## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

WE regret to record the death at the age of eightytwo years of Dr. Thomas Corwin Mendenhall, the distinguished physicist, formerly professor in the Imperial University of Japan and in the Ohio State University, superintendent of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey and president of the Rose Polytechnic Institute and the Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Dr. Mendenhall was president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1889.

THE Victoria Medal of the Royal Geographical Society of Great Britain has been awarded to Dr. John F. Hayford, head of the college of engineering of Northwestern University, for notable achievement in establishing the theory of isostasy.

DR. WILLIAM HALLOCK PARK, for thirty years director of the Bureau of Laboratories of the Health Department of New York City, has been elected a foreign member of the Paris Academy of Medicine.

MEMBERS of the Stanford chapter of Sigma Xi were hosts at a dinner on March 14, held in recognition of the fact that Stanford University has had five members of its faculty presidents of national scientific societies in one year. Guests of honor at the dinner and the societies concerned were the following: Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, American Medical Association and Association of American Medical Colleges; Dr. Edward Curtis Franklin, American Chemical Society; Professor Harris Joseph Ryan, American Institute of Electrical Engineers; Dr. Lewis Madison Terman, American Psychological Association, and Dr. Bailey Willis, Seismological Society of America. Dr. David Starr Jordan, chancellor emeritus of the university, presided as toastmaster at the dinner. More than 200 were present.

AT the annual meeting of the Geological Society of London on February 15, Dr. J. W. Evans was elected president. The vice-presidents elected are Dr. C. W. Andrews, Dr. J. S. Flett, Professor A. C. Seward and Professor W. W. Watts.

PROFESSOR W. C. M'INTOSH has been elected president and Sir David Prain a vice-president of the Ray Society, London.

In recognition of his services to the organization, the New England Association of Chemistry Teachers has presented Dr. Lyman C. Newall, head of the department of chemistry at the Boston University College of Liberal Arts, with a copy of resolutions just adopted at its twenty-fifth anniversary meeting held in Malden. The resolutions acknowledge the work which Dr. Newell has done for the society and express the thanks of the organization.

DR. REGINALD DUDFIELD has been elected president of the Harveian Society, London.

At the annual meeting of the British National Union of Scientific Workers, Professor G. H. Hardy, Oxford, was elected president, and Dr. J. W. Evans, president of the research council of the union.

DR. CLAYTON H. SHARP, technical director of the Electrical Testing Laboratories, New York, has been elected president of the United States National Committee of the International Electrotechnical Commission at the committee meeting held on March 12, succeeding Dr. C. O. Mailloux, resigned.

DU PU BARRETT, of the Forest School of the Georgia College of Agriculture, has been appointed state extension forester, in charge of logging and utilization.

EIGHT sub-committees of the research committee of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers are at work on different problems. These committees, with their chairmen, are designated thus: (1) Reviews and compendia of work already done, J. B. Whitehead; (2) nature of dielectric absorption, J. B. Whitehead; (3) phase difference in dielectrics, Delafield Du Bois; (4) electric strength, William A. Del Mar; (5) dielectric constant, T. S. Taylor; (6) resistivity, H. L. Curtis; (7) flashover voltage, F. W. Peek, Jr.; (8) theories, Vladimir Karapetoff.

PROFESSOR GEORGE KLINGENBERG, head of the Technical High School in Berlin and director of the General Electric Company in Germany, arrived in New York on March 23 to make a study of American power transmission methods.

DR. CHARLES SCHUCHERT, of Yale University, who has been spending some time at Tucson, Arizona, where he has been lecturing on historical geology at the University of Arizona, has started a leisurely return journey to New Haven. Dr. Schuchert plans to return to the University of Arizona next winter and deliver a series of special lectrues on stratigraphic paleontology.

THE Sigma Xi club, of Southern California, held a special meeting at the City Club, Los Angeles, on March 17, in honor of Professor and Mrs. J. H. Comstock, of Cornell University, who were visiting in Southern California. Dinner was served at six-thirty, after which the members enjoyed an informal talk on "Some notes on the early history of entomology in this country," by Professor Comstock, and on "The responsibility of the scientist to the coming generation," by Mrs. Comstock.

AT the meeting of the Philosophical Society of Washington on April 5, the Reverend Dr. Francis A. Tondorf, of Georgetown University, will speak on "The seismogram and its interpretation."

DR. C. G. ABBOT, of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, delivered an address on March 22 before the Royal Canadian Institute on "The sun and its influence on human affairs."

SIR J. J. THOMSON has been appointed to deliver the university lecture in science for 1924 by the University of Aberdeen.

DR. F. W. ASTON will deliver the annual lecture of the Institute of Metals on June 4, his subject being "Atoms and isotopes."

PROFESSOR C. V. L. CHARLIER, professor of astronomy in the University of Lund, Sweden, lectured at Dartmouth College on March 24 and 25 on "Statistics and mechanics" and "Statistics and physics and astronomy."

AT the memorial services in honor of Dr. Emmett Holt, at the New York Academy of Medicine, on March 12, the Rev. Dr. William H. P. Faunce, president of Brown University, and Dr. Simon Flexner spoke on "Dr. Holt, the man"; Dr. John Howland on "Dr. Holt, the physician"; Dr. Henry L. K. Shaw on "Dr. Holt, a pioneer in social medicine," and Dr. George David Stewart on "Dr. Holt, trustee and fellow of the Academy of Medicine." Dr. Royal Storrs Haynes was in charge of the meeting. Students at the College of Physicians and Surgeons have contributed toward a memorial tablet to be placed in the New York Academy of Medicine.

ON March 14, the Baconian Club of the State University of Iowa held a meeting at which the scientific contributions of Jacques Loeb were reviewed as follows: Zoology, Gilbert L. Houser; chemistry, Donald H. Cameron; psychology, John J. B. Morgan; botany, Clifford H. Farr.

DR. ALEXANDER MACGILLIVRAY, for the past thirteen years professor of systematic entomology in the University of Illinois, an authority on insect morphology, on the classification of the Coccidae and the Tenthredinoidea and on the immature stages of insects, died suddenly at his home in Urbana, Illinois, on the morning of March 24, aged fifty-five years. Upon receipt of the news of his death, the entomological seminar of Cornell University, then in session, passed the following resolutions of respect:

The members of Jugatae, Entomological Club of Cornell University, have received with deep sorrow news of the passing of the distinguished entomologist, Dr. A. D.

MacGillivray. His wonderful career was begun among us. The foundation of his great service to science was laid in the laboratories in which his tradition still survives.

No one has done more careful and painstaking work as an investigator than he. Few men have had a larger share in teaching entomology to the youth of America. His leadership was elevated. His zeal for the truth was unbounded. His insight was keen. His criticism was very kindly. He was helpful and generous always.

He was a founder and for many years a member of our club. He was our colleague and friend; and at the sudden termination of his brilliant career, we pause to pay to his memory our fitting tribute of affectionate regard.

DR. FRANK HAGAR BIGELOW, until recently director of the Solar and Magnetic Observatory at Pilar, Argentina, and from 1891 to 1910 professor of meteorology in the U. S. Weather Bureau, has died in Vienna, at the age of seventy-three years.

CHARLES MEREDITH BURK, M.D., assistant instructor and instructor of zoology (vertebrate anatomy) in the University of Pennsylvania from 1888 to 1899, died at his home at Elkins Park, Pa., on December 28, in his fifty-fifth year. He was the author of "The Myology of the Pigeon (*Colomba livia*), a Study of the Muscular System of the Pigeon (Phila., 1893, 67 pp., 3 pls., 12vo., published privately). For the last twenty-five years he had successfully devoted himself to general medical practice in Philadelphia.

CAPTAIN THOMAS HENRY TIZARD, F.R.S., known for his work in hydrography under the British Navy, died on February 17, in his eighty-fifth year.

SIR MALCOLM MORRIS, the distinguished British physician, well known for his work in public health, died on February 19, at the age of seventy-four years.

DR. L. PERINGUEY, director of the South African Museum at Capetown, died on February 20.

THE twelfth annual meeting of the Eugenics Research Association will be held at Cold Spring Harbor on Saturday, June 14.

At the Brooklyn Botanic Garden the following public lectures are announced for April and May to be given on Sundays at 3:30 p. m.:

April 13. Scenic wonders of the northwest: LEROY JEFFERS.

April 27. The trees of greater New York: DR. ARTHUR HARMOUNT GRAVES, curator of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

May 4. Tropical plants in our daily lives: DR. ORLAND E. WHITE, curator of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

The following lectures, part of a series to be continued in the fall, will be supplemented by a short trip in the Botanic Garden, conducted by the lecturer, for the purpose of seeing at first hand the plants discussed: May 18. *Rock gardens:* MONTAGUE FREE, horticulturist, Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

May 25. Irises: DR. GEORGE M. REED, curator, Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

COPIES of electrical engineering standards issued during 1923 by European standardizing bodies have been received by the American Engineering Standards Committee and can be furnished at a nominal charge, or the copies on file may be consulted at the office of that body.

In response to the recommendation of the Section on Anthropology at the Australian meeting of the Pan-Pacific Congress, the Bishop Museum has begun ethnological investigations in Micronesia under the direction of Hans G. Hornbostel. During the present year provision has been made also for field work in Manua and Tutuila.

THE Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, at its meeting of March 18, 1924, adopted amendments to the By-Laws creating an honorary class of members known as "fellows," to be chosen from the regular membership list of the society in recognition of their scientific attainments. The election of "fellows" is placed in the hands of the council of the academy. At each regular December meeting the council will receive the nominations which have been made in accordance with provisions of the amendments adopted. After proper consideration of the qualifications of the candidates the council, by a three fourths affirmative vote, may elect such candidates as in its opinion meet the standards to be set for "fellows" of the academy.

THE number of births in the large cities of Germany was very small last year. According to the Journal of the American Medical Association, during the first quarter, January-March, it was only 16 per thousand inhabitants, on a yearly basis. If we divide the cities into seven groups, we find that Berlin, with 3,990,000 inhabitants, had the smallest number of living births (exclusive of transient residents), namely, only 10.7. The second lowest number was in the industrial region on the Rhine and the Main, including Frankfort, Mannheim, Mainz, Wiesbaden and Ludwigshafen, the registration being 14.2. The third lowest number was recorded in the Saxon industrial section, including Dresden, Leipzig, Chemnitz and Plauen (15.3). The five south German cities, Munich, Nuremberg, Stuttgart, Augsburg and Karlsruhe follow (15.4). The seven large seaport towns rise above the average for the empire (16.4). The seven north German cities Breslau, Hanover, Magdeburg, Halle, Kassel, Brunswick and Erfurt made a very good showing (17.2), but the best record was reported from the Rhine-Westphalian industrial center (21.5). In Berlin the birth rate (10.7) had fallen so low that it is far exceeded by the mortality rate (14.7).

A NOTE in *Nature* states that the Botanical Society of South Africa was founded in 1914, when with a membership of 352 it commenced its task, not merely of developing a general interest in botany in South Africa, but also of assisting the establishment and development of a National Botanic Garden at Kirstenbosch. The value of the society to the work of the garden has been repeatedly acknowledged both by the former honorary director, the late Professor Pearson, and the present honorary director, Professor R. H. Compton. More than £3,000 has been handed over to the garden from the society's income, while special grants to specific pieces of developmental work have brought into being the rockery in the Dell, the pond in the Great Lawn, and a part of the Aloe Kopje. At the same time, still more valuable work has been done in interesting South Africans in the great scheme of which the shell as yet alone exists at Kirstenbosch, and many of the devoted collectors now supplying plants from all parts of South Africa for the garden were first brought into touch with the garden through the society. Its membership steadily increases and approaches its first thousand. The report for 1922 of the honorary director to the trustees of the garden has just been issued, and shows unmistakably the need there is for the efforts of such a society, which may with growing authority press more firmly the claims of these gardens upon the state. It is said that the lack of capital prevents essential developments in the proper housing of a trained personnel, without which the real development of these gardens, an essential requirement for South Africa's future prosperity, can not possibly take place.

THE Rothamsted Experimental Station, as announced in the London Times, is one of the institutions to which the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation has made a grant of £1,000 for five years, for research work likely to be of importance in relation to problems connected with cotton growing. The money will be employed in increasing the staff and equipment of the soil physics department in order that more rapid progress may be made in the study of the fundamental physical properties of soil. Special attention will be devoted to the water relationships in view of their importance in districts where cotton is grown. It is stated that the elucidation of these principles is necessary before reliable advice can be given to the growers, and conversely, that the practical problems local experts are expected to solve often present points requiring investigations in a research laboratory under controlled conditions. The soil physics department at Rothamsted will undertake these investigations as part of its study of the fundamental properties of soil. The department will act as the headquarters of those men on study-leave who wish to

discuss soil problems arising in their work, and they will be provided with facilities for experimental investigations.

PRESIDENT HENRY F. OSBORN, of the American Museum of Natural History has received the following telegram from the well-known geologist of southern California, Robert T. Hill: "Human remains found here completely fossilized. Occur twenty-five feet deep in horizontal stratified material of old recent or latest Pleistocene. No possibility of intrusion or confusion with outwash or Santa Barbara occurrence. Considered most unquestionable ancient occurrence yet reported. Material well cared for by Bryan and Stock." The scientific experts mentioned are William Alanson Bryan, director of the Los Angeles Museum, and Chester Stock, of the University of California.

## UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

THE University of Colorado has received a grant of \$180,000 from the General Education Board and a gift of \$120,000 from Mrs. Verner Z. Reed, of Denver, Colorado, to provide equipment for the new medical school and hospital plant now being erected in Denver. This consists of a large central building to house the medical school and general hospital, a psychopathic hospital, a nurses home and training school, and a power and heating plant. In addition to the gifts mentioned above, the funds for the new institution have been contributed as follows: the General Education Board has given \$700,000; the Carnegie Corporation, \$100,000; the State of Colorado, \$950,000, and private individuals, \$160,000. The school will be opened in September.

An anonymous legacy of \$200,000 for the establishment of an endowment fund for research work in the department of pediatrics has been received by Cornell University Medical School.

By the will of the late Dr. Emmett Holt, Columbia University receives the sum of \$25,000 for the establishment of a fellowship for the study of diseases of children. The Babies' Hospital of New York City also receives \$25,000 to be used for the support of research work in the wards and laboratories of said hospital.

In honor of Dr. Charles William Eliot a loan fund of \$2,000 has been established at the Harvard Medical School by an anonymous friend of the university. It will be used to assist needy students in the medical school, under provisions to be determined by the dean, and will be known as the Charles William Eliot Loan Fund. The original donor specified that the fund might be increased from time to time with the thought that other individuals interested both in the medical school

and in such a tribute to Dr. Eliot might wish to add to the established fund.

DR. FREDERICK L. RANSOME, who has been in charge of the section of metalliferous deposits with the United States Geological Survey since 1912, and who has during the present college year held the position of professor of economic geology in the University of Arizona at Tucson while on leave of absence from the survey, has accepted permanently the chair of economic geology at the University of Arizona, and will resign from the survey.

## DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE PORTRAITS OF NATURALISTS AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY

BEGINNING in the year of the great earthquake in California, 1906, there has gradually come into existence, at Stanford University, a collection of portraits of eminent naturalists which deserves more than local recognition.

These are not, as a rule, photographs, for the strong light of this climate has made me doubt the wisdom of collecting portraits done in a medium the permanence of which, in certain instances at least, is questionable. A serious attempt has been made, therefore, to collect engravings and prints of other sorts with a view to greater permanence.

These portraits are framed and hung on the walls of the library of the department of botany. As one enters this room from the hall one faces the impressive figure of Charles Darwin, two thirds life size, an India proof of the etching by Flameng from the painted portrait of Collier in the National Portrait Gallery in London, the portrait made familiar by photogravures which were reasonably numerous twenty-five or more years ago, but in the finer form of etching increasingly rare.

To the right, one sees an artist proof, by the same painter and etcher, of Huxley, also increasingly rare. The beautiful portrait of Charles Darwin, which bears his signature (whether in facsimile or original, I have not been able to determine) is flanked by portraits of his father and grandfather on one side and his son, Sir Francis Darwin, on the other—four generations of this famous family being revealed to the visitor and student. Comparison of these four faces leads to interesting impressions—comparison of the four figures, assuming the equal fidelity of the four portraits—leads to the conclusion that overeating is less common than formerly! On the same wall is a lithograph portrait of Henslow—for "Darwin walked with Henslow."

A steel engraving of Sir Joseph Hooker, seated in a Himalayan landscape and waited upon by natives bringing collections of rhododendrons and other