

reasoning as he has employed might prove of great value to the metallurgist in explaining the properties of many of the alloys with which he is familiar.

P.

A NOTABLE GIFT TO MATHEMATICS

THE publication, February, 1925, of the first of the Carus Mathematical Monographs marks the beginning of an enterprise made possible by a notable gift to the Mathematical Association of America by Mrs. Mary Hegeler Carus as trustee of the foundation underlying the Open Court Publishing Company, of Chicago.

These monographs are an expression of the desire of Mrs. Carus and of her son, Dr. Edward H. Carus, to contribute to the dissemination of mathematical knowledge by making accessible at nominal cost a series of expository presentations of the best thoughts and keenest researches in pure and applied mathematics. These expositions are to be set forth in a manner comprehensible not only to teachers and students specializing in mathematics, but also to scientific workers in other fields, and especially to the wide circle of thoughtful people who, having a moderate acquaintance with elementary mathematics, wish to extend their knowledge without prolonged and critical study of the mathematical journals and treatises. It is proposed to state in the preface of each monograph the extent of mathematical knowledge presupposed on the part of the reader.

In this first of the series of monographs, entitled "Calculus of variations" by Professor G. A. Bliss, of the University of Chicago, the author assumes that the reader has an acquaintance with the elementary principles of the differential and integral calculus, but even without such knowledge the geometrical or mechanical statements of the problems, the introductions to the various chapters and the italicized theorems throughout the book should be intelligible to any reader interested in mathematics. In the final chapter only some simple properties of differential equations are presupposed, but these have already been illustrated in the preceding chapters and are described in detail in the text.

These monographs are published for the Mathematical Association of America and are distributed at cost to its members. They are made accessible to the general public through the Open Court Publishing Company, of Chicago, Illinois.

This generous gift by Mrs. Carus to the Mathematical Association of America is especially timely in view of the great difficulty now experienced by all scientific organizations in meeting the high cost of printing both of journals and of books. She is thus not only making possible the publication of high-

grade mathematical books which otherwise would be quite beyond the power of the association to handle, but she is also enabling the association to do a real service for the large body of those who have a definite interest in mathematics but who are not technical specialists in this field.

The second monograph in this series will soon be ready for the printer. It is entitled "Functions of a complex variable," by Professor D. R. Curtiss, of Northwestern University. Still others are in preparation. The opportunity for service in this line by the Association seems quite unlimited. In fact, no limit is contemplated so long as the purpose in view seems to be successfully attained.

H. E. SLAUGHT

THE DANIEL GIRAUD ELLIOT MEDAL

THE National Academy of Sciences having approved the recommendation of the Committee on Award of the Daniel Giraud Elliot Medal for 1924, the medal and honorarium will be presented at the April meeting of the academy to Abbé Henri Breuil for his work, in collaboration with MM. Capitan and Peyrony, on the volume, "Les Combarelles des Eyzies," as the most outstanding contribution of 1924 in this field.

Henri Breuil is the foremost living authority on the archeology of the Old Stone Age. His chief contributions are the recognition of the great Aurignacian upper paleolithic stage and the monographing of the entire Stone Age art of France and Spain. "Les Combarelles des Eyzies" is the last and most comprehensive of a series of epoch-making monographs; it describes and interprets every one of the 291 figures discovered in the Grotto of Combarelles. Abbé Breuil is a man of untiring endeavor, great personal courage and deliberate and philosophic interpretative powers. He is the head officer of the Institut de Paléontologie Humaine, which was founded by the late Prince of Monaco.

This is the eighth award of the Daniel Giraud Elliot Medal, previous presentations having been made as follows:

- 1917: Frank M. Chapman—"Distribution of bird life in Colombia."
- 1918: William Beebe—"A monograph of the pheasants."
- 1919: Robert Ridgway—"Birds of North and Middle America" (Part VIII).
- 1920: Othenio Abel—"Methoden der Palaobiologischen Forschung."
- 1921: Bashford Dean—"A bibliography of fishes" (Volume I).
- 1922: William Morton Wheeler—"Ants of the American Museum Congo Expedition."

1923: Ferdinand Canu—"North American Later Tertiary and Quaternary Bryozoa.

HENRY FAIRFIELD OSBORN, *Chairman,*
American Museum of Natural History

CHARLES D. WALCOTT,
Smithsonian Institution,

FREDERIC A. LUCAS,
American Museum of Natural History

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE general meeting of the American Philosophical Society will be held in the hall of the society in Philadelphia on April 23, 24 and 25.

DR. WILLIAM H. WELCH, director of the School of Hygiene and Public Health of the Johns Hopkins University, celebrated his seventy-fifth birthday on April 8.

THE Society of the Physical and Biological Sciences of the University of Erlangen has elected Professor Carl Barus, of Brown University, to honorary membership.

To celebrate as a national event the seventy-ninth birthday of Edward Dean Adams, engineer, financier and philanthropist, a dinner was given to him at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York, on April 9. The speakers included Dr. W. F. Durand, professor emeritus in Leland Stanford University and president of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers; James M. Beck, solicitor-general of the United States; A. Monro Grier, president of the Canadian Niagara Power Company, and Mr. Adams.

DR. GEORGE F. DICK and his wife, Dr. Gladys H. Dick, of Chicago, have been nominated by the Gorgas Memorial Institute of Tropical and Preventive Medicine for one of the Nobel prizes, in recognition of their work in the treatment and prevention of scarlet fever.

UPON the recommendation of the medals committee, the board of directors of the Geographical Society of Chicago on March 20, 1925, voted to award the Helen Culver Gold Medal of the society to Professor Eugenius Romer, of the University of Lvov, Poland.

THE Samuel D. Gross prize of the Philadelphia Academy of Surgery for 1925, amounting to \$1,500, has been awarded to Dr. John Alexander, Ann Arbor, for his essay entitled "History, present practice and proposed reform of the surgical management of pulmonary tuberculosis."

ON his arrival at Buenos Aires, Dr. Albert Einstein, who was welcomed by delegations from various scientific bodies, was elected an honorary member of the Academy of Science.

DR. J. S. HALDANE, fellow of New College, Oxford,

has been appointed Gifford Lecturer at Glasgow for the years 1926 and 1927.

M. EUGENE FICHAT, director of the Marine Hydrographic Service of France, has been elected a member of the section of geography and navigation of the Paris Academy of Sciences to take the place of the late M. Bertin, recently deceased.

M. GEORGES FRON, professor of pathological and cryptogamic botany at the Institute of Agronomy, Paris, has been made a chevalier of the French legion of honor.

D. N. PRIANISHNIKOV, professor of agriculture, celebrated the thirtieth anniversary of his scientific work at Moscow, during March.

AT the annual meeting of the Geological Society of London, Dr. J. W. Evans was elected president. The vice-presidents elected were: Dr. J. S. Flett, Sir Thomas Holland, Professor A. C. Seward and Sir Arthur Smith Woodward.

DR. PAUL J. ANDERSON, research professor of plant pathology at the Massachusetts Agricultural College, resigned on April 1, to become plant pathologist in charge of the tobacco substation of the Connecticut Experiment Station. His new address is Windsor, Connecticut.

SINCE the death of its founder the direction of the State Serological Institute, Vienna, has passed into the hands of his pupils, Professors R. Kraus and E. Pribram. The control of the products will be in the hands of a control station established by the public health bureau.

DR. ROBERT GRAHAM, chief of the animal pathology and hygiene divisions at the University of Illinois, has a year's leave of absence to organize animal disease control work in Haiti and to study tropical diseases of livestock.

DR. S. BOSHNAKIAN, formerly of the New York State Institute of Applied Agriculture, has been in the interior of eastern Venezuela since last December, engaged in survey work.

DR. OTHENIO ABEL, professor of paleontology in the University of Vienna, delivered two of the annual public lectures on the Spencer Trask Foundation at Princeton University on April 1 and 2, taking as his subjects "Adaptation to arboreal life and flight" and "The Pleistocene fauna of the Dragon Cave near Mixnitz, Austria."

PROFESSOR W. KOLLE, director of the Institute for Experimental Therapy, Frankfurt-on-the-Main, delivered a series of four lectures under the Herter Foundation of the Bellevue Hospital and Medical College on "Facts and theories on Chemotherapeutic research" on April 13, 14, 15 and 16. Dr. Kolle will deliver the eighth Harvey Society Lecture at the New York Acad-