

The influence of the advisory committee in promoting cooperation is now extended to the Seismological Society of America. That society, organized in 1906 and publishing since 1911, has for its objects the advancement of seismological research and the promotion of human security against earthquakes and earthquake fires. It has carried on its work with slender means, with a membership of about four hundred, including interested laymen as well as seismologists, widely distributed in all the continents. Recently its membership has increased by more than fifty per cent., and it seeks to increase it still further in order better to serve its objects. The agreement with the advisory committee in seismology provides that the latter shall assist, temporarily, in the publication of the *Bulletin* of the society by meeting the cost of publishing specific articles which the society could not otherwise undertake.

The guarantee of this financial support is of such a nature that the Seismological Society may and does extend an invitation to workers in the field of seismology and related zones of research to use the *Bulletin* as a means of communication with fellow workers in all lands. In considering the scope of the field of seismology and related zones of research within which it may advantageously serve its scientific circle, the *Bulletin* will lean toward a liberal interpretation, with due regard for the established journals in meteorology, chemistry and physics. Its interest centers in the dynamics of the earth, but extends to allied researches which may throw light upon that comprehensive field of activity.

Another phase of the *Bulletin's* interest comprehends the practical side of earthquake studies. The world-wide occurrence of earthquakes means that there is world-wide experience of their effects, acquired at the cost of enormous values destroyed and great loss of life, but so scattered, ignored or suppressed that it is ineffective to serve humanity at large. The records of that experience await assembling, discussion and interpretation for the benefit of communities in all trembling lands.

Furthermore, there is great need of education of the intelligent public to take earthquakes out of the realm of astrology and rob them of that mystery which is one of their most potent attributes for mischief. Articles dealing with the facts of earthquake activity in relation to human affairs, addressed to men of affairs, in language intelligible to the educated reader will also be welcomed by the *Bulletin*.

Correspondence with the chairman of the Committee on Publication, Professor S. D. Townley, Stanford University, California, is invited from all who may be interested, either in publishing the results of seismologic studies or becoming members of the society. Articles intended for publication may be

written in English, French, German or Italian. Publication will be in English, but if the foreign author should wish to supply an abstract in his own tongue, it may be printed in any one of those languages.

ARTHUR L. DAY, *Chairman*

*Advisory Committee on Seismology, Carnegie Institution of Washington,*

BAILEY WILLIS, *President,*

*Seismological Society of America*

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

AT the conclusion of the meetings of the French Association for the Advancement of Science, the University of Liège conferred honorary degrees on M. Raymond Poincaré; Dr. Rigaud, director of the Paris Radium Institute; Dr. Lacroix, secretary of the Paris Academy of Sciences; Dr. Paul Sabatier, professor of chemistry at Toulouse; Dr. Marcellin Boule, professor of paleontology at the Natural History Museum, Paris; Dr. Henri L. Le Chatelier, professor of chemistry at Paris; Dr. Charles Barrois, professor of geology and mineralogy at Lille; Dr. Paul Shorey, professor of Greek at the University of Chicago.

AT a special convocation of the University of Toronto, held on August 13, on the occasion of the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, the degree of doctor of science, *honoris causa*, was conferred on Sir David Bruce, president of the British Association; Sir Ernest Rutherford, retiring president, Cavendish professor of physics at the University of Cambridge; Sir John Russell, director of the Rothamsted Experimental Station, and Sir Charles Parsons, chairman of the Parsons Marine Turbine Co., London.

THE honorary degree of doctor of philosophy has been conferred, by the University of Bonn, on Dr. Frank Springer, of the National Museum.

DR. JOSÉ CASARES Y GIL, dean of the faculty of pharmacy at Madrid, has had an honorary degree conferred on him by the University of Munich.

PROFESSOR SALVATOR PINCHERLE, professor of infinitesimal calculus at the University of Bologna, has been elected president of the International Mathematical Union.

DR. M. JEAN CAMUS, professor of physiology at the Paris Medical School, has been elected a member of the French Academy of Medicine.

DR. G. HABERLANDT, professor of botany at the University of Berlin, has been elected a foreign member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.

THE director of the U. S. Geological Survey rep-

resented the Secretary of the Interior at the World Power Conference, held in London, from June 28 to July 12. The Geological Survey was represented by John C. Hoyt.

PROFESSOR ALAN W. C. MENZIES, of Princeton University, has been appointed as delegate from the Royal Society of Edinburgh to the Franklin Institute on the occasion of its centenary in September.

DR. J. E. MILLS has been appointed chief chemist in charge of the research work of the Chemical Warfare Service.

DR. G. F. LOUGHLIN has been appointed geologist in charge of the section of metalliferous deposits of the U. S. Geological Survey to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Dr. F. L. Ransome. F. J. Katz has been made geologist in charge of the division of mineral resources, the position vacated by Mr. Loughlin.

PROFESSOR MAX A. MCCALL, formerly superintendent of the Adams Branch Experiment Station, Lind, Washington, and more recently in the division of agronomy of the Washington Agricultural Experiment Station at Pullman, has been appointed agronomist in the office of cereal investigations of the Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

DR. T. S. TAYLOR, since 1917 in charge of Insulation Research with the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, has joined the research department of the Bakelite Corporation, and will have his headquarters at Bloomfield, New Jersey, at the new research laboratory now in process of construction.

SCIENCE Service, Washington, D. C., announces the addition to its staff of Dr. Frank E. A. Thone and Dr. James P. Kelley. Dr. Thone was formerly assistant at the University of Chicago and Johns Hopkins University, as well as assistant professor of botany at the University of Florida. He will direct the *Daily Science News Bulletin* which Science Service furnishes to newspapers. Dr. Kelly, who holds degrees from Princeton and Columbia, goes to Science Service from the Pennsylvania State College. He was for a time assistant editor of *Botanical Abstracts*. He will devote particular attention to the half-page science features.

DR. EUGENE C. TIMS has been appointed assistant pathologist at the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station, Baton Rouge, La.

PINGJAN TSIANG has been appointed director of the observatory at Tsingtao, which has been handed over by Japan to China.

GEORGE C. MARTIN, geologist in the Alaskan Branch of the Geological Survey, resigned on July 1.

DR. W. A. TARR, of the University of Missouri, will spend the coming year in Europe on sabbatical leave of absence. He expects to carry on his studies of chert, stylolites and related features of sedimentary rocks, as well as visit the more important mineral deposits. A part of the year will be spent in the laboratories of Dr. R. H. Rastall, at Cambridge University.

THE Paris correspondent of the *Journal* of the American Medical Association writes that at Saint Christophe, his native city, a monument was recently unveiled in memory of Professor Raphael Blanchard, who died in 1919. Addresses were delivered by Dr. Doléris, president of the Academy of Medicine; Professor H. Roger, dean of the faculty of medicine of Paris; Professor Lapersonne, and others. The speakers referred to the progress that Blanchard had brought about in parasitology; the part that he had played in the establishment of the Institute of Colonial Medicine and in the Société de Zoologie, which he helped to found and which he served for twenty-two years as general secretary, and in the Société d'Histoire de la Médecine, of which he was also one of the founders.

DR. BERTRAM WELTON SIPPY, professor of medicine in Rush Medical College and the University of Chicago, well known for his work on the diseases of the gastro-intestinal tract, died on August 15 aged fifty-six years.

DR. JOSEPH ELLIOT GILPIN, professor of chemistry at the Johns Hopkins University, has died aged fifty-six years.

DR. OLIVER W. HUNTINGTON, formerly instructor of mineralogy at Harvard University, has died, aged sixty-six years.

SIR WILLIAM MADOCK BAYLISS, professor of general physiology in University College, London, died on August 27 at the age of sixty-four years.

PROFESSOR JULIUS WERTHEIMER, professor of applied chemistry and dean of the faculty of engineering at the University of Bristol, died on August 9, aged sixty-four years.

DR. JOSEF HERZIG, emeritus professor of chemistry at Vienna, and member of the Vienna Academy of Sciences, has died at the age of seventy years.

DR. EDOARDO BASSINI, senator and emeritus professor of surgery at the University of Padua, has died at the age of eighty years.

THE eighty-eighth annual meeting of the Association of German Scientific Men and Physicians opens

on September 24, in connection with a scientific exhibit at Innsbruck.

MORE than 1,000 members from universities and industrial enterprises in every state will attend the fall meeting of the American Chemical Society to be held in Ithaca from September 8 to 13. The general meeting at which the foreign chemists will speak will be held on Tuesday, September 9, at 9.30 A. M., in Bailey Hall, Dr. Livingston Farrand, president of Cornell University, presiding. A response to addresses of welcome will be made by Dr. Leo Hendrik Baekeland, of New York, president of the American Chemical Society and professor of chemical engineering in Columbia University. On the afternoon of this day the visiting chemists will inspect the Baker Laboratory, the gift of George F. Baker, of New York, under the direction of Dr. L. M. Dennis, head of the Cornell Department of Chemistry.

At the seventy-second annual meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association being held in Buffalo, Charles W. Holten, of Newark, N. J., was elected president; William B. Day, of Chicago, was reelected secretary, and E. F. Keyyl, of Baltimore, was reelected treasurer. Louis Emanuel, of Pittsburgh, was designated honorary president for 1924-1925.

THE third national symposium on colloid chemistry will be held at the University of Minnesota in June, 1925.

THE Viceroy of India has sent a donation of Rs. 1,000 and the Maharaja of Nepal a donation of Rs. 1,500 towards the funds being collected for the foundation of the Ross Institute and Hospital for Tropical Diseases.

At the University of London research grants out of the Dixon Fund for the year 1924-25 have been made as follows: £50 for research on the physiological factors governing the proportions of sexes in mammals to Alan Sterling Parkes (Institute of Physiology, University College); £50 to Eric Arthur Spaul, Ph.D., to continue experiments with the anterior lobe pituitary gland, and to gain further knowledge of the properties of the active principles of this portion of the gland and also its biochemical properties (Zoological Laboratory, Birkbeck College); £50 to Florence Mary Wood, for chemicals and apparatus in connection with research upon the chemical nature of the cellulose membrane; £20 to Muriel Bond, M.Sc., for research into the dietetic factors influencing reproduction (London School of Medicine for Women).

THE Vienna correspondent of the *Journal* of the American Medical Association writes that the new university building, which had been commenced in 1914, but which could not be completed during the war, was opened on June 28. The new building suc-

ceeds the old one, which dates back to the sixteenth century, and which was antiquated. The hygienic arrangements, and the accommodations for laboratory work and for other research were sorely behind the requirements of our time. There are accommodations for administration as well as for all studies except the purely medical. The latter have to be pursued at the bedside in the old clinical hospitals. The costs of the new building were defrayed by the state, only a small percentage of the actual expenditure being contributed by the municipal and county authorities.

EIGHT new mountains have been found and ascended and the hitherto unknown Cariboo Range in British Columbia definitely located by Professor Rollin T. Chamberlin, of the University of Chicago Department of Geology, and Allen Carpe, a New York engineer. One of the peaks, yet unnamed, ranks among the highest in the Canadian Northwest. In addition to the discovery and ascent of the great glacier peaks, Chamberlin and Carpe have located the headwaters of the Thompson and Canoe rivers, the latter of which follows the Rocky Mountain trench to the Columbia River. They are the first white men ever to note the glacial sources of the two mountain streams.

ACCORDING to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association, the advisory committee on the education of sanitarians and the future of public health in the United States, of the U. S. Public Health Service, met in Washington, D. C., on July 24. Measures were discussed for providing supplemental academic training for health officers, sanitary engineers, statisticians, public health nurses, laboratory specialists, oral hygienists and other types of sanitarians now employed. According to preliminary reports presented at the meeting, several hundred persons have been in attendance this year at four public health summer schools—those conducted by Columbia University, the University of California, the State University of Iowa and the University of Michigan. Inquiries received last winter, however, indicate that a greater number wish to secure further academic training than appear to have been able to leave their work for six or eight weeks summer school. It is the hope of the Public Health Service that the universities of the country with which "Class A" medical schools are affiliated may provide in the future three kinds of facilities for the further education of sanitarians now employed. First, it is hoped that at least a few schools will be able to offer intensive courses providing for the continuous study of a single subject for the period of a month or more. Such courses are offered by the School of Public Health of Harvard University and provide an opportunity for training which requires that a sanitarian absent himself from his work for only a month at a time.

Secondly, it is recommended that universities and medical schools offer one or more courses of study with two or three hour periods once or twice a week at a time of day which will make possible the attendance of persons employed by various kinds of health agencies. Courses are now offered, of course, by a number of medical schools which would be of great value to sanitarians now employed were the availability of these courses brought to their attention. Finally, it is expected as a result of the interest demonstrated by sanitarians this year, that Columbia University, the University of Michigan and possibly two or three other institutions will conduct in 1925 public health summer schools of a similar nature.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association states that the minister of labor has published the vital statistics for France during the first three months of 1923 and for the corresponding period in 1924: During the first quarter, the number of marriages was nearly 10 per cent. higher than for the corresponding period in 1923. The number of living births has remained about stationary; also infant mortality. The total number of deaths, however, has risen from 190,036 to 219,045, but the same thing is true of other countries. In England, for example, the number of deaths has risen from 124,720, during the first quarter of 1923, to 160,279 for the first three months of 1924. Nevertheless, the demographic situation of France during the first quarter of the current year was deplorable, since it resulted in an excess of deaths over births of 24,039, as compared with an excess of births over deaths of 6,069 in 1923.

## UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

THE College of the Pacific is now moving from San Jose, California, to Stockton, California, where seven new buildings are being completed at a cost of \$750,000. The science building will be well equipped for physics, chemistry and biology.

THE Miners' Welfare Committee, England, has made a grant of £2,250 toward the equipment of the mining department of the Royal Technical College, Glasgow.

MR. BLUMENTHAL, of New York, as further evidence of his interest in French universities, has presented to the Sorbonne, Paris, a gift of 250,000 francs.

PROFESSOR A. F. GREAVES-WALKER, ceramic engineer, vice-president and director of the Stevens Bros. Co., Ga., has been appointed director of the new department of ceramic engineering to be established at the North Carolina State College during the coming school year.

DR. J. A. ELDRIDGE, of the General Electric Company and formerly of the University of Wisconsin, has been appointed an associate professor of physics at the University of Iowa.

DR. E. F. PHILLIPS, who has been in charge of the Beekeeping Investigations of the Bureau of Entomology for the past nineteen years, has accepted a professorship in apiculture at the New York State College of Agriculture, at Cornell University, and will begin his work there about October 1.

AT Barnard College, Columbia University, Dr. Louis H. Gregory has been promoted to associate professor of zoology, and Miss Grace Sangford to assistant professor of physics.

DR. NICHOLAS M. ALTER, instructor of medicine at the University of Michigan Medical School, has been appointed professor of pathology at the University of Colorado.

DR. GEORGE B. ROTH, assistant professor of pharmacology in Western Reserve University, has been appointed professor of physiology and pharmacology in the George Washington University Medical School, Washington, D. C.

DR. HERBERT W. ROGERS, assistant professor of psychology at the University of Minnesota, has been appointed assistant professor and director of the laboratory of psychology at Lafayette College to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Dr. Gilliland, who goes to Northwestern University.

PROFESSOR S. CHAPMAN, professor of applied mathematics at the University of Manchester, has been appointed professor of mathematics at the Imperial College of Science, South Kensington.

DR. ALFRED KUHN, professor of zoology at the University of Göttingen, has been appointed professor of zoology and comparative anatomy at Munich, to take the place of Professor R. V. Hertwig, who has resigned.

## DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

### NOTE ON THE RELATIVITY MOTION OF MERCURY

ACCORDING to the formulas of relativity as given by Eddington the perihelion of a planet's orbit moves forward in each revolution by an amount,

$$6\pi \frac{m}{p},$$

where  $p$  is the parameter of the orbit and  $m$ , "the gravitational mass of the sun is approximately 1.5 km."

With this value of  $m$ , the motion of Mercury's apse-line is computed by the relativists as being 43