

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

## TRIESTE AND MARINE BIOLOGY

Dr. M. STENTA, director of the Natural History Museum in Trieste, delivered an address, in October, 1921, at the Trieste meeting of the Italian Society for the Advancement of Science, on the part played by Trieste in the study of marine biology. The address has recently been published and is abstracted in *Nature*, from which we quote.

Dr. Stenta referred to the observations of Abbot Fortis published in 1771 on the islands of the Quarnero, and those of Abbot Olivi (1792), who gave, in his "Zoologia Adriatica," a catalogue of the animals of the Gulf of Venice. Almost all the naturalists who visited Trieste in the first half of last century were German; of these, two may be named: I. L. C. Gravenhorst, who recorded (1831) the results of his studies on various molluscs, echinoderms and Anthozoa; and J. G. F. Will, who gave an account (1844) of the anatomy of Scyphozoa, ctenophores and siphonophores. K. E. von Baer came in 1845 from Russia to Trieste to search for larvae of echinoderms, but the results in that and in the following year were not very satisfactory. His visit, however, was fruitful in another respect, for he encouraged Koch, a young Swiss merchant resident in Trieste and an ardent collector, in his project of founding a museum of the Adriatic fauna, which became the center of studies on the Gulf of Venice. Johannes Müller spent the autumn of 1850 in Trieste working on the development of echinoderms and worms.

Among many who worked at the museum between 1850 and 1870 were Oscar Schmidt, who carried on researches on sponges; A. E. Grube, who examined the annelids and discovered the parasitic rotifer *Seison nebaliae*; and Kowalevsky, who described (1868) the remarkable sexual dimorphism in *Bonellia viridis*. In 1874 the Adriatic Society of Natural Science was founded and the 27 volumes of its bulletin are rich in observations on the biology of the area.

In 1875 the Institute of Marine Biology was established by the Austrian Government, and many famous naturalists have worked in its laboratories, e.g., Metchnikoff, on intracellular digestion and phagocytosis; Kowalevsky, on medusae; Driesch, on the development of isolated blastomeres; the brothers Hertwig, F. E. Schultze, K. Grobben and Hatschek.

In 1900 the zoological station was enlarged and reorganized under the new director, Professor C. I. Cori. A list of the more important investigations carried on at the laboratory from that time until 1915 is given by Dr. Stenta, including Friedländer's investigation of the constitution of the purple secretion of *Murex*, for which 14,000 specimens were collected; Heider's work on the development of *Balanoglossus*,

and Przibram's researches on regeneration in Crustacea. There were also several investigations in applied zoology; the culture of sponges, the coral fishery, and parasitic protozoa of fishes.

It appears from the concluding part of the address that the Italian Royal Committee for Marine Investigation, which took over the zoological stations at Trieste and Rovigno, proposes to suppress the former, and Dr. Stenta puts forward a plea for its retention.

## LIVERPOOL MEETING OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

A PRELIMINARY program of the Liverpool meeting of the British Association, to be held from September 12 to 19, under the presidency of Sir Ernest Rutherford, has been issued. The railway companies have agreed to supply return tickets at a single fare and a third to all members who obtain vouchers from the offices of the association, at Burlington House. The president is to deliver his address at the opening meeting on the first evening, taking as his subject the "Electrical Structure of Matter." He will probably be able to describe recent work in the experimental transmutation of elements.

In accordance with the innovation made since the war, the thirteen addresses of the sectional presidents are to be distributed over the week, five being given on the Thursday, five on Friday, and three on Monday. In these the applied side of science is to be given full scope, Professor Ashworth discussing the bearing of zoology on human welfare; Dr. Vaughan Cornish, the opportunity of the British Empire; Dr. Crowther, science and the agricultural crisis; Sir H. Fowler, science and transport; Mr. C. Burt, the mental differences of individuals with special reference to industry; and Sir William Beveridge, employment and population. The presidents of the geological, physiological, botanical, chemical and mathematical sections are to deal with pure science. Professor Nunn is to discuss the education of the masses, and Professor Newberry is to devote his address to Egypt as a field for anthropological research.

The two most important discussions are to be held by the physicists, chemists and engineers on cohesion and molecular forces, and by the chemists and physiologists on the physical chemistry of membranes and its relation to human physiology. There will be a discussion on the origin of domestic animals by geographers and anthropologists.

The Lord Mayor of Liverpool is to give a reception on the Thursday evening, on Friday evening Professor Elliot Smith is to lecture on the study of man, and on the Tuesday evening there is to be a scientific soirée. The more important industrial works in or near Liverpool are to give opportunities to members

to inspect them and excursions of a varied nature are being arranged.

### THE OPTICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

THE Eighth Annual Meeting of the Optical Society of America will be held at Cleveland, Ohio, October 25, 26 and 27, 1923. The regular sessions for the reading of papers will be open to all interested persons.

Members and others desiring to communicate results of optical research are invited to submit titles of papers for the program to the secretary any time before September 10. Titles received after that date can not be included in the program. There will be no "supplementary program." Each title must be accompanied by an abstract ready for publication. These abstracts will be printed in the program and in the minutes of the meeting. The purpose of the abstract is to give: (1) A more definite description of the *nature* and *scope* of the paper than can be conveyed in the title; (2) the essential results in so far as may be possible in the limited space allowed. It is hoped that the advance publication of these abstracts will prepare those attending the meeting to consider the papers more intelligently and with much greater interest. Printed forms on which to submit titles and abstracts may be obtained on application to the secretary. Inasmuch as their use will greatly simplify and expedite the work of editing and printing the program, the secretary earnestly requests that these forms be used in submitting abstracts.

Attention is invited to the following resolution adopted by the council at its annual meeting, October, 1922: "That it is the sense of the council that ordinarily members should not present, without invitation, papers which have already been published."

No title will be printed to be presented "by title." Titles should not be submitted unless the author has a *bona fide* intention to actually present the paper orally or have it presented by some one else.

The Committee on Papers for the Cleveland Meeting consists of Herbert E. Ives, *Chairman*, W. E. Forsythe, H. G. Gale, Irwin G. Priest and Charles Sheard.

IRWIN G. PRIEST,  
*Secretary.*

BUREAU OF STANDARDS,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

### THE ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

THE Board of Scientific Directors of The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research announces the following promotions and appointments:

Dr. Oswald T. Avery, Dr. Walter A. Jacobs, Dr. Michael Heidelberger, Dr. Christen Lundsgaard, Dr.

Peter K. Olitsky and Dr. Louise Pearce, hitherto associates have been made associate members. Dr. David I. Hitchcock, Dr. Frederic M. Nicholson, Dr. Henry S. Simms and Dr. Leslie T. Webster, hitherto assistants have been made associates. Dr. Mimosa H. Pfaltz, hitherto a fellow, has been made an assistant.

The following new appointments are announced:

<i>Associate Members</i> .....	Dr. Jacob J. Bronfenbrenner
	Dr. Paul A. Lewis
<i>Associates</i> .....	Dr. Oskar Baudisch
	Mr. Herbert L. J. Haller
	Dr. Stuart Mudd
<i>Assistants</i> .....	Mr. Arnold M. Collins
	Dr. John H. Crawford
	Dr. Robert Elman
	Dr. Joseph H. B. Grant
	Mr. Moses Kunitz
	Dr. Cecil D. Murray
	Dr. Everett S. Sanderson
	Dr. David T. Smith
	Mr. James Vander Scheer
	Dr. Lars A. Welo
<i>Fellows</i> .....	Miss Gladys Bryant
	Dr. Charles Korb
	Miss Dorothy Loomis
	Dr. Elmer L. Straub

Dr. J. Howard Brown, hitherto an associate in the department of animal pathology, has accepted a position as associate professor of bacteriology with Johns Hopkins Medical School.

Dr. Fred A. Taylor, hitherto an associate in chemistry, has accepted a position as head of the department of bio-chemistry at the William H. Singer Memorial Research Laboratory, Pittsburgh, Pa.

### HONORARY DEGREES AT YALE UNIVERSITY

IN presenting candidates for honorary degrees at Yale University, Professor William Lyon Phelps said of those on whom the doctorate of science were conferred:

WALTER BRADFORD CANNON: Physiologist. Dr. Cannon was born in Wisconsin, is a graduate of Harvard and professor of physiology. He is a fellow of many scientific societies at home and abroad. His war services were conspicuous. He was president of the Medical Research Society of the American Red Cross in France in 1917-18, and lieutenant-colonel of the Medical Corps. He was decorated Companion of the Bath, British, in 1919. As an investigator he is in the front rank of American physiologists. His work on organic conditions as affected by emotion is profoundly original, and on it is based the diagnostic method which is now employed. When he was a medical student in 1896, he used the X-ray while studying the processes of digestion. He observed that anxiety, worry and anger were immediately registered by the stoppage of motions in the alimentary tract. He became a specialist in the relation of emo-