

The present status of thermochemical data, F. Russell Bischowsky, Johns Hopkins University.

The status of the electron in the teaching of chemistry, Neil E. Gordon, University of Maryland.

Errors in experimental work as illustrated by determinations of surface tension, T. F. Young and W. D. Harkins, University of Chicago.

The complete program will be published later.

On Tuesday afternoon the chemists will meet with the physicists and the astronomers.

Hotel Raleigh has been chosen as headquarters for the chemists.

WILLIAM D. HARKINS,  
*Secretary of Section C*

### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. K. T. COMPTON, professor of physics in Princeton University, has been elected chairman of Section B (Physics) of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and association vice-president for that section, to fill the place left vacant by the death of Dr. Ernest Fox Nichols.

DR. WILLIAM F. DURAND, professor emeritus of mechanical engineering in Leland Stanford University, was installed as president of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers on December 2. Vice-presidents chosen for the coming year are Sherwood F. Jeter, of Hartford, Conn.; Professor Robert W. Angus, of Toronto, and Thomas L. Wilkinson, of Davenport, Ia.

DR. HUGH K. MOORE, director of research, the Brown Company, Berlin, N. H., has been awarded the Perkin Medal for 1924 in recognition of his chemical engineering attainments in the fields of salt, sulphur and cellulose. It will be presented at the meeting of the New York section of the Society of Chemical Industry on February 6.

DR. CHARLES S. SARGENT, director of the Arnold Arboretum, has been awarded the Lodor Rhododendron Cup of the Royal Horticultural Society of England.

THE first presentation of the new Holley Medal of The American Society of Mechanical Engineers has been made to Hjalmar Gorrfried Carlson, of Worcester, Mass., "for his invention and processes which made possible the timely production of drawn steel booster castings for artillery ammunition, thereby aiding victory in the World War."

IN connection with the annual meeting of the Indiana Academy of Sciences, held at Purdue University on December 5, a dinner was given in honor of Dr. J. C. Arthur and Dean Stanley Coulter. Addresses were given by Dr. John Merle Coulter, of the University of Chicago, and Dr. William Trelease, of the University of Illinois.

RAMON Y. CAJAL, professor of histology at the University of Madrid, has had conferred upon him an honorary degree by the University of Paris.

PROFESSOR C. F. CURTIS RILEY, connected with the department of zoology at the University of Manitoba, formerly of Syracuse University, New York, has been elected a fellow of the Entomological Society of London.

THE Langley Memorial Prize of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine has been awarded to Dr. P. S. Selwyn-Clarke, of the West African Medical Service, for his monograph on small-pox in the negro and negroid tribes of British West Africa.

PROFESSOR FRANCIS VEJDOVSKY, senior of Czech zoologists, and formerly professor at Czech University in Prague, celebrated his seventy-fifth birthday on October 24.

EDOUARD BRADLEY, pioneer French worker in wireless telegraphy, celebrated his eightieth birthday on November 8.

PROFESSOR ETHAN ALLEN SHAW, for twenty-five years professor of mathematics at Norwich University, will retire at the close of the present semester.

M. ALBIN HALLER, professor of organic chemistry, and M. Joannis, professor of chemistry at the University of Paris, have retired.

PROFESSOR A. BIEHL has retired from the Astrophysical Observatory at Potsdam, having reached the age limit, and Dr. Baron von der Pahlen has been appointed to take his place.

It is announced that Dr. Aldo Castellani, director of the department of tropical medicine at the Ross Institute, London, has been offered the directorship of the new School of Tropical Medicine at Tulane University, New Orleans.

PROFESSOR M. DOELLO-JURADO, of the University of Buenos Aires, has been appointed director of the National Museum of Natural History at Buenos Aires.

MARTIN FROBISHER, JR., for the past three years with the Maryland State Health Department, has been appointed chief, division of chemistry, Baltimore City Health Department.

C. E. BALES, who is president of the Louisville Section of the American Chemical Society, has been made assistant manager, in charge of production, at the Louisville Fire Brick Works.

UPON invitation from Dr. A. A. Noyes, Dr. J. J. Abel, professor of pharmacology at the Johns Hopkins University, has gone to the California Institute of Technology at Pasadena to try to isolate the active principle in insulin by methods used on pituitary extract. Dr. E. M. K. Geiling, of the university, ac-

accompanied Dr. Abel. They will return about March 1, 1925.

DR. A. L. BLOOMFIELD, associate professor of medicine, and Dr. A. Keidel, associate professor of clinical medicine, have been given leave of absence by the Johns Hopkins University for one year to study abroad in European clinics.

DR. ELIOT JONES is taking a year's leave of absence from Stanford University and is serving as professor of railway transportation on the McKinley Foundation at the University of Illinois.

DR. P. H. ROLFS and family returned to the United States on December 8 for a short vacation. Dr. Rolfs has been employed by the State of Minas Geraes (Brazil) for the last four years, in the construction and organization of an Agricultural College on the North American plan. He will remain in the United States until about March 15, and will then return to Minas Geraes for another period of four years. His headquarters while in the United States will be in Gainesville, Florida. The site of the Agricultural College is at Vigosa, on a plateau over six hundred meters high, in the Sao Geraldo Mountains. The main building is approaching completion and the experimental grounds are well developed.

DR. S. Z. DE FERRANTI has returned to England after a tour of the United States and Canada. At the conclusion of the tour on November 6, a luncheon was held at the Yale Club, New York, in honor of Dr. Ferranti. The luncheon was given under the auspices of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers and the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

A GROUP of five physicians from Central Europe holding fellowships under the division of medical education of the Rockefeller Foundation arrived in the United States November 20 for graduate study in preparation for medical teaching in their own countries. Three of the physicians, Dr. Slavko Pejich, Dr. Urosh Ruzitchitch and Dr. Radoji Taditch, are from Yugoslavia; one, Dr. Andrew Bosanyi, is from Hungary, and one, Dr. Leopold Schonbauer, is from Austria.

MISS MARY BEARD, formerly director of the Instructive District Nursing Association of Boston, sailed on November 29 for England, where she will conduct, under the auspices of the division of studies of the Rockefeller Foundation, a survey of maternity care with special reference to the relation of midwifery to nursing.

DR. C. A. BROWNE, chief of the bureau of chemistry of the United States Department of Agriculture, will speak on the subject of "Past and future

of agricultural chemical research" before the regular meeting of the New York section of the American Chemical Society at Rumford Hall on December 12.

DR. A. E. DOUGLASS, professor of astronomy at the University of Arizona, gave an illustrated lecture entitled "Cycles in development of tree rings as an evidence of climatic variation," at the Carnegie Institution of Washington, on December 5.

DR. FRANCIS G. BENEDICT, director of the Nutrition Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, in Boston, recently gave a lecture on "The measurement and significance of basal metabolism" at a number of universities and medical schools in the middle west. This lecture tour was under the auspices of the Mayo Foundation. During the week of November 17-22 Dr. Benedict addressed audiences at the University of Wisconsin, the Mayo Clinic, the University of Minnesota, the Medical School of the University of Nebraska, the Washington University Medical School and the University of Iowa.

At the University of Arizona during the week of November 17 to 21, Dr. F. W. Upson, of the University of Nebraska, gave a series of five experimental lectures on the chemistry of colloids. He also spoke at the university assembly on the relation of chemistry to medicine.

DR. JOHN W. GOWEN, of the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station, Orono, addressed the scientific staff of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research on December 5 on "The secretory activity of the mammary gland and some of its problems."

ON November 22 Dr. Arthur Willey, F.R.S., of the department of zoology of McGill University, Montreal, delivered an address to the Royal Canadian Institute, Toronto, on the subject "A trip to the great lake Mistassini."

DR. THEODORE HOUGH, dean of the medical department and for seventeen years professor of physiology at the University of Virginia, has died at the age of fifty-nine years.

DR. ALFRED HULSE BROOKS, for twenty years chief of the Alaskan division of the U. S. Geological Survey, died on November 21, aged fifty-three years.

PROFESSOR SPENCER AMBROSE BEACH, vice-dean of agriculture and professor of horticulture at Iowa State College, died on November 2, in his sixty-fifth year.

DR. JOHN B. ROBERTS, formerly professor of surgery at the University of Pennsylvania and a former president of the American College of Surgeons, died on November 29, aged seventy-two years, from injuries received when he was struck by an automobile.

DR. RUDOLPH MENN, Chicago surgeon, formerly

dean and vice-president of Jenner Medical College, died on December 3.

THE Biological Club of the University of Minnesota held its two hundredth meeting on October 20. Dr. B. H. Blackman, of the Imperial College of Technology, London, was a special guest of honor. Other special guests included President L. D. Coffman, Dean Guy Stanton Ford, of the graduate school; Dean E. P. Lyon, of the medical school; Dean J. B. Johnston, of the college of science, literature and arts, and Dean W. C. Coffey, of the department of agriculture, all of the University of Minnesota.

THE Washington Section of the American Chemical Society held its annual election on November 13, selecting L. H. Adams as president, R. Gilchrist as secretary and H. W. Houghton as treasurer. Newly elected members of the executive committee are: Wm. Blum, V. K. Chesnut, R. B. Sosmann, M. X. Sullivan, E. W. Washburn and E. T. Wherry; Councillors: F. G. Cottrell, W. M. Clark, S. C. Lind and R. S. McBride. Preceding the meeting a dinner was given in honor of Dr. E. F. Armstrong, a prominent British industrial chemist and formerly president of the Society of Chemical Industry. At the opening of the meeting Dr. Armstrong spoke for a few minutes on the present trend in chemistry, stressing particularly the work now in progress in catalysis and surface phenomena and predicting great advances in the near future.

### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

PORTER L. NEWTON, of Waltham, has given the residue of his estate to the Massachusetts Agricultural College to be used through the awarding of scholarships designed to promote and improve the agricultural situation in the state. The gift will probably amount to about \$25,000.

THE Carnegie Corporation has given to Dalhousie University the sum of \$190,000. Of this amount \$90,000 will go toward payment of accumulated deficits, while the remainder will be divided into five annual payments of \$20,000 each as a fund to forestall future deficits.

WE learn from the *Journal* of The American Medical Association that many prominent Japanese and Chinese officials attended the recent opening of the medical school of the Chingtao Hospital, which has been erected by the Japanese government, says the *Japan Medical World*, as one of Japan's enterprises for the education of Chinese students. The school will be maintained by the hospital and by a subsidy of 140,000 yen per annum from the Japanese government.

THE cornerstone of the new buildings of the University of Brussels was laid on November 20. The new building has been made possible by financial assistance, amounting to nearly 20,000,000 francs, given by the Commission for Relief in Belgium and the Educational Foundation. The American Relief Commission provided food for the Belgian population during the German occupation, and the 20,000,000 francs have been paid out of the balance remaining over from the fund.

DR. A. H. RYAN, formerly professor of physiology at Tufts College Medical School, Boston, has been appointed professor of physiology at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore.

DR. W. L. HOLMAN, associate professor of bacteriology at the Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed associate professor at the University of Toronto Medical School.

L. J. PESSIN, PH.D. (Johns Hopkins, 1923), has accepted a position as assistant professor of plant physiology at the North Carolina State Agricultural and Mechanical College.

A. W. BELLAMY recently resigned his position as assistant professor of zoology at the University of Chicago and went to the University of California, southern branch.

AT Tufts Medical College, Dr. Frank Howard Lahey, professor of surgery, and Dr. Charles Davidson Knowlton, assistant professor of theory and practice of medicine, have resigned.

ABRAHAM PRESS, at one time demonstrator in physics and mathematics at the Southwestern Polytechnic Institute, London, and recently technical science expert, Interdepartmental Radio Board, Washington, D. C., sailed for Siam on December 3 *via* Europe to accept the post of professor of physics in the pre-medical school of Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok.

DR. BETHE, professor of physiology at the University of Frankfurt, has been called to take the place of Dr. Rudolph Metzners, retiring professor at the University of Basel.

### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

#### GENERAL PLAN FOR MAGNETIC AND ALLIED OBSERVATIONS DURING THE TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE OF JANUARY 24, 1925<sup>1</sup>

SPECIAL magnetic and allied observations will be made at stations in or near the path of totality of the solar eclipse of January 24, 1925, by the Depart-

<sup>1</sup> Communicated at the request of the director of the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism.