

who may already have accomplished some research but needs financial backing in order to continue. She recommends a relaxation of the insistence on formal "credits" prevalent in some places and a stressing of the student's ability to work independently and find out for himself.

The delegates agreed that to inform one scientific worker concerning the researches of others is a major problem of science to-day. This is considered of fundamental importance, and extensive work on a bibliography in economic sciences was proposed as the subject of an international conference to be held at a later date. Cooperation between the various countries in the coordination of physical and biological bibliography is already well under way.

M. J. Destree, formerly minister for sciences and arts in Belgium, called attention to danger to scientific records due to the bad quality of paper and ink used since the war in publication of work. Mlle. Bonnevie reported on an investigation carried on in Norway, showing that the present types of paper will last less than a hundred years.

The proposal by Professor Arthur Korn, the German physicist, to synchronize all important timed operations in the world, presented by Professor Einstein, was favorably received.

The Orient, represented for the first time at a meeting of the international committee by Sir J. C. Bose, the well-known plant physiologist of India, received considerable attention; he will lecture at the University of Geneva on his discoveries in the vital processes of plants.

### THE GOLDEN JUBILEE OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

A LARGE number of foreign chemists will join with the chemists of this country in celebrating at Philadelphia during the week of September 6 the Golden Jubilee of the American Chemical Society, at which four thousand scientific men are expected to be in attendance.

Among those already here is Sir James Colquhoun Irvine, F.R.S., principal of the University of St. Andrews and head of its department of chemistry, known especially for his work on the chemical constituents of the carbohydrates. Sir James is lecturing at the summer session of Columbia University and will also speak on the rôle of chemistry in world affairs at the Institute of Politics at Williamstown. At the Sesquicentennial gathering of the American Chemical Society he will describe the growing interdependence of English and American chemists as shown by the developments of the last half century.

One member of the German delegation, Dr. Leonor Michaelis, professor of biological chemistry in the University of Berlin, is also in New York, as well as Dr. Ernst Cohen, professor of physical chemistry in the University of Utrecht. Both Professor Michaelis and Professor Cohen are lecturing at Columbia University during the summer.

Dr. Michaelis is also professor of biochemistry in the Aichi Medical University, Nagoya, Japan, and is the author of numerous research papers and monographs dealing with the physical chemistry of living matter. Dr. Cohen is president of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, which will meet in Washington during the week following the jubilee. This will be the first meeting of the Union, which consists of a council and an assembly, held in the United States.

Every civilized land will send delegates to the Philadelphia session. Among the French chemists to come are Dr. Camille Natignon, and Dr. Gabriel Bertrand. Dr. Matignon is editor-in-chief of *Chimie et Industrie*, heads a research laboratory in the Collège de France and was recently elected to the French Academy of Sciences. He is known for his work in mineral chemistry. Dr. Bertrand is professor of biological chemistry at the Sorbonne, and is chief of the service of biological chemistry of the Pasteur Institute. Dr. Bertrand's investigations into the venoms of batrachians and reptiles resulted in his discovery of vaccination against the bites of venomous serpents and has served as the scientific basis for subsequent developments made by others.

Denmark will send J. N. Bronsted, professor of physical chemistry at the Royal Polytechnic Institute, Copenhagen.

From Switzerland will come Peter Debye, professor of theoretical physics at the Technische Hochschule, Zurich. Professor Debye is the author of numerous researches in physical chemistry, and is the leading exponent of the theory of the electrical structure of matter as applied to the problems of specific heats, dielectrics and X-ray analysis.

Professor Bronsted and Professor Debye are also lecturers this summer at Columbia University.

Foreign experts who will speak at the raw rubber symposium are Dr. A. van Rossem, of Delft, Holland, and Dr. Henry P. Stevens, of London, consultant for the British Rubber Growers' Association. Canada will be represented by Dr. G. S. Whitby, of McGill University.

Heading the delegation from Italy will be Prince P. Ginori Conti, who will address the society on September 6, on "The Development of Chemical Industry in Italy."

The society has elected to honorary membership fourteen prominent chemists representing the United States, England, Holland, Scotland, Italy, Switzerland, Japan, Czechoslovakia and Belgium. They are: Ira Remsen, president-emeritus and professor-emeritus of chemistry, Johns Hopkins University; Theodore W. Richards, professor of chemistry, Harvard University; Edgar Fahs Smith, provost-emeritus of the University of Pennsylvania; W. Lash Miller, head

of the chemical department, University of Toronto; Charles Moureu, of the Collège de France; Paul Sabatier, of the University of Toulouse; Bohuslav Brauner, of the University of Prague; Guiseppe Bruni, professor of chemistry at the University of Milan; Ernst Cohen, professor of chemistry at the University of Amsterdam; Frederick G. Donnan, professor of general chemistry at University College, London; Sir James Colquhoun Irvine, principal and vice-chancellor of the University of St. Andrews, Scotland; Joji Sakurai, of the Imperial University of Japan; Frederick Swartz, senior professor of chemistry of the University of Ghent, Belgium.

The new honorary members will be present at the Philadelphia meeting of the society. Foreign chemists attending plan to lecture before universities and scientific bodies in various cities of the country.

### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

SIR ROBERT PHILIP, of Edinburgh, was elected president of the British Medical Association at the annual meeting, which opened at Nottingham on July 20. He succeeds Dr. R. G. Hogarth, senior surgeon of the Nottingham General Hospital.

PROFESSOR PAUL SABATIER, of the University of Toulouse and Nobel prizeman in 1912 for chemistry, has been awarded the Albert Medal for 1926 of the Royal Society of Arts, in recognition of his distinguished work in science and of the services to industry rendered by his researches in physics and chemistry, which laid the foundation of important industrial processes.

M. PIERRE WEISS, formerly director of the Zurich Polytechnic Institute and since its reorganization professor at the University of Strasbourg and director of the institute of physics, has been elected a non-resident member of the Paris Academy of Sciences in the place of the late M. G. Gouy.

DR. RICHARD SCHUMANN, professor of geognosy and spherical astronomy in the University of Vienna, has been elected a foreign member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

DR. RICHARD WILLSTÄTTER, professor of chemistry at Munich, has been elected a member of the Dutch Academy of Sciences at Harlem.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR MATTHEW H. G. FELL has been appointed director-general of the British Army Medical Services, in succession to the late Lieutenant-General Sir William B. Leishman.

DR. WOLFGANG KOHLER, professor of philosophy in the University of Berlin, who recently returned to Germany after having spent a year in the United States lecturing at various universities, has been

invited by Harvard University to lecture there during the year 1926-27.

H. D. MEISER, who has been filling a temporary appointment as state geologist of Tennessee, has been appointed geologist in charge of areal geology of the U. S. Geological Survey, to succeed Sidney Paige, who recently resigned.

DR. H. G. MILLER, biochemist in charge of animal nutrition work at the Oregon Experiment Station, Corvallis, has resigned to accept a position as biochemist for Procter and Gamble at Ivorydale, Ohio.

THE council of the Yu Wang Fu Association (an organization comprising those who have worked at the Peking Union Medical College of the Rockefeller Foundation) has elected the following officers: *President*, A. E. Cohn; *Secretary-Treasurer*, F. C. McLean; *Members of the Council*, F. W. Peabody, H. R. Slack and E. V. Cowdry.

DR. FRANCIS G. BENEDICT, director of the nutrition laboratory of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, recently left Boston to attend the twelfth International Congress of Physiology to be held at Stockholm in August. He will then make an extended tour of scientific institutions in the different European countries, and will return to Boston about January 1.

DR. N. L. BOWEN, of the geophysical laboratory of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, is spending the summer in field work on the igneous rocks of the British Isles, in company with several British petrologists.

DR. O. F. COOK, J. W. Hubbard and F. C. Baker have returned to Washington after three months in the West Indies and Central and South America. They report the discovery of new types of cotton that may be valuable to the cotton industry of the United States; and that tapping experiments on 20-year-old Hevea rubber trees on the north coast of Haiti in the last two years have given results comparable to those on the East Indian plantations, which indicates that it is not impossible to produce Para rubber in suitable locations in the West Indies, Central America and Mexico.

AUSTIN H. CLARK returned to Washington on July 28 from Denver, Colorado, where he attended a meeting of the advisory committee on source bed studies which will direct a project for research work to be undertaken jointly by the American Petroleum Institute and the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, in cooperation with the National Research Council. Mr. Clark is a member both of the full committee and of the supervising committee which will have immediate charge of the work.