

ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

CHANGES among the central officers and the divisional chairmen of the National Research Council have recently been made, by elections, as follows: Chairman of the council, George K. Burgess, director, U. S. Bureau of Standards; third vice-chairman, Simon Flexner, director, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research; treasurer, Joseph S. Ames, dean of the college faculty, professor of physics and director of the physical laboratory, the Johns Hopkins University; chairman of the division of chemistry and chemical technology, George A. Hulett, professor of physical chemistry, Princeton University; chairman of the division of geology and geography, Arthur Keith, geologist, U. S. Geological Survey; chairman of the division of medical sciences, William Charles White, chairman, medical research committee, National Tuberculosis Association, and pathologist in charge of tuberculosis research, U. S. Hygienic Laboratory; chairman of the division of biology and agriculture, Lorande L. Woodruff, professor of protozoology, Yale University.

Present chairmen of other divisions continue as follows: Division of federal relations, George Otis Smith, director, U. S. Geological Survey; division of foreign relations, R. A. Millikan, director, Norman Bridge Laboratory of Physics, California Institute of Technology; division of states relations, R. A. Pearson, president, University of Maryland; division of educational relations, Vernon Kellogg, permanent secretary, National Research Council; division of physical sciences, Dayton C. Miller, professor of physics, Case School of Applied Science; division of engineering and industrial research, Elmer A. Sperry, chairman, board of directors, Sperry Gyroscope Company, Brooklyn, New York; division of anthropology and psychology, Knight Dunlap, professor of experimental psychology, the Johns Hopkins University.

VERNON KELLOGG,
Permanent Secretary

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

FIVE distinguished American engineers have been elected honorary members of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. They are Thomas A. Edison, John J. Carty, Michael I. Pupin, Ambrose Swasey and Elihu Thomson. This is the first time that any American honorary members have been elected.

For his distinguished service to humanity in the field of mathematical physics, Professor Michael I. Pupin, professor of electromechanics in Columbia University, has been elected the sixth honorary knight for life of the Loyal Knights of the Round Table, an

international luncheon-friendship club, with tables in more than 65 cities in Canada and the United States. The other five "knights for life" have been Luther Burbank, Thomas A. Edison, Charles E. Hughes, Robert Andrew Millikan and Dr. Wilfred T. Grenfell.

DR. EDWARD DEAN ADAMS, New York engineer, who represented the Engineering Foundation at the dedication of the Louvain Library and the engineers' memorial carillon and clock on July 4, has received an honorary doctorate from the University of Louvain and has been made a commander of the Order of the Crown by the Belgian government.

DR. GEORGE FILLMORE SWAIN, professor of civil engineering at Harvard University, was made the recipient of the Benjamin G. Lamme medal for his contribution to the advancement of the art of technical training by the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, in session at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Dr. Swain is the first to receive the medal, which will henceforth be awarded yearly in accordance with provisions in the will of the late Benjamin G. Lamme.

CAPTAIN SIR HUBERT WILKINS has received from the American Geographical Society the Samuel F. B. Morse gold medal for geographical research.

ACCORDING to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association, the California Medical Association at the recent annual meeting awarded its research prize to Drs. Phoebus Berman and William H. Leake, both of Los Angeles, for their paper on "The Effect of Emetine on the Rabbit's Heart—An Electrocardiographic Study," and the clinical prize to Dr. Cyril B. Courville, Loma Linda, for his paper on "Intracranial Neoplasms—The Principle of Transmitted Pressure in the Production of Symptoms."

F. H. ROSENCRANTZ, director of engineering, International Combustion Engineering, Ltd., was awarded the Kelvin gold medal of merit by the British Institution of Electrical Engineers in recognition of his work in the field of combustion.

THE following have been elected foreign members of the Royal Society: Professor Albert Brachet (Brussels); Professor David Hilbert (Göttingen); Professor Paul Langevin (Paris); Professor Richard Friedrich Johannes Pfeiffer (Breslau); Professor Ludwig Prandtl (Göttingen), and Professor Richard Willstätter (Munich).

SIR STCLAIR THOMSON, of London, has been elected a corresponding member of the Société de Laryngologie des Hôpitaux de Paris, of the American Stomatological Association and of the Philadelphia Laryngological Society.

THE diploma of honorary membership of the University of Innsbruck has been conferred on Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, of London, in recognition of her geological researches on the Dolomites of South Tyrol. Mrs. Gordon has also been nominated as an honorary correspondent by the Geological Survey of Austria.

DR. GEORGE W. CRILE, Cleveland, was awarded the honorary degree of doctor of laws by the University of Glasgow on June 20.

SR. ING. JOAQUIN GALLO, director of the National Astronomical Observatory of Mexico, received the honorary degree of doctor of science at Northwestern University on June 18.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE conferred the honorary degree of doctor of science on Ralph C. Bryant, professor of lumbering at Yale University, at the commencement exercises on June 18.

DR. PERCY R. HOWE, director of research in the Forsyth Dental Infirmary and professor of dental science at Harvard University, received the honorary degree of doctor of laws from Bates College, Maine, on June 19.

WILLIAMS COLLEGE has conferred the honorary degree of doctor of science on Professor Walter A. Bratton, head of the department of mathematics at Whitman College.

DR. CHARLES G. ABBOT, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, has been appointed by President Coolidge to be a member of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.

THE secretary of interior has announced the members of the commission authorized by the Seventieth Congress to make an expert investigation of the Boulder and Black Canyons on the Colorado River in connection with the proposed development of the river. The members of the commission, three engineers and two geologists, are: Major-General William L. Sibert, United States Army, retired; D. W. Mead, engineer, Madison, Wis.; Robert Ridgway, engineer, of New York; Charles P. Berkey, geologist, of New York, and W. J. Mead, geologist, of Madison, Wis.

RAYMOND L. DITMARS, curator of reptiles and mammals of the New York Zoological Society, has been elected president of the Westchester County Conservation Association.

At the last meeting of the Johns Hopkins Medical Society for the year 1927-28, the following officers were elected for the coming year: Dr. William Holland Wilmer, *president*, and Dr. E. M. K. Geiling, *secretary*.

DR. ELLICE McDONALD, chairman of the cancer research fund of the graduate school of medicine in the University of Pennsylvania, has been appointed research oncologist in the Philadelphia General Hospital and to membership on the radiological-clinical staff. A subcommittee in cancer research has been appointed, consisting of Drs. George M. Dorrance, Charles C. Norris and Ellice McDonald, to direct cancer research.

DR. ROBERT B. SOSMAN has resigned from the geophysical laboratory of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, and will be with the newly established research laboratory of the United States Steel Corporation, at the plant of the Federal Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, at Kearny, New Jersey, after July 21.

P. V. CARDEN, farm economist, has been appointed director of the Utah Experiment Station, succeeding William Peterson, who will continue as director of extension.

DR. A. A. L. RUTGERS, director of the department of agriculture, industry and commerce of the Netherlands Indies, Buitenzorg, Java, has resigned that position and also that of president of the Fourth Pacific Science Congress, which will be held in Batavia and Bandoeng, Java, May 16 to 25, 1929, in order to accept appointment as Governor of Surinam (Dutch Guiana, South America). Dr. O. de Vries, director of the Rubber Experiment Station at Buitenzorg, has been appointed president of the Fourth Pacific Science Congress in the place of Dr. Rutgers.

IN response to an invitation from the California Academy of Medicine, Dr. George Barger, professor of chemistry as applied to medicine at Edinburgh University, is visiting California. He gave several lectures during the course of his visit.

RECENT visitors to the United States include Dr. Christobal M. Hicken, professor of botany, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Professor Takashi Naito, assistant professor of botany and phytopathology, Imperial College of Agriculture and Forestry, Kagoshima, Japan.

A GROUP of six teachers from the University of California College of Dentistry, including Drs. Edwin H. Mauk and Robert E. Keys, plate dentures; Dr. Henley E. Miller, oral surgery, extraction and anesthesia; Dr. J. Raymond Gill, crown and bridge and porcelain; Dr. J. W. Roush, operative dentistry and periodontia, and Mr. C. O. Tufts, radiography, sailed on May 25 for Wellington, New Zealand, to give a summer course of one week, beginning on June 25, on modern American dental practice before the New Zea-

land Dental Association. All expenses of the expedition were defrayed by the association.

DR. DAVID EUGENE SMITH, professor of mathematics at Columbia University, has returned from Europe, where he has been a visiting Carnegie professor of international relations. Representing the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, he lectured at University College, London; University of Toulouse, France, and the University of Montpellier, France.

DR. GEORGE E. PFAHLER, vice-dean of radiology in the University of Pennsylvania's graduate school of medicine, has sailed for England, to represent the United States at the international conference on cancer at London from July 16 to 22. Later he will attend the International Congress of Radiology which opens on July 23 in Stockholm. A second representative from the University of Pennsylvania at the London conference will be Dr. William Seifriz, professor of botany and a member of the cancer research fund committee of the graduate school of medicine.

LAURENCE VAIL COLEMAN, director of The American Association of Museums, has left for an extended tour of Latin America, during which he will visit museums and other educational institutions. He will work southward along the east coast of South America to Buenos Aires, across to Santiago, and northward to Panama. The trip has been made possible through the association's committee on Pan-American cooperation and has for its purpose to develop closer relations between all the museums of the new world.

DR. FRANK C. WHITMORE, head of the department of chemistry at Northwestern University, is resuming residence in Evanston following a year's leave of absence from university work. During the past year, he has served as chairman of the division of chemistry and chemical technology of the National Research Council.

DEAN DEXTER S. KIMBALL, of the college of engineering at Cornell University, delivered the principal address at the dedication of the Riggs hall of engineering at Clemson College on June 4.

A STATUE to Lieutenant-Commander George W. De Long was unveiled at Woodlawn Cemetery, New York, on July 4, in the presence of the lost commander's widow and Herbert Wood Leach, of Brockton, Mass., only survivor of the polar expedition of 1879-81 in which De Long lost his life. Captain Sir Hubert Wilkins, Vilhjalmur Stefansson and Anthony Fiala spoke at the unveiling. The statue was the work of Leonard Craske, of Boston.

DR. FRANCIS H. SMITH, professor emeritus of natural philosophy at the University of Virginia, died on July 5 in his ninety-ninth year.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM ESTY, head of the electrical engineering department at Lehigh University, died on July 7, aged sixty years.

PROFESSOR ARTHUR SCHÖNFLIESS, of the University of Frankfurt, the well-known mathematician, died on May 27, at the age of seventy-five years.

PROFESSOR R. LEPETIT, president of the Italian Society of Chemical Industry, known for his work on dyes, died on March 27, aged sixty-two years.

ACCORDING to press dispatches, Assam Dina, owner of the observatory on Mont Blanc, who was building a large observatory on Mont Saleve in France, has died. His widow, the former Mary Wallace Shillito, of Cincinnati, is expected to complete the \$6,250,000 Mont Saleve Observatory, which was intended as a gift to the French nation. The diameter of the telescope is to be 105 inches, five inches larger than that of the telescope on Mt. Wilson, California.

It is announced that the fifty-first annual congress of the French Association for the Advancement of Science will be held at La Rochelle from July 23 to 28.

THE annual conference of the British Museums Association was held at Glasgow, Scotland, from July 2 to 6, inclusive.

THE chairman of the executive committee of the Institute for Research in Tropical America announces that increased facilities are available for naturalists who may wish to study at the Barro Colorado Island Laboratory in the Panama Canal Zone. Persons wishing to proceed to Panama should address the office of Dr. Thomas Barbour, director of the Harvard University Museum, Cambridge, Massachusetts, whence credentials are issued enabling applicants to secure reduced transportation rates, pass on the Panama Railroad, commissary privileges while in the zone, etc.

IN June, 1927, the Department of State transmitted invitations from the executive secretary of the congress to foreign governments to send one or more representatives to that congress. Some governments accepted this invitation, and others declined. On May 1, 1928, the following resolution was approved by the president of the United States: "*Resolved*, By the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled, that the president be, and hereby is, authorized and requested to extend invitations to foreign governments to be represented by delegates at the International Congress

of Entomology to be held in the United States in 1928." In accordance with this resolution the president, through the diplomatic officers of the United States government, again called the attention of foreign governments to the invitations previously extended them, with the statement that in view of the resolution above quoted, the congress has now an official status and that therefore their invitations are extended by the president of the United States.

THE American Society of Orthodontists has made a second grant of \$3,000 to the University of California College of Dentistry for a continuation of the study in the field of orthodontics, begun in October, 1927. The experimental work is being done on monkeys, under Professor John A. Marshall, in the Hooper Foundation for Medical Research and the college of dentistry of the university. The advisory committee includes Professor Karl F. Meyer, director of Hooper Foundation; Dr. Albert E. Ketcham, of Denver; Dr. James D. McCoy, of Los Angeles, and Dr. Allen H. Suggett, of San Francisco.

THE importance of careful investigation prior to introduction of a species of big game is appreciated by the Forest Service and Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture and the State Game Department of Arizona. A proposal having been made to introduce elk from Yellowstone Park in the Chiricahua Mountains of southeastern Arizona, an "elk committee" was formed, and spent several days between June 19 and 23 in studying the problem on the ground. This group was made up of Fred Winn, supervisor, Coronado National Forest, and president, Tucson Natural History Society; Tom Bentley and Carl Scholefield, forest rangers; D. A. Shoemaker, range examiner, district office of the Forest Service, Albuquerque, N. Mex.; Walter L. Hatley, Chiricahua Cattle Growers' Association, Sunglow, Arizona; D. E. Pettis, State Game Warden, Phoenix, Arizona; J. A. Diffin and C. P. Hawkins, president and secretary, respectively, of the Bisbee Game Protective Association, Bisbee, Arizona; Chas. T. Vorhies, entomologist; A. A. Nichol, assistant entomologist, secretary, Tucson Natural History Society, and W. G. McGinnies, grazing range specialist, all from the University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, and Walter P. Taylor, biologist, Biological Survey, Tucson, Arizona. The tentative decision of the committee was against introduction of the elk, though the final determination of the point was postponed until January 1, 1929. No evidence was adduced as to former occurrence of the animals in the Chiricahua Mountains. The committee felt that the funds available might better be spent in restocking the range with wild turkeys and mule deer than in bringing in elk. Turkeys are now

extinct in the Chiricahua Mountains, though known to have occurred in former times. Mule deer are still to be found locally, though formerly much more abundant.

THE National Fund for Scientific Research of Belgium has established a special committee to draft the statutes of the fund. Approximately 110,000,000 Belgian francs have been collected up to the present time. The establishment of the fund occurred under the following circumstances: On October 1, 1927, on the occasion of the celebration of the 110th anniversary of the foundation of the Cockerill Works, the King of the Belgians made a speech in which the attention of the nation was drawn to the dangers resulting from the neglect of scientific research. Consequently the Universities of Brussels and Louvain decided to organize a propaganda meeting in the Palais des Académies, on November 26, 1927. This proposal aroused so much public enthusiasm that the state universities of Ghent and Liège immediately associated themselves with the initiative which had been taken. During the course of this important demonstration, when the king once more desired to appeal for the cause of science, the propaganda committee for the National Scientific Research Fund was established, under the chairmanship of M. Emile Francqui, Minister of State, president of the "Fondation universitaire."

MARCH 18 marked the closing of the 1928 season of the Southern Cross Observatory, the unique institution at Miami, Florida, without a building or professional observer. The observatory, which is purely for public use, is situated in a public park of Miami, and embraces six 5-inch refractors, a spectroscope, transparencies and stereopticon facilities. The attendance during one evening in February reached 4,000. Dr. Frederick Slocum, of the Van Vleck Observatory, Wesleyan University, lectured on January 28 to 30 to large audiences on "The Lure of the Eclipse" and "Our Neighbors, the Planets." The observatory has proved interesting to northern visitors of some information because of its far southern latitude. The Southern Cross comes into distinct view, although low on the horizon, while all the first magnitude stars and fifty-eight of the sixty-second magnitude stars appear during the year.

THE American Pharmaceutical Association has selected a site in Washington, in view of the Lincoln Memorial and between the National Academy of Sciences and the Naval Hospital, as the location for its national headquarters. The headquarters building, plans for which soon are to be drawn, is to cost approximately \$500,000 and will house a museum, library, research laboratory and publication

department. Funds to carry out this enterprise were raised by popular subscription among the pharmaceutical interests throughout the United States, Canada, Cuba, Hawaii and Porto Rico.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

HARVARD UNIVERSITY and the University of Rochester will share jointly a bequest of \$640,988 from the estate of Dr. Charles A. Dewey, of Rochester.

COLGATE UNIVERSITY and Vassar College are each to receive a half of the residuary estate of Miss Evelyn Colgate, who died last month. The estate probably will amount to \$150,000. Other gifts to Colgate recently announced amount to \$26,000.

FUNDS available from two estates will make possible the early construction of a new chemistry building at Washington and Jefferson College at a cost of more than a quarter of a million dollars.

DR. J. B. REYNOLDS, who has been president of the Ontario Agricultural College since 1920, has resigned. The vacancy has been filled by the appointment of Dr. G. I. Christie, formerly director of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana.

DR. JOSEPH EUGENE ROWE has resigned his position as head of the department of mathematics and director of extension in the College of William and Mary to become president of the Clarkson Memorial Institute of Technology at Potsdam, N. Y.

DR. EDMUND W. SINNOTT, professor of botany and genetics at the Connecticut Agricultural College, has been appointed professor of botany and head of the botanical department at Barnard College, Columbia University, to succeed the late Dr. Herbert Maule Richards.

EMMETT REID DUNN, associate professor of zoology at Smith College, has been appointed professor of zoology at Haverford College.

PROFESSOR HARRY B. WEISER, head of the department of chemistry of Rice Institute, Texas, will give two courses of thirty lectures each in the field of colloid chemistry in the forthcoming summer session at Western Reserve University, beginning June 18.

DR. LOWELL J. REED, professor of vital statistics and biometry, the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, will give a course for public health workers at the summer session of the University of California, Berkeley, from July 2 to August 11.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE SYEVERNAYA ZEMLYA (NORTHERN LAND)

PERHAPS it is time now to correct a small mistake of geographical nomenclature, which has appeared in the literature (chiefly newspaper articles) of different countries and threatens to become permanent through repeated use.

The writer refers to the names of the islands discovered in the Arctic Ocean, north of the Taimuir Peninsula, in 1913, by the Russian hydrographic expedition under Captain Vilkitski. They were christened by the expedition: Emperor Nicholas II Land, the name applied to the largest northern island, perhaps a double one; Tsarevich Alexei Island, located about thirty-five miles north of the Taimuir Peninsula; Dr. Starakodonski Island, a small one, located in the strait between two former islands, four miles off the Tsarevich Alexei Island.¹

After the Russian revolution the names of these northern islands were changed by the new Russian Soviet Government, as were the names of many towns, streets, etc. The name Syevernaya Zemlya (Northern Land) has been applied now to the Emperor Nicholas II Land; the name of Maly Taimuir (Little Taimuir) to the Tsarevich Alexei Island. The name of Dr. Starakodonski Island has remained unchanged. These names one finds on the new map of the U. S. S. R., published in 1927 by the Commissariat of the Interior of the present Russian government. Only these names are used in Russian newspapers in articles dealing with different Arctic enterprises and in this or other way touching the islands under consideration. The idea of the name of Lenin Land as a substitute for the former name was also fostered in Russia, but abandoned by the Soviet government. In spite of that this name has found its way into newspapers outside of Russia, and one meets the Lenin Land, for example, in articles dealing with the recent Arctic travel of the "Italia" under General Nobile. Nicholas II Land and Lenin Land have been used as synonyms in No. 377C Sheet I of the *Daily Science News Bulletin*, issued by Science Service. However, this article, in its essential, is a translation of a German article which is, therefore, responsible for the use of the name of Lenin Land.

The writer will not go into consideration of the question as to how it would be permissible or at least reasonable, only on account of political reasons, to make the change of geographic names which have once appeared on maps. The Franz Joseph Land, for example, still keeps its imperial name, although Austria has become a republic. German geographers mostly

¹ "Arctic Pilot," Vol. I, third edition, 1918, p. 510. Compare also the English Admiralty chart No. 55, published in 1916.