

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

PROFESSOR IVAN PAVLOV, who has come to America to attend the international congresses of psychology and physiology, will complete his eightieth year on September 22 while in the United States.

THE gold medal of the Society of Apothecaries of London has been awarded to Dr. John J. Abel, professor of pharmacology in the Johns Hopkins Medical School, for distinguished service in therapeutics. Ambassador Dawes will receive the medal for Dr. Abel.

THE Manson Medal of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene and the Triennial Medal of the London Medico-Chirurgical Society were conferred on Sir Ronald Ross at a joint meeting of these societies. *The Lancet*, as quoted in the *Journal* of the American Medical Association, remarks: "It is a singular thing that his government has never voted him anything but honor. He is now seventy-two years of age and partially paralyzed. Friends feel that he should be relieved of financial worries, and they have started to provide Sir Ronald Ross with a subscription from the public which, it is hoped, will reach a million shillings."

The University of South Africa proposed to confer the honorary degree of doctorate of science on the following members of the British Association: Major Walter Elliott, Sir John Smith Flett, Sir Robert Greig, Dr. George H. F. Nuttall and Sir John Russell.

THE British Museums Association at a business meeting held recently in Worthing elected Dr. F. A. Bather an honorary member "in recognition of his distinguished museum work and of his services to the association as president, as editor and in other ways during the forty years of its existence."

DR. FRANCIS HOBART HERRICK, after forty-one years' service as professor of biology in Western Reserve University, retired and was made professor emeritus at the close of the academic year. Dr. Herrick is continuing his researches on the life histories and habits of birds, and at present is making further observations on the home life of the American eagle. The larger part of his scientific library, comprising over four thousand titles, has been acquired by the biological laboratory of Western Reserve University.

DR. TIMOTHY LEARY has resigned as professor of pathology, bacteriology and medical jurisprudence at Tufts College Medical School, Boston, after serving for over thirty years.

PROFESSOR A. WOLFER, having reached the age limit, resigned in April as director of the Zurich

Observatory, and has been succeeded by Professor W. Brunner.

DR. HOWARD W. RUSSELL, of the Carnegie Institute of Technology, has been appointed chief physicist of the recently founded Battelle Memorial Institute at Columbus, Ohio. He will take up his new work on September 1.

CHRIS L. CHRISTENSEN, head of the division of cooperative marketing of the bureau of agricultural economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, an authority on agricultural cooperation, has resigned as chief of the division to become the secretary of the Federal Farm Board.

DR. JOSEPH C. CHAMBERLIN, who resigned his position on the biological faculty of the San Jose State Teachers College in June, 1928, for a year of post-graduate study at Stanford University, has been appointed associate entomologist in the Bureau of Entomology. He will be stationed at the Truck Crop Insect Laboratory at Twin Falls, Idaho, where he will be engaged in research on the sugar beet leaf-hopper.

DR. F. W. LANE, for a number of years petroleum chemist with the U. S. Bureau of Mines, recently joined the Chemical Warfare Service at Edgewood Arsenal as chief of the protective clothing department.

DR. WALLER S. LEATHERS, dean and professor of preventive medicine and public health in the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, has been appointed a member of the National Board of Medical Examiners to fill the place made vacant by the retirement of Admiral Edward R. Stitt, U. S. Navy, as surgeon-general.

At the Wistar Institute this summer Dr. Ira D. Hogg, assistant professor of anatomy at the School of Medicine of the University of Pittsburgh, is working on the development of the motor nuclei of cranial nerves in the albino rat; Dr. Robert K. Burns, Jr., of the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, is continuing his studies on *Amblystoma* with Dr. Coghill at the Effingham B. Morris Biological Farm; Dr. D. S. Pankratz, recently appointed instructor in anatomy at the University of Tennessee, is continuing his work on the cranial-nerve components, and Mr. C. G. Smith, instructor in anatomy at the University of Western Ontario, London, Canada, is collecting the material and studying the neocortex of the albino rat in relation to age. The albino rat colony of the Wistar Institute is able to supply a limited number of senile albino rats, which will serve to make Mr. Smith's research more complete.

Six projects of scientific research are being conducted in Wisconsin this year in problems of state conservation, and in several of the projects members of the University of Wisconsin staff are conducting the work. The research bureau of the Wisconsin Conservation Commission, which is fostering the projects, is made up of scientific men who are cooperating with the commission. By a study of soil and forest and forest cover in northern Wisconsin, the commission will be able to estimate how much future forests will be worth. This survey is under direction of John Bordner as a cooperative venture with the state department of agriculture. Growth of trees, a game survey and charting of many lakes which have hitherto not appeared on maps, are also subjects of the survey. Dr. E. A. Birge and Professor Chancey Juday are continuing their study of fish foods and lake life, with headquarters at Trout Lake, Vilas County. The data which they are collecting will aid in developing a more exact method of propagating and planting fish. Dr. A. O. Gross, Brunswick, Maine, is conducting an investigation of such game birds as prairie chicken in the state, through laboratory and field studies. Growth and welfare of vegetation in seined and unseined areas of lakes at Madison, with special reference to lake bottom vegetation where carp is seined, are being studied by men from the department of botany of the university. Size of mesh, length of nets, methods of dragging and lifting nets and results of seining at various times of the year are being observed in another study, in an attempt to improve methods of eradicating carp.

DR. RAYE R. PLATT, of the American Geographical Society, New York, and Professor J. Fred Rippey, of Duke University, have been appointed delegates by President Hoover to the first general assembly of the Pan-American Institute of Geography and History, to be held on September 16 at Mexico City. The assembly was authorized under a resolution of the Pan-American Conference at Havana last year.

THE American Chargé d'Affaires at Caracas, Venezuela, reports that he has received a telegram from

Dr. H. S. Dickey, at Ciudad Bolivar, that his expedition was wrecked 1,200 miles up the Orinoco River, but that all are safe. Dr. Dickey headed an expedition up the Orinoco River for the purpose of collecting anthropological material for the Museum of the American Indian.

EXPERIMENTS in the attempt to render harmless the icebergs in the North Atlantic will be made this month by Dr. Howard T. Barnes, of McGill University. An Associated Press despatch reports that the expedition will be headed and financed by R. D. van Horne, with Dr. Barnes as technical adviser. It will sail from Halifax on the 350-ton yacht *Uvira*. Operations will be carried out in the vicinity of Belle Island Strait, off Twillingate Harbor and off St. John's, Newfoundland. The experiments will include the projection of parachute flares from a gun in the direction of icebergs in order that their silhouettes may be discerned. Other experiments will be made with submarine microphones, with which it is expected to pick up the distinctive sound made by escaping air from the under side of the icebergs.

THE London *Times* reports that the Devonshire Association and the Newcomen Society held on July 25 at Dartmouth the bicentenary celebration of the death of Thomas Newcomen, the inventor of the steam-engine. Engineer-Captain E. C. Smith, R.N., in an address, spoke of the four great landmarks in the history of the steam-engine, the first of which was the introduction of the atmospheric steam-engine by Newcomen; the second, the discoveries of James Watt; the third, the adoption of the marine compound engine, and the fourth, the invention of the turbine. Newcomen's invention was the first successful application of science in the development of the motive-power engine. Little honor had been paid to him in the past, but in 1921 a memorial was erected at Dartmouth, and the Newcomen Society, founded a few years ago for the study of the history of engineering and technology, hoped to obtain permission to place another memorial on the walls of Bunhill Fields, London, where he was buried in 1729, in a grave the site of which is now not known.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, whose fortune was founded by his father's discovery of the Comstock lode, has given \$500,000 for the school of science of the University of Nevada at Reno. This makes a total of more than \$1,500,000 given to the university in memory of John W. Mackay by Mr. Mackay and his mother.

THE appointment of Dr. Nathaniel Allison as professor of surgery in charge of the division of ortho-

pedic surgery, and of Dr. Edmund Andrews as associate professor of surgery in the clinics of the University of Chicago is announced. Dr. Allison, who is professor of orthopedic surgery at the Harvard Medical School, was dean and professor of orthopedic surgery at Washington University, St. Louis, until his Harvard appointment in 1923. Dr. Andrews is a graduate of Yale University and of