

The headquarters of the society are at Columbia University, New York City.

PROFESSOR MAX WEBER

THERE is printed in *Nature* the following letter addressed on December 5 to Professor Max Weber, of Amsterdam:

You celebrate your seventieth birthday to-day, and we, who are your colleagues and are but a few of your many friends in England, join together to congratulate you and to wish you many years to come of work and happiness. By your long life of teaching and research, by your leadership of the *Siboga* Expedition, by your great handbook of the Mammalia, and by innumerable other important publications, you have come to be the acknowledged leader of zoology in the Netherlands and to be recognized far and wide as one of the most distinguished naturalists of our time. Your solid learning has upheld the great scientific traditions of your country, your investigations have influenced and stimulated many of us, your broad interests, your singleness of purpose, the simplicity of your life, and your genius for friendship have set an example to us all.

The letter is signed by the following leading British naturalists:

A. Alcock, E. J. Allen, Chas. W. Andrews, J. H. Ashworth, W. Bateson, Gilbert C. Bourne, W. T. Calman, Geo. H. Carpenter, Wm. J. Dakin, Arthur Dendy, J. C. Ewart, F. W. Gamble, J. Stanley Gardiner, Walter Garstang, James F. Gemmill, Sidney F. Harmer, J. R. Henderson, W. A. Herdman, Sidney J. Hickson, Jas. P. Hill, Wm. Evans Hoyle, J. Graham Kerr, E. W. MacBride, W. C. McIntosh, Doris L. Mackinnon, P. Chalmers Mitchell, C. Lloyd Morgan, Edward B. Poulton, R. C. Punnett, C. Tate Regan, G. Elliot Smith, Oldfield Thomas, D'Arcy W. Thompson, D. M. S. Watson, A. Smith Woodward.

OFFICERS OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

DR. EDWARD C. FRANKLIN, professor of organic chemistry of Leland Stanford Junior University, has been elected, as already announced, president of the American Chemical Society, succeeding Dr. Edgar F. Smith, formerly provost of the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Wilder D. Bancroft, of Cornell University, was reelected a director of the society and

William Hoskns, consulting chemist, of Chicago, was made a new director of the society. The following councilors-at-large for the period from 1923 to 1925 also were elected: Drs. Roger Adams, University of Illinois; G. N. Lewis, University of California; Ralph H. McKee, Columbia University, and William McPherson, the Ohio State University.

Dr. Franklin was born at Geary City, Kansas, in 1862. He was graduated from the University of Kansas in 1888 and received his master's degree in 1890. He was a student at the University of Berlin in 1890-91; he received the degree of doctor of philosophy at Johns Hopkins University in 1894. He was a member of the advisory board of the U. S. Bureau of Mines in 1917-18; physical chemist of the U. S. Bureau of Standards and consulting chemist of the Ordnance Bureau of the Army during the war. Dr. Franklin's work on liquid ammonia as an electrolytic solvent is familiar to all chemists. In addition to his university work, he also was in industrial work for a number of years, serving in the sugar industry and also in the gold mining industry. In the latter work he was stationed at Miramar, Costa Rica, in 1897.

Dr. Franklin was chosen from among the four nominees for president of the society who received the largest number of votes from members of the society. The choice among these four was determined by a vote of the councilors. The three other leading candidates were Dr. James F. Norris, of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Professor Samuel S. Parr, of the University of Illinois, and Dr. Charles L. Reece, chemical director of E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company, of Wilmington, Delaware.

THE HAYDEN AWARD OF THE PHILADELPHIA ACADEMY

THE Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia announces the selection of Professor Alfred Lacroix, president of the Geological Society of France, as the recipient of the "Hayden Memorial Geological Award" for 1923. This award was created by a deed of trust made with the academy, on April 11, 1888, by Mrs. Emma W. Hayden, widow of Dr.

Ferdinand V. Hayden, one time director of the United States Geological Survey, "as a reward for the best publication, exploration, discovery or research in the sciences of geology and paleontology." The award consists of a gold medal, and is made every three years. Previous to 1900 the award consisted of a bronze medal and was made annually.

Professor Lacroix was born February 4, 1863, at Mâcon, province of Saône-et-Loire, France. Educated at the Lycée of Mâcon, at the Sorbonne and at the Collège of France, he received the degree of doctor of science in 1889. In 1893 he was made professeur at the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, and in 1896, director of the Laboratoire de Minéralogie, École des Hautes Études. In 1904 he was elected a member of the Académie des Sciences, and ten years later he became Secrétaire perpetual of the Section of Physics of the Académie. Professor Lacroix's numerous and important publications and discoveries, as well as his exhaustive studies of Mont Pelée, of the phenomena of contact metamorphism and endomorphic metamorphism are familiar to all geologists.

The committee by whom the nominee for the 1923 award was selected consisted of Dr. Richard A. F. Penrose, Jr., *chairman*, Dr. John M. Clarke, Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn, Dr. Charles D. Walcott and Dr. Edgar T. Wherry.

Previous recipients of the Hayden award were: 1890, James Hall; 1891, Edward D. Cope; 1892, Eduard Suess; 1893, Thomas H. Huxley; 1894, Gabriel August Daubrée; 1895, Karl A. von Zittel; 1896, Giovanni Capellini; 1897, A. Karpinski; 1898, Otto Torrell; 1899, Gilles Joseph Gustave Dewalque; 1902, Archibald Geikie; 1905, Charles D. Walcott; 1908, John Mason Clarke; 1911, John C. Branner; 1904, Henry Fairfield Osborn; 1917, William M. Davis; 1920, Thomas Chrowder Chamberlin.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

A PORTRAIT of Sir Joseph Thomson, by Mr. Fiddes Watt, has been presented by a number of subscribers to the Royal Society.

DR. FRIDTJOF NANSEN, who recently received the Nobel peace prize, received a further award

when it was announced by the Nobel Committee that Christian Erichsen, of Copenhagen, had granted another award to Dr. Nansen equal in value to the Nobel peace prize, in recognition of his work on behalf of the starving millions of Europe. Dr. Nansen proposes to use the prizes for relief work.

DR. IRVING LANGMUIR, research chemist of the General Electric Company, has been elected an honorary member of the Royal Institution, London.

EDWARD LONGSTRETH MEDALS were presented by the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, on December 20 to Dr. A. H. Pfund, of Baltimore, for his cryptometer, paint film gauge, colorimeter and rotating sector, and to Mr. Edward J. Brandt, of Watertown, Wis., for his automatic cashier.

WE learn from the *Bulletin* of the American Mathematical Society that on the occasion of the celebration of its seven hundredth anniversary the University of Padua conferred its honorary doctorate on Professors R. C. Archibald, of Brown University, J. Lipka, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and V. Snyder, of Cornell University.

THE University of Frankfurt and the Zurich Technical School have conferred honorary degrees on Dr. David Hilbert, professor of mathematics at Göttingen, on the occasion of his sixtieth birthday.

DR. E. H. STARLING, professor of physiology in the University of London, has been appointed the first Foulerton professor under the foundation of the Royal Society created by the will of the late Miss L. A. Foulerton.

SIR GEORGE GREENHILL has been awarded a pension by the British government in recognition of his services to science and his ballistic work.

ON December 8 the members of the department of botany of the Ohio State University and friends celebrated with a dinner the completion of twenty-five years of service of Professor John H. Schaffner in the department.

DR. FRANCIS CARTER WOOD, director of the Institute of Cancer Research, Columbia Uni-