

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

RAMSAY MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIPS

THE Ramsay Memorial Fellowship Trustees announce the following elections to fellowships and renewals of fellowships for the session 1923-24:

A British fellowship of £300 to Mr. Samuel Coffey, M.Sc., London, Ph.D., Leiden, to carry out research at University College, London.

A British fellowship of £300 to Mr. Alan Francis Titley, B.Sc., Bristol, D.Phil., Oxford.

A British fellowship of £300 renewed to Dr. R. W. Lunt, B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D., Liverpool, at present working at University College, London.

A Glasgow fellowship of £300 to Mr. Thomas S. Stevens, B.Sc., to carry out research work at the University of Glasgow.

A Glasgow fellowship of £300 renewed to Mr. J. A. Mair, to enable him to continue work at the University of Glasgow.

A Norwegian fellowship of 5,400 kroner, to Mr. Gunnar Weidmann, to work at Cambridge under Professor Gowland Hopkins.

A French fellowship of the value of £100, *plus* 14,000f., to Dr. H. Weiss, of La Sorbonne, who will work under Professor Sir William Bragg at the Royal Institution (Davy Faraday Laboratory).

A Netherlands fellowship of £300 to Mr. J. Kalff, doctorandus in chemistry of Amsterdam.

A Danish fellowship of £300 to Mr. Kristian Hjandahl, who will continue work at the University of Liverpool.

Appointments to the Canadian, Greek, Italian and Swedish fellowships will be announced shortly.

Since the institution of the Ramsay Memorial Fellowship Trust in 1919, fellowships have been held by twenty-one fellows, not including the new fellowships announced above. Apart from the British fellowships, the Canadian fellowships and the special Glasgow fellowships, the Ramsay fellowships have been held by American, Danish, Dutch, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Norwegian, Swedish and Swiss fellows.

Information has recently been obtained as to some of the posts held by former Ramsay fellows since their occupation of Ramsay fellowships. One British fellow, Dr. A. E. Mitchell, has been appointed assistant lecturer in chemistry at University College, London. The Greek fellow, Dr. B. C. Papaconstantinou, worked under the Greek Minister of War in Asia Minor testing the explosives for the Greek Army, and is now lecturer in physical chemistry at the University of Athens. The Swedish fellow, Dr. Lennart Smith, has been appointed professor of chemistry at Lund. The Swiss fellow, Dr. Charles Naegele, is assistant lecturer in the chemical laboratory in the University of Zurich.

Another Swiss fellow, M. Etienne Roux, has been granted the degree of doctor of philosophy of the University of Oxford and has been appointed re-

search chemist in the French firm "Matières Colorantes et Produits Chimiques de St. Denis" in Paris. The Italian fellow, Dr. Remo de Fazi, has been appointed professor of general and applied chemistry in the R. Scuola Superiore di Architetture di Roma, lecturer in general chemistry in the University of Rome, and assistant in applied chemistry in the R. Scuola di Applicazione per gli Ingegneri di Roma.

THE INTERNATIONAL PHYSIOLOGICAL CONGRESS¹

THE International Physiological Congress, comprising over four hundred eminent physiologists from all parts of the world, began its sittings in Edinburgh on July 24. Captain Walter E. Elliot, under-secretary for health for Scotland, on behalf of the government, welcomed the members of the congress. It was with some trepidation in these days, he said, that governments approached scientific men, because the happy contempt with which the politician used to regard the scientist had been rudely shaken by the events of the past seven years, and none of them were likely to forget the days of the war, when whole nations were, practically speaking, subjects of gigantic physiological experiments and where the success or failure of some enormous combination might be based on the obscure calculations of some scientist in a laboratory, of whose name rulers of states till then had scarcely been conscious.

Principal Sir Alfred Ewing extended a most hearty and sympathetic welcome on behalf of Edinburgh University. They had had a chair of physiology since 1685 directly, and indirectly the university had made considerable contributions to physiological knowledge, and they did not need to be told of the great work which Sir Edward Schafer, their president, had carried on, and was carrying on, within the walls of the university. His investigations regarding endocrine glands had opened up new vistas in medicine, and perhaps still unexplored vistas in controlled natural health and processes of growth.

Professor Sir Edward Sharpey Schafer, in his presidential address, said he desired to associate the name of Lister with that gathering, because Lister was for several years professor of surgery at Edinburgh, but chiefly on account of the fact that the researches which preceded his great discovery were researches in pure physiology, and were inspired by that great teacher, William Sharpey, who migrated in 1836 from Edinburgh to London, and to whom he himself and many other British physiologists owed, directly or indirectly, their introduction to their science.

A lecture on insulin was delivered by Professor J. J. R. Macleod, of the University of Toronto, who

¹ From the London *Times*.

said that he and his colleagues considered it a very great honor that an account of their researches on insulin should be given so prominent a place on the program. There was no other problem in the whole vast field of medical science that had attracted such diverse groups of workers as that of the relationship between the pancreas and disturbances in carbohydrate metabolism. Professor Macleod sketched the history of the discovery of insulin by Banting and Best, who worked in his laboratories. Insulin appeared to act not in the blood but in the tissue cells themselves. It caused the tissue cells to take up more glucose (blood sugar). "Insulin sets up some process by which, as it were, a vacuum for sugar becomes established in these cells, so that sugar is removed from the blood."

The various theories which have been advanced to explain this removal were discussed, and then Professor Macleod pointed out that insulin, or at least substances resembling it in certain particulars, had been obtained from clams and other shellfish and, in the case of yeast, from the vegetable kingdom.

SYMPOSIUM ON INDUSTRIAL, AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD CHEMISTRY

"BREAD" will be the subject for the symposium which will occupy the first half-day of the Industrial Division's session at the Milwaukee meeting of the American Chemical Society during the week of September 10. Under this heading will be presented papers dealing with the following:

1. Flour—Its manufacture.
2. Flour—Its physico-chemical characteristics.
3. Bread materials—How they are purchased, how formulas are set and carried out in production.
4. Control processes—How the baker regulates temperature, flour storage, fermentation rooms, mixer, oven, proof box, cooling rooms; humidity, in fermentation rooms, proof box and oven, synthesized operations, etc.
5. Bread—Its rôle in nutrition. A discussion of the new developments which our growing knowledge of vitamins and nutrition is stimulating.
6. Possibly some discussion of world wheat production, having in mind the probability that within a few decades our increasing population and diminishing wheat acreage will present a most vital problem.

Some of the speakers before this symposium will be: Professor Bailey, University of Minnesota; Professor R. A. Gortner, State Experiment Station of Minnesota; Dr. H. E. Barnard, director, American Institute of Baking; Dr. G. C. Thomas, Atlas Bread Factory, Milwaukee; Professor Worth Hale, Harvard Medical College. Dr. H. E. Barnard, director of the American Institute of Baking, will preside.

The afternoon of the first day's session will be devoted to a joint meeting with the Chemical Education

Section under the leadership of Dr. Edgar F. Smith, on "Chemical Education."

THE FRENCH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

THE annual meeting of the association was held at Bordeaux from July 30 to August 4 under the presidency of M. Desgry, a member of the Academy of Medicine. A list of the sections with their presidents follows: Mathematics, astronomy, geodesy and mechanics, Lieutenant Colonel Perrier; Navigation, aeronautics, civil and military engineering, M. Charles Camichel; Physics, M. Maurice de Broglie; Chemistry, M. Georges Denigès; Meteorology and physics of the globe, M. Luc Picart; Geology and mineralogy, M. Joseph Blayac; Botany, M. Lucien Beille; Zoology, anatomy and physiology, M. Louis Boutan; Anthropology, Dr. Henri Martin; Medical sciences, M. Jules Sabrazès; Medical radiology, Dr. Louis Jaulin; Odontology, M. Louis Quintin; The pharmaceutical sciences, M. Albert Astruc; Experimental psychology, Dr. Angelo Hesnard; Agriculture, M. Ulysse Gayon; Geography, M. E. Camena d'Almeida; Political economy and statistics, M. G. Pirou; Education, M. Julien Ray; Hygiene and public health, M. B. Auché; Sub-section for archeology, M. J. A. Brutaux; for linguistics and quantitative philology, M. J. Depoin.

THE LOS ANGELES MEETING

ARRANGEMENTS for the seventy-seventh meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science to be held in Los Angeles from September 17 to 20 are appropriately in charge of the Pacific Division of the association which will then be holding its seventh annual meeting. The Pacific Division covers a wide range of territory, including over one thousand members. Its meetings have been held successively at San Diego, Stanford University, Pasadena, Seattle, Berkeley, Salt Lake City, and this year at Los Angeles. The Southwestern Division, embracing a membership in Arizona, New Mexico, western Texas and Chihuahua, Mexico, will this year unite with the Pacific Division and the summer session of the association as a whole, holding its fourth annual meeting in Los Angeles.

The Southwestern Division will be represented on the program of the general sessions by the address of its president, Dr. V. M. Slipper, of Lowell Observatory, who will speak on "The Planets" on Monday evening, September 17, sharing the platform with Dr. E. P. Lewis, president of the Pacific Division.

Secretary E. A. Beals, of the American Meteorological Society, reports great interest among meteorologists and foresters in the Los Angeles meeting, with