to weigh the simpler theories of Copernicus. Satan, lover of the fugitive and the temporary, was a firm adherent of the old and false. The orator believed that the astronomers were "on the side of the angels."

In presenting President Campbell, of the University of California, the orator, speaking in Latin, said that there was on a mountain top a building—he himself had seen it from afar—where for five and twenty years, amid the solitudes, sat a philosopher for whom "the moon, day, night and all night's stars austere," brought many a dark and difficult question, for which, however, as far as a man amid the things of God could be, he was equal. But he was recalled from the mountains to preside over a great university with 9,000 students of both sexes. There was no bay, the public orator thought, in the world that outshone the Bay of San Francisco, within its Golden Gate. So did it delight one with the alternate charms of sun and sea mist, with the beauty of tree and hill, that he might well believe that Homer himself, when he described the Isles of the Blest in the West, free of the snow and tempest, glad in zephyr and the ether, happy in that gathering of white souls, was really describing this place which the orator found as delightful as he did. He was delighted, as a conscript in the company of the Golden Bear, to present to them his friend, President William Wallace Campbell.

In presenting Professor W. de Sitter, the orator said he was in charge of the observatory at Leyden. He counted Jove and the four Galilean satellites as Jove among his intimates, as might be expected of one who had so long wooed Jove's daughter Truth in South Africa. They would remember the words of the Athenian: "Vortex reigns," but Newton taught men not to believe too much in Aristophanes or Descartes. Contemplating the incredible mechanism of nature, Newton repudiated Vortex and its arbitrary rule. He found order in the heavens, and this their guest further elaborated. But lately it had been whispered among shrewder people that Newton had been abandoned for relativity, and on that subject the orator did not know what to say to their guest.

Introducing Dr. B. Baillaud, the Public Orator said that when first the astronomers met in this conference M. Baillaud was their chairman. Since then he had made the Eiffel Tower a center of a network of wireless for the more accurate keeping of time. He was among those at the head of French astronomical research. Amid the flames of war, while from afar Long Bertha hurled every day her globes of fire at Paris, their friend never abandoned his station, but while earth blazed, like Archimedes, he was at leisure for the society of the stars, and, as if in peace, had his mind on the things of heaven—a true philosopher.

In introducing Professor Nagaoka, the Public Orator said light was once more sought from the East, and a Japanese astronomer came well skilled to track the footsteps of the fugitive atom. A shrewd and able investigator, he had quite recently invited the men of science to decide whether in point of fact he really had made gold out of humbler atoms by transmutation.

In introducing Dr. Schlesinger, he said their guest, a true "son of Eli," was eminent among those who had tried to measure the distance between the stars. Whether, with Bacon, they called it "perspicillum," or, with Milton, "a glazed optic tube," he was taking one from New England to South Africa that, after the study of another sky and other stars, he might still further blend light and truth.

COMMITTEES OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS

AT the first meeting of the board of directors of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers for the administrative year beginning August 1, 1925, held in New York on Thursday, August 6, President Pupin announced the committee appointments as follows:

GENERAL COMMITTEES

Board of Examiners.—Erich Hausmann, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Finance.—G. L. Knight, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Sections.—Harold B. Smith, Worcester, Mass.

Meetings and Papers.—E. B. Meyer, Newark.

Publications.—L. F. Morehouse, New York.

Coordination of Institute Activities.—Farley Osgood, Newark.

Student Branches.—C. E. Magnusson, Seattle.

Membership.—J. L. Woodress, St. Louis.

Headquarters.—H. A. Kidder, New York.

Law.—W. I. Slichter, New York.

Public Policy.—Gano Dunn, New York.

Code of Principles of Professional Conduct.—John W. Lieb, New York.

Safety Codes.—Paul Spencer, Philadelphia.

Standards.—H. S. Osborne, New York.

Edison Medal.—Gano Dunn, New York.

Institute Prizes.—L. W. W. Morrow, New York.

Columbia University Scholarships.—W. I. Slichter, New York.

Licensing of Engineers.—Francis Blossom, New York.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Electrical Machinery.—H. M. Hobart, Schenectady, N. Y.

Power Generation.—V. E. Alden, Baltimore.

Power Transmission and Distribution.—Percy H. Thomas, New York.

General Power Applications.—A. M. MacCutcheon, Cleveland.

Applications to Marine Work.—L. C. Brooks, Quincy, Mass.

Applications to Mining Work.—F. L. Stone, Schenectady, N. Y.

Applications to Iron and Steel Production.—F. B. Crosby, Worcester, Mass.

Electrochemistry and Electrometallurgy.—G. W. Vinal, Washington, D. C.

Production and Application of Light.—P. S. Millar, New York.

Communication.—H. P. Charlesworth, New York.

Instruments and Measurements.—A. E. Knowlton, New Haven.

Protective Devices.—E. C. Stone, Pittsburgh.

Electrophysics.—J. H. Morecroft, New York.

Education.—Harold Pender, Philadelphia.

Research.—J. B. Whitehead, Baltimore.

The board of directors confirmed the appointment by President Pupin of new members of the Edison medal committee for terms of five years each as follows: George Gibbs, New York; Samuel Insull, Chicago; R. D. Mershon, New York. The board also elected three of its membership as members of the Edison medal committee for terms of two years each, namely: W. P. Dobson, Toronto; Farley Osgood, Newark, and A. G. Pierce, Cleveland.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

ON the occasion of the graduation ceremonial of the University of Edinburgh, on July 25, the honorary doctorate of laws was conferred on Professor A. S. Eddington, Plumian professor of astronomy and natural philosophy in the University of Cambridge.

FOREIGN members of the Linnean Society of London have been elected as follows: Dr. Nathaniel Lord Britton, director-in-chief of the New York Botanical Garden; Professor Carl Schroeter, of Zürich, and Dr. Alexander Zahlbruckner, director of the department of botany of the Natural History Museum in Vienna.

DR. HENRY F. OSBORN has been appointed chairman of the Mary Clark Thompson Fund of the National Academy of Sciences in succession to Dr. Charles D. Walcott. Professor W. B. Scott has been appointed a member of the committee.

DR. LEOPOLD VACCARO, an instructor in the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania, who is in Rome in the interests of the Philadelphia Sesqui-Centennial Exposition, has received the honorary degree of doctor of medicine from the University of Rome.

DR. SERGE VORONOFF, director of the laboratory of experimental surgery in the Collège de France, has been named Chevalier of the Legion of Honor.

AFTER forty-seven years' uninterrupted work Professor Charles Richet, the physiologist, of Paris, recently delivered his last lecture in the presence of the dean of the faculty of medicine and a large audience of professors and students.

DR. DAVID J. DAVIS, professor of pathology and bacteriology in the Medical School of the University of Illinois, has been appointed to the newly established position of director of research in the Research and Educational Hospital.

EDWIN R. MARTIN, assistant professor of electric power engineering at the University of Minnesota, has resigned in order to take a position in the industrial power division of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company at East Pittsburgh.

D. J. PRICE, engineer in charge of development work in the Bureau of Chemistry, Department of Agriculture, has resigned to take up commercial work in Pittsburgh. In accepting Mr. Price's resignation, Dr. C. A. Browne, chief of the Bureau of Chemistry, wrote: "The investigational work upon dust explosions, which you have initiated and directed since becoming associated with the Bureau of Chemistry in 1914, has resulted in the prevention of enormous economic losses in various agricultural industries."

Nature reports that Sir Ernest and Lady Rutherford left Great Britain for Australia and New Zealand on July 25 on the S. S. *Ascanius,* bound for Adelaide. While their main object is to visit their parents and relatives in New Zealand, Sir Ernest has also promised to deliver lectures on aspects of modern physics in some of the chief cities of Australia and New Zealand. They hope to return to England in January, 1926.

DR. CHARLES B. DAVENPORT attended the seventh meeting of the International Commission of Eugenics which was held in London on July 14 and 15.

DR. JOHN A. MILLER, who will lead the expedition of the Sproul Observatory of Swarthmore College, to observe the total solar eclipse of January, 1927, is now in the Orient to make preliminary arrangements.

PROFESSOR H. E. ROSE, of the dairy department of the State College of Agriculture at Cornell University, has accepted the invitation of the government of Argentina to investigate and report on conditions in the dairy industry of the country. Dr. Rose and his family sailed for South America on August 15.

DR. WILHELM MARINELLI, assistant of the II Zoological Institute of the University of Vienna, Austria, has been working in the division of mammals of the U. S. National Museum, studying the skulls of carnivores. Dr. Marinelli expects to be in the United