

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. JOHN GEORGE ADAMI, from 1892 to 1919 professor of pathology in McGill University and since then chancellor of the University of Liverpool, died on August 29, aged sixty-four years.

DR. ARTHUR J. COMPTON, professor of physics in the University of Chicago, has been elected a member of the R. Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei at Rome.

THE degree of doctor of science will be conferred by the University of Pennsylvania on M. Paul Sabatier, who is head of the delegation of French chemists who arrived in New York on August 27 to attend the fiftieth anniversary meeting of the American Chemical Society.

THE White medal of honor of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society has been awarded by the committee, of which Professor Charles S. Sargent, of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, is president, to Pierre S. du Pont, who maintains open to the public a glassed-in winter garden of six acres.

THE Edison medal for 1925 will be presented to Dr. Harris J. Ryan, past-president of the Institute of Electrical Engineers and professor of electrical engineering at Stanford University, at the annual dinner of the Pacific Coast convention, which opens at Salt Lake City on September 1.

THE Cameron prize in practical therapeutics of the University of Edinburgh has been awarded to Dr. H. H. Dale, head of the department of biochemistry and pharmacology under the National Research Council.

HORACE T. HERRICK, acting chemist, has been appointed chemist in charge of the color laboratory, Bureau of Chemistry of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

W. J. CLENCH, of the Kent Scientific Museum, Grand Rapids, Mich., has accepted the position of curator of mollusks at the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University.

DR. LAURENCE H. SNYDER, associate professor of genetics at North Carolina State College, has resigned to accept appointment as biologist at the Maine Experiment Station.

FREDERICK S. BACON, formerly president of the Puritan Dye and Chemical Company, has joined the organization of Arthur D. Little, Inc., chemists, engineers and managers, of Cambridge, Mass.

DR. GEORGE DENTON BEAL, associate professor of chemistry in the University of Illinois, has been appointed to an assistant directorship in the Mellon Institute of Industrial Research at the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Beal will be in supervisory charge of

industrial fellows, who are conducting researches in the field of pharmaceutical chemistry.

DR. TH. MORTENSEN, of the University of Copenhagen, known for his work on Echinoderms, is spending the summer in America. During July he was at the Bermuda Biological Station; August was spent in Cambridge at the Museum of Comparative Zoology, and September will be devoted to the National Museum at Washington. On returning to Europe, Dr. Mortensen will visit museums in Paris, Amsterdam, Munich, Berlin and Hamburg.

C. F. SHAW, professor of soil technology in the University of California, has returned from Mexico City, where he had been advising the Comision Nacional de Irrigacion regarding the organization of an agronomic and economic department. The Mexican government is planning an extensive development of irrigation in various parts of the republic, and the new department is being organized to study the quality of soil and economic feasibility of the proposed irrigation projects. While in Mexico Professor Shaw examined and reported on the Santiago project in the State of Aguascalientes and also reviewed the Guatimape project in Durango and the Popigochic project in Chihuahua.

DR. E. W. NELSON, chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey, has returned to Washington from Winona, Minn., where he held conferences with the governor and the state game warden of Iowa and others in connection with the administration of the Upper Mississippi River wild life and fish refuge. He also made an inspection trip of the refuge from Davenport, Iowa, to Wabasha, Minn., a distance of about 300 miles, in a Bureau of Fisheries' boat, in company with H. L. Canfield, representing the Bureau of Fisheries, which is cooperating with the Biological Survey in the administration of this refuge.

DR. WALDO L. SCHMITT, curator of marine invertebrates of the U. S. National Museum, sailed for South America on August 7. He plans to make a study of the fauna, with special reference to crustacea.

THE Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station at New Haven has recently been presented with two portraits, one of its founder, Professor Samuel W. Johnson, the gift of Mrs. Thomas B. Osborne. The other is a portrait of Dr. E. H. Jenkins, director emeritus, painted by Ellen Emmett Rand.

THE Kitasato Institute, Tokyo, held an annual commemoration service on May 27 for Dr. Robert Koch, under whom Dr. Kitasato pursued his studies when in Germany.

THE Academy of Science, Letters and Arts of

Besançon has taken the initiative in the erection of a statue to the Compté de Chardonnet, who at Besançon first founded a factory for the manufacture of artificial silk in 1890. There are said now to be throughout the world 300,000 workmen engaged in this industry.

WE learn from *Nature* that the centenary year of Lord Lister's birth will be celebrated in Edinburgh in July, 1927, during the meeting of the British Medical Association. The committee responsible for the celebration is anxious to interest students and young graduates in the significance of Lister's work, and is offering a prize of a gold medal and £25 for the best essay upon "The Influence of Lister on the Evolution of Surgery." The prize is open to registered students and graduates of not more than one year's standing of any medical school of the British Empire.

At the Oxford meeting of the British Association, representatives from South Africa repeated their invitation to the association to meet there in 1929 and gave assurance of government and scientific support. It was agreed to instruct the council to make the necessary inquiries as to the date, period of absence from England, expense to visiting members and financial support. Cordial thanks were given to South Africa, and the committee was almost unanimous in favor of acceptance.

At the final business meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, it was reported by the treasurer that the financial success of the Oxford meeting, which nearly equalled that of the Manchester meeting of 1887, had made it possible to provide for a deficit caused by the grants in aid of research at the Southampton meeting, and to give an increased sum this year. Grants amounting to £984 were made.

A CONFERENCE at which it is expected that a number of European leaders in scientific and industrial research will be present will be held in Pittsburgh from November 15 to 19. The purpose of the conference is to discuss the possibility of the greater and more economical use of bituminous coal.

THE fifth annual meeting of the National Conference on Pharmaceutical Research will be held at Hotel Bellevue-Stratford, Philadelphia, Pa., on Saturday, September 11. The tentative program includes: Reports of officers; reports of the 10 standing committees; report of special committee on committees; report of special committee on book of research achievements; reports from delegates from the affiliated organizations; general discussion on (a) census of research, (b) graduate students in pharmacy and their research work, (c) research topics, (d) re-

search grants and prizes, (e) research fellowships and scholarships; new business; election.

THE German society for the study of diseases of digestion and metabolism will hold a congress in Berlin under the presidency of Professor von Bergmann, of Frankfort, from October 13 to 16.

THE third International Congress of Individual Psychology will be held at Düsseldorf from September 26 to 29.

THE Rockefeller Institute has presented the Norwegian government with a million gold crowns for a state serum and vaccine institute.

THE president of Panama has invited a party of professors from the Johns Hopkins, Harvard, Minnesota universities and the U. S. Department of Agriculture to come to Panama, to establish a central research laboratory at Penonomé to study conditions of the soil favoring the development of hookworm and its epidemiology and treatment. The International Health Board of the Rockefeller Foundation is financing the study.

IN accordance with the wish of the late Charles Lawrence Hutchinson, of Chicago, Mrs. Frances Kinsley Hutchinson has given to the University of Wisconsin the estate of Wychwood, on Lake Geneva, as a sanctuary for plants, birds and small animal life. The estate occupies seventy-two acres and is endowed under a trust fund. The trust agreement provides for a self-perpetuating board of three trustees, one an authority on plant life, one eminent in bird knowledge and the third a business man. The first board will consist of Dr. Henry Cowles, of the department of botany at the University of Illinois; Dr. Robert Ridgway, ornithologist, and Noble Brandon Judah, nephew of Mrs. Hutchinson. The trust agreement provides that the plants and blooms shall be protected from "the menace of the flower-picking public." Visitors will be admitted by permits only.

THE valuable collection of Vancouver Island Indian curios from the Patricia Bay Reservation has been sold to the American Museum of Natural History by Mrs. John Newbigging, of New York, owner of the property. The collection included handsomely carved stone idols, axe handles, large numbers of harpoons, bone needles and arrow heads.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association states that the trustees of the University of Pennsylvania and the Diagnostic Hospital of Philadelphia have filed a petition in common pleas court for permission to merge the hospital with the graduate school of medicine of the university. The agreement sets forth, it is reported, that Dr. Henry B. Ingle, of the

Diagnostic Hospital staff, shall be the first director of the diagnostic clinic of the graduate school of medicine, and that the university shall establish the clinic within a year from the date of occupancy of the hospital building soon to be erected at Nineteenth and Lombard Streets. The agreement provides, also, that the dean of the graduate school of medicine, George H. Meeker, Ph.D., and Dr. Ingle, the director of the clinic, shall endeavor to arrange so that other members of the staff of the Diagnostic Hospital may assist in the work of the graduate school. It is further agreed that all assets of the hospital shall be transferred in fee simple to the university to be held as a separate trust fund to be known as "The Endowment Fund of the Diagnostic Hospital," to be invested and the income to be used for the general purposes of hospitals.

WE learn from *Nature* that Herr Rasmussen, the Danish Minister of Defence, who is shortly paying an official visit to Denmark's colony, the Faroe Islands and her sister state, the republican kingdom of Iceland, intends thereafter to proceed to the lonely, uninhabited island of Jan Mayen, lying between Greenland, Iceland and Norway. The announced object of the minister's visit is to arrange for the erection there of a Danish seismographic station. The Danish government owns the buildings on the island, which were given to them, it is said, by the Austrians, who once occupied Jan Mayen. It was made the station of the Austrian polar expedition of 1882-83, but has apparently remained unclaimed ever since, though Great Britain and Norway together established a "close season" for the seal fisheries. The whale and seal fisheries off the east and north coasts are very important during the summer. Jan Mayen Land, which was discovered in 1611, by the Dutch navigator of that name, is of volcanic origin, is some 35 miles long, and practically covered with immense glaciers and, in winter, frozen waterfalls. Its highest point, an extinct volcano, is 8,350 feet high.

A GOLD ore deposit thought to be of large proportions has been discovered at Boliden, in the province of Vesterbotten not far from the Arctic Circle, according to Dr. Axel Gavelin, head of the Swedish Geological Survey. Electrical prospecting methods developed by Hans Lundberg and Karl Sundberg, mining engineers, are responsible for the find. It comprises thirty-four ore bodies, all covered by glacial drift, swamps or lakes. Besides gold, the ore contains silver, copper, sulphur, arsenic and iron. The arsenic deposit is thought to be the richest in the world. Assay indicates that each mined meter will yield 850 pounds of gold, 2.5 tons of silver, about 1,300 tons of copper, and more than 2,000 tons of arsenic. Prepa-

rations for the construction of a railroad to Skelleftea on the Baltic coast have begun.

THE Summary of Progress of the Geological Survey of Great Britain and the Museum of Practical Geology for 1925 has been published. The publication shows the results of the survey's work in England, Wales and Scotland. In nearly all the important coal fields surveyors are revising the old geological maps, and the summary contains much new information relating to the general geology and the special details of the worked seams in these coal areas. The report of the Geological Survey Board states that substantial progress has also been made in dealing with the accumulated arrears of publication of water-supply memoirs. The memoir on Wiltshire was published at the end of 1925, and that on Dorsetshire was in the press. Memoirs on the water supply of Worcestershire, Warwickshire and Somerset had been prepared and awaited publication. With a view to keeping the published information up to date, steps are being taken to prepare for publication the latest records of the London District and of Sussex, of which there are many in manuscript in the Survey Office.

THE Geneva correspondent of the *London Times* reports that observations of Professor P. L. Mercanton, of Lausanne, of the retreating movement of the Swiss Alpine glaciers which began in 1922 show that these were continued throughout 1925. He writes: One example may help to show the size of this movement. The mass of new snow reached a depth of 7 feet on the Orny glacier at the beginning of the summer season; the quantity of snow that melted during the summer months reached a depth of 18 feet, so that the surface of the glacier sank by 11 feet. Out of 100 Swiss glaciers observed in 1925, 19 were advancing (23 in 1924), 11 were at a standstill (11 in 1924), and 69 were retreating (66 in 1924). The Saleinaz glacier advanced by 63 feet and the lower Grindelwald glacier by 29 feet; on the other hand, the Aletsch glacier retreated by 30 feet, the Allalin glacier by 30 feet, the Eiger glacier by 61 feet and the upper Grindelwald glacier by 50 feet. The consequence of this retreating movement is that the glaciers are now in a broken condition, cut by deep crevasses which make them difficult and sometimes dangerous to cross. There is every reason to believe that this is the beginning of a period of general retreat; if this be the case, it will be evidence in favor of the theory that the periodicity of the glacier movements is 35 years. During nearly 35 years ending 1922 there was a general advance of Alpine glaciers. It remains to be seen whether in another 33 years we shall be entering on another period of advance.