

9:30 A. M., under the chairmanship of H. H. Kimball, with G. W. Littlehales as *vice-chairman*. A feature of the program is a symposium and discussion on the needs and possibilities of measurements of ultra-violet light in solar spectrum and of the ozone content of the high atmosphere. The sessions of the section of terrestrial magnetism and electricity will be held on April 29, beginning at 9:30 A. M., with the following presiding officers: N. H. Heck, *chairman*, and J. H. Dellinger, *vice-chairman*. The scientific program consists of a symposium and discussion with nine titles on the correlations of various radio phenomena with solar and terrestrial magnetic and electrical activities. The section of oceanography, of which the presiding officers are T. Wayland Vaughan, *chairman*, and G. T. Rude, *vice-chairman*, meets on April 28 at 2:30 P. M. The scientific program consists of nine papers on various phases of oceanography. A subscription dinner for all interested in oceanography is planned for 7 P. M. at the Cosmos Club, after which the last three papers of the program will be presented, followed by general discussion of oceanographic plans and procedures. The section of volcanology will meet simultaneously with the section of oceanography, with T. A. Jaggar, Jr., *chairman*, and F. E. Wright, *vice-chairman*, presiding officers. There are seven scientific papers listed on the program of this section.

An exhibit of geophysical instruments, researches and applications will be displayed during 9 A. M. to 5 P. M., Friday, April 22, through Friday, April 29, 1927 (except Sunday, April 24), in the southwest and northeast exhibit rooms of the National Academy of Sciences and National Research Council building. The exhibits will be arranged for by the executive committees of the different sections and furnished by the Astrophysical Observatory of the Smithsonian Institution, the Bureau of Standards, the Carnegie Institution of Washington, the Coast and Geodetic Survey, the Naval Observatory, the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, the Weather Bureau and others.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. ERWIN F. SMITH, pathologist in charge of the laboratory of plant pathology in the U. S. Bureau of Plant Industry, died on April 6, aged seventy-three years.

THE three vice-presidents of the American Philological Society will, owing to the death of the president, Dr. Charles D. Walcott, preside in turn at the meeting celebrating the two-hundredth anniversary of the society to be held in Philadelphia at the end of April. The vice-presidents are Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn, president of the American Museum of Natural History; Dr. W. W. Campbell, president of the

University of California, and Dr. F. X. Dercum, professor of nervous and mental diseases at Jefferson Medical College. Dr. Osborn will give the address at the reception to be held in the building of the Historic Society of Pennsylvania. Dr. Albrecht Penck, professor of geography in the University of Berlin, will be a speaker at one of the general sessions.

PROFESSOR W. W. LEPESCHKIN, of the Charles University, Prague, Czecho-Slovakia, has been appointed visiting plant physiologist to the Missouri Botanical Garden and visiting professor of plant physiology at Washington University for the first part of the college year 1927-28. Professor Lepeschkin will give a course on the physiological processes of the plant from the physico-chemical point of view and will also give three conferences a week to graduate students. Further additions to the permanent staff of the Shaw School of Botany are to be made, but the coming of Dr. Lepeschkin inaugurates a system of annual visiting professorships in botany which will be continued indefinitely.

DR. HERMANN WEYL, professor of mathematics at the Institute of Technology in Zurich, will spend the academic year 1927-28 at Columbia University.

THE Royal Academy of Sciences of Holland has awarded the Lorentz medal for the most distinguished work in the field of physics to Dr. Max Planck, professor of physics at the University of Berlin.

DR. ALBRECHT PENCK and Dr. Hellman, professors at the University of Berlin, have been elected honorary members of the Geographical Society of Madrid.

THE council of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy has, according to *Nature*, made the following awards: The gold medal of the institution to Professor William Frecheville, in recognition of his services to the mining industry and to mining engineering education during a long and distinguished professional career; The Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa, Ltd., gold medal and premium to Dr. Sydney W. Smith, for his paper, embodying much original research, on "Liquation in Molten Alloys and its possible Geological Significance."

DR. HUGH H. YOUNG, of the Johns Hopkins University, has been elected an honorary member of the German Society of Urology. Other honorary members elected are: Professors Alessandri, of Rome; Fedoroff, of Leningrad; Ferra, of Turin; Brenner, of Linz; Völcher, of Halle, and Wildbolz, of Berne.

DR. JOHN A. MANDEL, professor of chemistry in New York University, University and Bellevue Medical College, has been elected member of the Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher, of Halle.

DR. CLARENCE W. HUDSON, professor of civil engineering and head of the department of the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, has resigned. Professor Hudson will travel during the coming year, after which he will devote himself to his consulting practice.

DR. WILLIAM H. WELCH, of the Johns Hopkins University, has been elected honorary president of the American Social Hygiene Association, to succeed the late Charles W. Eliot.

DR. JOHN AMBROSE FLEMING, professor of electrical engineering, University College, London, has been elected president of the Victoria Institute (Philosophical Society of Great Britain).

THE *British Medical Journal* states that Dr. Max Rubner, professor of physiology in the University of Berlin, recently resigned in accordance with the age limit of sixty-eight years fixed by the new federal constitution of Germany.

DR. EMIL ABDERHALDEN, professor of physiology at the University of Halle, celebrated his fiftieth birthday on March 12.

DR. REINHARD DOHRN, director of the Zoological Station at Naples, reports that forty scientific men are now working at the station, including the following from the United States: Dr. R. S. Detwiler, of Cambridge; Dr. J. Graham Edwards, of Baltimore; Miss E. Spencer, of Newark, and Professor Charles Zeleny, of Urbana. The list also includes the names of twenty biologists who are expected to be in residence during the coming year, including Professor Ross G. Harrison, of Yale University, from October 27 to April 28, and Dr. H. Plough, of Amherst College, from November 27 to March 28.

Two foreign geologists, Professor Leon W. Collet, of the University of Geneva, and Dr. E. B. Bailey, of the Scottish Geological Survey, will take part in the geological excursion on wheels, under the auspices of Princeton University.

DR. AUGUSTUS TROWBRIDGE, director for Europe of physical and biological sciences for the International Education Board, will substitute for Dr. Vernon Kellogg, who is unable to attend, at the forthcoming meeting of the board of directors of the Institute of Intellectual Cooperation of the League of Nations.

DR. J. J. WILLAMAN, of the division of agricultural biochemistry of the University of Minnesota, who has this year received appointment to the International Education Board fellowship, will leave in September for London to make a year's study on the action of fungus enzymes on the protopectin of host plants.

NILS A. OLSEN, assistant chief of the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, will represent this depart-

ment at the Pan-American Conference on Education, Rehabilitation, Reclamation and Recreation to be held in Honolulu, Hawaii, from April 11 to 16.

PROFESSOR E. B. WILSON, professor of vital statistics at the Harvard University School of Public Health, addressed the scientific staff of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research on April 8 on "What is Statistics?"

DR. WILLIAM J. MAYO, Rochester, delivered the D. C. Balfour lecture in surgery at the University of Toronto on April 5 on "The Relation of the Basic Medical Sciences to Surgery."

PROFESSOR EDWIN O. JORDAN, head of the department of hygiene and bacteriology, University of Chicago, has accepted an invitation to deliver the Gordon Bell Memorial lecture before the Winnipeg Medical Society, Winnipeg, Manitoba, on April 22. His subject will be "Food Poisoning."

DR. RALPH H. BROWN, instructor of geography in the University of Colorado, delivered the initiation address of the Colorado University chapter of Sigma Xi on March 31. The paper was entitled: "Geography and Human Affairs."

DR. A. VIBERT DOUGLAS, lecturer in astrophysics at McGill University, has given an address before the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, Ottawa branch, on "Sir Isaac Newton and his Influence on Modern Astronomy."

PROFESSOR JOHANNES WALTHER, of the University of Halle, at present Speyer visiting professor at the Johns Hopkins University, gave a lecture before a joint meeting of the American Museum of Natural History and the New York Academy of Sciences at the museum on April 8. Dr. Walther spoke on "The Gold-Bearing Deserts of Western Australia."

PROFESSOR HENRI FREDERICQ, University of Liège, Belgium, gave a Herter lecture at the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health, on March 28, on "Humoral Transmission of Nervous Action."

SIR OLIVER LODGE gave an address on "A Century's Progress in Physics" in connection with the centenary celebrations at University College, London, on March 14.

THE two-hundredth anniversary of the death of Sir Isaac Newton was observed at Cornell University by a public meeting held by Sigma Xi, at which Dr. William F. G. Swann, professor of physics and director of the Sloane Laboratory at Yale University, was the speaker.

A PORTRAIT of the late Sutherland Simpson, who was professor of physiology in Cornell University,

painted by Professor Christian Midjo, was presented to the university by Dr. Simpson's graduate students on April 13. The exercises included an appreciation of Dr. Simpson by his colleague, Dr. James B. Sumner, and a talk on Dr. Simpson as a teacher and investigator by his colleague in the University of Edinburgh, Dr. John Tait, now professor of physiology in McGill University.

DR. WALKER BELKNAP JAMES, formerly professor of clinical medicine in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, died on April 6, aged sixty-nine years.

DR. ROBERT F. WIER, emeritus professor of surgery in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, died on April 6, in his ninetieth year.

THE REVEREND WILLIAM F. RIGGE, for many years astronomer of Creighton University, Omaha, died on March 31 in the seventy-first year of his age.

DR. CHARLES R. DRYER, professor of geography and geology at the Indiana State Normal School, author of several books on geography, died on March 21, aged seventy-six years.

WM. LOCHHEAD, professor emeritus of entomology and zoology in Macdonald College, McGill University, died on March 26 in his sixty-third year.

DR. KARL GRAEBE, formerly professor of chemistry at the University of Frankfurt, recently died at the age of eighty-six years.

THE annual meeting of the American section of the International Union of Scientific Radiotelegraphy is to be held on April 21. The meeting will be at 10:30 A. M. in the building of the National Research Council, Washington, D. C. A number of papers on scientific radio subjects will be presented. The principal feature of the meeting will be the presentation of reports of the following technical committees: Methods of measurement and standards, J. H. Dellinger; radio-wave transmission phenomena, L. W. Austin; variations of radio-wave direction, G. Breit; wave phenomena above 3,000 kilocycles, A. H. Taylor; atmospheric disturbances, H. T. Friis.

THE annual meeting of the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine will be held at the College of the City of New York on April 20 at 5 o'clock. After the scientific meeting a dinner will be given in the faculty dining-room at which the reports of elections, reports of the secretary and treasurer and other business of the society will be transacted.

THE aeronautic division of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers has announced that the Daniel Guggenheim safe aircraft competition will be dis-

cussed at their aeronautic meeting at the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, on April 25 and 26. Harry F. Guggenheim, president of the Daniel Guggenheim Fund for the Promotion of Aeronautics, Inc., will deliver a paper at the Monday morning session which will open the discussion.

THE principal speaker at the annual Industrial Conference to be held by the school of engineering at the Pennsylvania State College, May 13 and 14, will be Charles M. Schwab, who for many years has been a trustee of the college. A similar conference is called each spring by Dean R. L. Sackett for the purpose of discussing problems of mutual benefit to the industries of the state and nation and to the engineering faculty. This year the main subject will be the selection, placement and development of technically trained college graduates.

A CONFERENCE to consider resources, generation, transmission and utilization of power in Iowa was held on March 30 and 31 at the University of Iowa with the cooperation of the college of applied science and the extension division.

THE fourth annual meeting of the Alabama Academy of Science was held in Birmingham on April 8 and 9, under the presidency of Stewart J. Lloyd, of the University of Alabama.

THE next meeting of the International Astronomical Union will be held at Leiden, Holland, commencing July 5, 1928.

A MEETING of the French Association for the Advancement of Science is to be held in Algiers from April 13 to 16.

THE French Association of Anatomists has arranged to hold its meeting in London on April 11 to 13 in association with the Anatomical Society of Great Britain and Ireland. The meeting was to be held at University College and about 150 members of the two societies were expected. As the French society includes anatomists from Belgium, Italy, Holland, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Poland and Czecho-Slovakia, the congress promised to be of an international character, the first of its kind held in Great Britain.

THE 1927 annual summer field meeting and tour will be held in northern Ohio about the middle of August and will be a study of vegetable and small fruit diseases. The tentative plan is to assemble at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, at Wooster, and to spend half a day there studying the experimental work on vegetable and small fruit diseases. The tour arranged will include the extensive muck section around Lodi and Celeryville. These mucks have been intensively cropped for more than twenty years and diseases are numerous and

severe, especially on celery, onions and cabbage. It is planned to proceed from these sections, northward into the general vegetable section where diseases of tomatoes, potatoes, pickles, sweet corn, peas and possibly sugar beets will be studied. The section includes an extensive canning industry. The tour will then continue along the lake and Catawba Island through to east of Cleveland. In this lake section there will be an excellent opportunity to study a wide range of vegetable and small fruit diseases. Numerous experiments will be undertaken in various sections. It will also be possible to visit Ohio's larger general nurseries and one of the largest apple orchards east of the Rockies. The tour will begin at Wooster and end at Painesville, will cover a distance of about 275 miles and will require about three days' time. The meeting is in charge of the Ohio pathologists, with Dr. H. C. Young, of the experiment station at Wooster, acting as chairman. Later announcements will give the details of the trip.

At a recent meeting of the graduate school committee of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the matter of scheduling a series of lectures by prominent members of the department's staff was discussed. The purpose of these lectures would be to better acquaint the department personnel with important phases of the work being done by the several bureaus. A subcommittee, composed of Dr. C. W. Warburton, director of extension work, and Dr. W. J. Humphreys, senior meteorologist of the Weather Bureau, arranged for the presentation of two lectures, with the idea that if sufficient interest were evidenced a series of lectures would be scheduled for next winter. The first of these two lectures was an illustrated one by Dr. L. O. Howard, chief of the Bureau of Entomology, in the auditorium of the New National Museum in Washington on the evening of March 29. Dr. Howard's subject was "Fifty Years of Economic Entomology."

DR. CHARLES SPRAGUE SARGENT, late director of the Arnold Arboretum, has bequeathed \$10,000 to Harvard College, to be invested and the income to be added to the principal for a 100 years. At the expiration of that period half of the accumulated fund is to be used for the care and maintenance of the arboretum. The income of the other half is to be added to the principal for a further 100 years, after which the income of the total will be available for the use of the arboretum. Dr. Sargent also bequeathed \$20,000 to the college, the income to be used to purchase books relative to botany and forestry for the arboretum library.

ACCORDING to the *Revue Scientifique* the International Education Board has placed a fund at the dis-

posal of Professor Carl Störmer to aid in the erection of a polar observatory near Tromsø, Norway. This observatory is to be especially designed to study the aurora borealis and similar phenomena. It is to be open to observers from all nations.

THE Rockefeller Foundation has given the department of psychiatry of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute, at Munich, \$75,000 for their new buildings. This is in addition to \$250,000 which has been previously given the institute by the foundation.

POPE PIUS has personally donated funds to the Pontifical Academy of Catholic Religion for the creation of an annual prize of 5,000 lire (about \$250) to be awarded for research or an original scientific work. The subject for the competition will be chosen by a different academy each year. That for 1928 will be selected by the Academy of St. Thomas Aquinas.

It is announced that the Cincinnati Astronomical Society will erect an observatory on a hill overlooking Big Miami River, six miles west of Cheviot.

ACCORDING to *Museum News*, the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History expects to open its new wing, which is being erected in memory of Clinton B. Hale, by May 1 of this year. The wing will include a main room, ending in an apse, in which will be placed a memorial tablet; a herbarium of native plants, a botanical library and work rooms. Work on the new wing was begun on February 8, not long after Mrs. Clinton B. Hale had given the \$10,000 to the museum.

THE division of plants of the U. S. National Museum has received a valuable collection of plants, chiefly trees, from Professor Samuel J. Record, of the Yale School of Forestry. The larger part of the collection was made by Professor Record during a recent investigation of the Atlantic forests of Guatemala and Honduras. The forest flora of Honduras is practically unknown, and this collection has shown the presence of several new species, a genus new to the North American flora and many extensions of range. Professor Record forwarded also a collection of trees made by employees of the United Fruit Company about Almirante, Panama, and this likewise has proved rich in rare or undescribed species.

EDMUND C. HILL, of Trenton, N. J., has presented to the New Jersey State Museum his private mineral and geological collection, according to an announcement by the department of conservation and development. The collection contains many specimens of minerals, rocks and fossils from all parts of the world.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made with the Ross Tropical Institute and Hospital, of London, England, whereby an exchange of students will be made between the institute and the department of tropical medicine

at Tulane University, New Orleans. Students from Tulane who wish to carry on research in certain fields of tropical medicine will be sent to the Ross Institute and research workers from there will come to Tulane. The arrangement was made by Professor Aldo Castellani, who is honorary director of the Ross Institute and head of the department of tropical medicine at Tulane.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

GEORGE PARMLY DAY, treasurer of Yale University, has announced that although the date set for the opening of the \$20,000,000 endowment fund drive was still three weeks away, gifts and pledges to the university have already reached a total of \$9,500,000.

GIFTS and bequests amounting to \$206,841.38 have been received by New York University in the last eight months.

By the will of Judge Madison W. Beacom, his entire estate was left to Oberlin College. It is estimated that the estate is approximately \$75,000.

THE University of St. Andrew's, Scotland, has received from an anonymous donor the sum of £100,000.

PROFESSOR RALPH H. CURTISS has been made director of the observatory and chairman of the department of astronomy in the University of Michigan, in succession to the late Professor William J. Hussey. Professor Curtiss has been assistant director of the observatory of the University of Michigan since 1911 and in charge of astrophysical research since 1907.

DR. LEONARD CARMICHAEL, assistant professor of psychology at Princeton University, has been appointed associate professor of psychology and director of the psychological laboratory at Brown University.

DR. FRANK A. WILDER has been elected to the professorship of geology at Grinnell College. Dr. Wilder was at one time state geologist of Iowa, but for the last twenty years has been president of the Southern Gypsum Company, at North Holston, Va.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR ALAN D. CAMPBELL, of the University of Arkansas, has been appointed associate professor of mathematics in Syracuse University.

At the University of London, Dr. Hamilton Hartridge has been appointed to the university chair of physiology and Mr. W. E. Le Gros Clark to the university chair of anatomy, both tenable at St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College.

DR. H. H. WOOLLARD, assistant professor of anatomy and subdean of the faculty of medical sciences at University College, London, has been appointed to the chair of anatomy vacated by Professor Wood Jones at the University of Adelaide.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE ABOLITION OF THE BUREAU OF CHEMISTRY

IN regard to the notice of a special examination to be held to select a chief of the new Bureau of Chemistry and Soils (*SCIENCE*, March 4, p. 224), I think the readers of *SCIENCE* will be interested in knowing why Dr. C. A. Browne, eminent carbohydrate chemist, at present chief of the Bureau of Chemistry, has been legislated out of office.

I am an admirer of Dr. Browne's ability and his splendid career in his profession. I did all I could to persuade him to accept the position of chief of the Bureau of Chemistry at a very considerable financial loss. I will tell the story of this amazing legislation in as few words as possible. The Bureau of Chemistry is the legitimate successor of the first scientific profession named in the organic act establishing the Department of Agriculture in 1862. It is, therefore, the oldest scientific bureau of the department. The Bureau of Chemistry was extremely active in the agitation beginning in 1883 looking to the enactment of the Food and Drugs Law. It was charged specifically by Congress with the duty of enforcing that law. I can not enter into the discussion of the motives which provides for the abolition of the Bureau of Chemistry at midnight on June 30, 1927. I can only tell how this legislation was secured.

Evidently all the principal officials of the Department of Agriculture were in sympathy with this movement. There was a right and a wrong way of doing it. In my humble opinion a bureau which had rendered the eminent services to this country such as the Bureau of Chemistry has done should have had at least some consideration before being led to the guillotine. Nevertheless the program of this execution was prepared with more or less secrecy. There was no noise made about it. The scheme was hatched in the Budget Bureau with the full approval of the high officials of the department. It was submitted to the House of Representatives, with the budget estimate for the Department of Agriculture. There is a rule which reads that no new legislation can legally be placed in an appropriation bill if a single member of the House of Representatives objects to it on a point of order. The high officials of the Department of Agriculture are all aware of this rule. This proposed legislation repealed one of the fundamental parts of the Food Law by abolishing the bureau which Congress had charged with its enforcement. Approximately two thirds of the appropriations for the Bureau of Chemistry were used in the enforcement of this act. This part of the bureau was bodily moved over to a new unit which is