of oil than *Culex* and *Anopheles* larvæ occurring in the more weakly polluted portions of the same ditches.

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THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE AND THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

THE application made to the council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science for the organization of a new Section to be devoted to the History of Science was de-