

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. M. I. PUPIN, professor of electro-mechanics in Columbia University and distinguished for his contributions to mathematical physics, has been elected president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

THE Washington meeting of the American Association and the forty-six national scientific societies affiliated with it was unparalleled in size and in the number of scientific papers presented. The full report of this meeting, prepared by the permanent secretary, will be given in a special number of SCIENCE to be issued later in the month.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM B. SCOTT, of Princeton University, has been elected president of the Geological Society of America, at the Ithaca meeting of the society. Other officers were elected as follows: *First vice-president*, Reginald W. Brock, Vancouver, B. C.; *second vice-president*, Marius R. Campbell, Washington, D. C.; *vice-president* to represent the Paleontological Society, R. S. Lull, New Haven; *vice-president* to represent the Mineralogical Society, Arthur S. Eakle, Berkeley, Calif.; *secretary*, Charles H. Berkey, New York; *treasurer*, Edward B. Matthews, Baltimore, Md.; *editor*, Joseph Stanley Brown, New York.

DR. T. C. CHAMBERLIN, emeritus professor of geology at the University of Chicago, has had conferred upon him a gold medal by the Society of Economic Geologists, meeting at Cornell University, in recognition of his contributions to geology.

THE Maxime Bôcher prize of the American Mathematical Society for the best literary contribution to mathematical science has been awarded to Professor E. T. Bell, of the University of Washington, and Professor S. Lefschetz, of the University of Kansas. The prize which was established last year will in the future be awarded every five years.

SIR ERNEST RUTHERFORD and Sir George James Frazer have been appointed members of the Order of Merit. Other scientific men on the King's New Year's honor list include the following who have received knighthoods: Professor John Adams, Professor R. H. Biffen, Professor Gowland Hopkins, Principal J. C. Irvine and Dr. John Campbell.

At a meeting held on December 16, the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia elected as correspondents the following: Edward A. Birge, Waldemar C. Brögger, Charles Whitman Cross, Robert A. Harper, Ross G. Harrison, Ernst J. O. Hartert, Karl Jordan, Auguste Lamere, Henri A. Menegaux, William Patten, J. O. Edmond Perrier, Anton Reichenow, Benjamin L. Robinson and Brör Y. Sjöstedt.

At the annual meeting of the American Engineering Standards Committee on December 11, Mr. Charles E. Skinner, a representative of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, was elected chairman for the year 1925, and Mr. Charles Rufus Harte, representative of the American Electric Railway Association, was elected vice-chairman.

REAR ADMIRAL C. F. HUGHES, in charge of fleet training in the United States Naval Department, has been elected president of the American Society of Naval Engineers for 1925, in succession to Captain J. T. Tompkins, who has headed the society for the past two years.

LESLIE BROWN, of Lenox, Inc., Trenton, N. J., was elected president and chairman of the New Jersey Clay Workers Association and Eastern Section, American Ceramic Society, at the annual meeting, New Brunswick, N. J., held on December 19.

THE board of governors of the Institute of Medicine, Chicago, announces the following elections for the coming year: Drs. James B. Herrick, *president*; Charles A. Elliott, *vice-president*; George H. Coleman, *secretary*; Dallas B. Phemister, *treasurer*, and Ludvig Hektoen, *chairman* of the board of governors.

DR. ALEXANDER WETMORE, biologist in the Biological Survey, has been appointed superintendent of the National Zoological Park, succeeding Ned Hollister, who died recently.

PROFESSOR FRANKLIN SUMNER EARLE, of the Experiment Station, Cuba, has accepted an appointment as Sugar Cane Technologist on the staff of the Tropical Plant Research Foundation. His address will be Herradura, Cuba, where he will have charge of a field station for cane propagation and variety studies.

JAMES L. KILPATRICK has been elected vice-president of the Western Electric Company in charge of the telephone department to succeed Dr. Frank B. Jewett, who has been made vice-president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

BRADFORD NOYES, JR., Ph.D. (Cornell, '24), has accepted a position as physicist in the technical department, research division, of the Taylor Instrument Companies, Rochester, New York.

H. T. EDWARDS, of the office of fiber plant investigations in the Bureau of Plant Industry, sailed from San Francisco on November 29 for Manila, where he will be engaged during the next six months, in cooperation with the Philippine Bureau of Agriculture, in encouraging the more general use of improved methods in producing, cleaning and packing abacá, maguay and sisal.

COLONEL JOSEPH UZAC, of the French War Ministry Medical Service, Colonel Robert Piequé, associate professor of anatomy in the Bordeaux Faculty of Medicine, and Captain Martin W. Flack, of the British Air Force Medical Service, delegates to the recent meeting of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, San Antonio, Texas, from November 13 to 15, were tendered a dinner at the Union League Club, New York, on November 28.

F. M. ROOT, associate in medical entomology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, sailed January 3 for Brazil to make a study of the mosquitoes of that country with reference to the malaria problem.

DR. PAUL KAMMERER, of the University of Vienna, is again visiting the United States.

H. T. STEARNS, of the U. S. Geological Survey, who recently finished work on the geology of the Kau district island of Hawaii that had been started by Messrs. Meinzer, Clark and Noble, left Honolulu on November 29 for a trip around the world primarily to view the volcano fields of Japan, Java and Italy.

DR. V. BJERKNES, professor of hydrodynamics at the Geophysical Institute, Bergen, Norway, and research associate at the Carnegie Institution of Washington, gave two illustrated lectures at the institution on the forces which lift airplanes, and problems in dynamical meteorology, on January 6 and 8. Dr. John A. Anderson, physicist at the Mount Wilson Observatory, gave an illustrated lecture on "An experimental method of studying high temperatures," at the institution on January 5.

AT the invitation of various local sections of the American Chemical Society and other interested groups, Professor Marston Taylor Bogert, of Columbia University, will deliver public lectures, upon the subject of "Science and art in the perfume industry," in the following cities: January 20, Cleveland; January 21, Akron; January 22, Ann Arbor; January 23, Chicago; January 24, Evanston; January 27, Madison; January 28, Minneapolis. These lectures will be illustrated by the Bush collection of colored lantern slides, by perfume products from various parts of the world and by finished perfumes.

AT the one hundred thirty-fifth convocation of the University of Chicago on December 23, Professor Julius Stieglitz, chairman of the department of chemistry, delivered the convocation address on "Chemistry in the service of man."

DR. A. R. DOCHEZ, professor of medicine at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, will deliver the sixth Harvey Society lecture at the New York Academy of Medicine, on the evening

of January 17. His subject will be "Etiology of scarlet fever."

DRS. CHARLES H. MAYO and William A. Plummer, Rochester, Minn., will deliver the three Beaumont lectures, under the auspices of the Wayne County Medical Society, Detroit, on January 26 and 27, on "Problems of the thyroid."

WILLIAM SNOW MILLER, professor emeritus of anatomy at the University of Wisconsin, addressed The Radiological Society at its recent meeting in Kansas City, Mo., on "Key points in lung structure."

PROFESSOR W. A. TARR, of the University of Missouri, while residing at Cambridge during the Michaelmas term of 1924 for the purpose of studying the collections in the Sedgwick Museum of Geology, delivered at Dr. Rastall's request five lectures to the class of economic geology, dealing with the copper, lead and zinc deposits of the United States.

ALLAN WYON, sculptor, has presented to the University of Leeds a bronze medallion in memory of his brother, the late Dr. G. A. Wyon, formerly lecturer in pathology in the university.

ON the wall of the west entrance of Tower Court at Wellesley College has been placed a tablet in memory of Lady Margaret Huggins. The inscription on the tablet reads: "To Lady Huggins, an English astronomer of note, who, in recognition of the intellectual justice done to women at Wellesley College, bequeathed, with other valuable gifts in the observatory and library, the reproductions of the old masters in Tower Court." Lady Huggins was the wife of Sir William Huggins, distinguished for his work in spectroscopy.

OLAF HOFF, civil engineer, known for his contributions to methods of tunneling, has died at the age of sixty-five years.

DR. EUGENE SOLOMON TALBOT, well known for his work in stomatology and formerly professor of stomatology in Rush Medical College, died on December 20 at the age of seventy-seven years.

DR. CLADIUS B. KINYON, former professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Michigan, died on December 22, aged seventy-three years.

DR. GEORGE DOWNING LIVEING, president of St. John's College, Cambridge, England, and for forty-seven years professor of chemistry in the University of Cambridge, died on December 26, aged ninety-seven years.

GEHEIMRATH HUGO v. SEELIGER, professor of astronomy and director of the observatory of the University of Munich, has died at the age of seventy-five years.

DR. JAMES ALFRED WHELDON, of Liverpool, England, died on November 28. A correspondent writes: "Apart from his professional work as pharmacist on the medical staff of H. M. Prison, at Walton, Mr. Wheldon was an eminent and widely known botanist, who, in 1923, was vice-president of Section K (Botany), at the Liverpool meeting of the British Association. He was especially interested in bryophytes, and an authority on the difficult groups of the Harpioid Hypna and the Sphagna."

THE second general assembly of the International Astronomical Union will be held at Cambridge, England, from July 14 to 22, 1925.

A JOINT meeting of the American Physical Society and the Optical Society of America will be held at Columbia University on Friday and Saturday, February 27 and 28. The preliminary arrangements of the program are as follows: Friday morning, Session in charge of the Optical Society. Papers from members of the Optical Society. Friday afternoon, joint session. Papers from members of the Optical Society and from members of the Physical Society. Friday evening, informal get-together," probably at the Columbia Faculty Club. Saturday morning, Physical Society program, except for two invited papers from the Optical Society. Saturday afternoon, regular Physical Society program. Titles should be submitted to the secretary, Dr. F. K. Richtmyer, Cornell University.

THE twelfth annual meeting of the Indian Science Congress will be held in Benares, from January 12 to 17. The Maharaja of Benares, Sir Prabhu Narain Singh Bahadur, has consented to be patron of the meeting, and Dr. M. O. Forster, director of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, will be president. Professor S. P. Agharkar is general secretary and the local secretaries for the meeting are Professor L. D. Coueslant, department of engineering, Benares Hindu University, and Professor K. K. Mathur, of the department of geology.

ACCORDING to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association, ceremonies are to be held at Paris early in June, at the Académie de médecine, the Faculté de médecine and the Société de neurologie to honor the centennial of the birth of Charcot. Foreign governments and scientific societies have been invited to send delegates. The Société de neurologie will celebrate at the same time its sixth international reunion. The committee in charge is headed by Dr. Babinski, with P. Marie, Pitres and P. Richer as honorary presidents, and includes Jean Charcot and a number of Charcot's old pupils, with Dr. A. Souques, 17 rue de l'Université, Paris, secretary.

THE Sigma Xi Club of Carleton College, Northfield, Minn., is devoting this year's series of program meetings to a study of recent advances in the science of heredity. The year's program is: History of the study of the science of heredity, The chromosomal basis of heredity, Hybridization, Variation and mutation, Heredity of sex, Heredity of acquired characters, Principles of heredity as applied to plant breeding, Principles of heredity as applied to eugenics.

THE Stanford University Medical School announces the following public lectures on medical subjects to be given at the university: January 9, "Influenza and common colds," by Dr. A. W. Hewlett. January 23, "Migration as a factor in communicable diseases," by Dr. W. N. Dickie, secretary of the State Board of Health. February 6, "Parasitic infections," by Dr. N. E. Wayson, U. S. Public Health Service. February 20, "Constipation and auto-intoxication," by Dr. W. C. Alvarez. March 6, "Loss of life from preventable diseases," by Dr. W. C. Hassler, health officer of San Francisco. March 20, "Vaccines and serums," by Dr. E. W. Schultz.

THE means for future production of oil from government reserves of coal and oil shale is the subject of a conference recently held at the Interior Department by technologists of the Navy, the Bureau of Mines and the Geological Survey. A research program to aid the commercial development of processes by which oil may be obtained from oil shales, lignite and other coal is being planned by the Bureau of Mines. The Navy was represented in the conference by Rear Admiral H. H. Rousseau, Commander N. H. Wright and Lieutenant Commander W. H. Osgood. The Geological Survey was represented by Dr. David White, W. T. Thom, Jr., fuels geologist, and W. H. Bradley, oil geologist. O. P. Hood, chief mechanical engineer in charge of the Fuels Division of the Bureau of Mines presided. A report was made upon recent research in foreign countries by A. C. Fieldner, superintendent of the Pittsburgh experiment station of the Bureau of Mines, who has just returned from a trip of inspection through European laboratories and carbonization plants. Reports were also rendered upon recent research in the fuels and petroleum laboratories of the Bureau of Mines.

It has been officially announced that the metric system will be used exclusively in the Dutch East Indies, by which Amsterdam pounds and piculs will be abolished. Heretofore the two systems have been functioning side by side, but it is now held that experience shows that the metric system is preferable.

To develop greater facilities for research and investigations, the Graham Brothers Truck Co., Evansville, Ind., manufacturer of motor trucks, has completed plans for a new metallurgical laboratory, to be two-story, brick and concrete, 50 x 60 feet, costing about \$30,000, with equipment.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

THE Rockefeller Foundation has given 10,000,000 dinars (about \$200,000) to Jugo Slavia for the construction of a school of hygiene at Zagreb, the administrative capital of Croatia; \$40,000 for the improvement of sanitary institutions in Belgrade, and \$15,000 for the aid of needy students abroad who pledge their services after graduation to the public health service in Jugo Slavia.

UNDER the terms of the will of the late George St. John Sheffield, of Providence, son of the founder of the Sheffield Scientific School at Yale University, the university will receive the greater portion of the testator's estate after the death of his widow.

UNDER the terms of the will of the late R. J. Edwards, of Boston, a trust is established for the benefit of his two sisters, and on their deaths \$100,000 will go to the Harvard Medical School to create the "Jacob Edwards Fund" in memory of the testator's father. The income of the fund will be used for research.

FIRE, believed to have been caused by an overheated furnace, completely destroyed the mines building at the University of Washington on December 17, with a loss of more than \$125,000.

DR. JAMES C. FLIPPIN, professor of clinical medicine at the University of Virginia Medical School, has been appointed acting dean of the school, following the death of Dean Hough.

DR. A. C. BACHMEYER, superintendent of the Municipal Hospital, Cincinnati, has been appointed dean of the Medical College of the University of Cincinnati.

JOSHUA A. COPE, assistant state forester of Maryland, has been appointed assistant extension professor of forestry at Cornell University, and John N. Spaeth, formerly at the Harvard University Forest, was recently named assistant professor in the College of Agriculture.

CHARLES E. PACKARD has been appointed instructor in zoology at Allegheny College.

DR. RENÉ LERICHE, agrégé professor of surgery at

the Lyons Faculty of Medicine, has been called to the chair of surgery at the University of Strasbourg, which has been vacant for some time.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

SPECTROSCOPIC OBSERVATIONS OF THE ECLIPSE OF JANUARY, 1925

MAY I call the attention of physicists whose laboratories are situated outside of the track of totality of the eclipse of January 24, 1925, to the fact that for certain spectroscopic observations they are better placed than if they were situated within the track. For points where from 92 per cent. to 99 per cent. of the sun's diameter is covered by the moon, it has been shown that the spectrum of the lower chromosphere can be studied at length with the slit spectroscope and exposures may be made many times longer than in the two or three seconds that are possible at the beginning and the end of totality. By keeping the tip of a cusp on the slit interesting results may be expected. A large objective is not necessary for forming the solar image, but of course the low altitude of the sun will be unfavorable at this eclipse. Those interested should consult the articles by Professor H. F. Newall, of Cambridge, and Professor A. Fowler, of London, giving the results of their observations of the partial eclipse of April, 1912 (see the *Monthly Notices* of the Royal Astronomical Society, Vol. 72, pages 536-541). Those not having access to this volume will find a quotation from these articles in *Popular Astronomy*, vol. 26, no. 255, May, 1918. This will be the last total solar eclipse visible in the United States for twenty years.

EDWIN B. FROST

YERKES OBSERVATORY,
WILLIAMS BAY, WISCONSIN

HOW THE WORKS OF PROFESSOR WILLARD GIBBS WERE PUBLISHED

IN SCIENCE of September 26, 1924, Supplement, p. x, Professor F. G. Donnan, of London, is reported to have quoted Henry Adams as saying that after Benjamin Franklin, Gibbs was the greatest man of science that America has produced, and that "Gibbs ranks with men like Newton, Lagrange and Hamilton." Similar statements were made by speakers at the dedication of the new Chemical Laboratory of Yale University and elsewhere. It is not my purpose to oppose such opinions, nor to question his eminent ability.

Specialists in other very different sciences might, and probably do, have other estimates. Many would, perhaps, name Professor James D. Dana as the greatest scientist, for he was eminent in three very diverse sciences: Geology, mineralogy and zoology,