All honor then to him who raised the pile;
Where daydreams wander through each classic room;
Where honest speech is never brought to trial,
Nor trustful candor hear its certain doom.

Defying critics, faithfully thou wrought—
Thou master builder of a fruitful thought.

ALBERT MOYER
NEW YORK CITY

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE KEW BOTANICAL GARDENS[1]

FOR the public Kew is a delightful pleasaunce, for the gardener a demonstration of achievement and a suggestion of possibilities, and for the botanist a storehouse of information and a center for research. The recently issued number of the *Bulletin of Miscellaneous Information* (Appendix I., 1930), comprises under this familiar but somewhat unattractive title a review of the work of the various departments of the Royal Gardens during 1929. In 1925 work was begun on the formation of a National Pinetum at Bedgebury, in Kent, as the nearness of London is not conducive to the growth of conifers; and in spite of the long cold winter and abnormally dry summer of 1929, good progress is reported. The abolition of the penny charge for admission to the gardens from August Bank Holiday onwards is reflected in an increase in the number of visitors of nearly 220,000 between August and December, as compared with the corresponding period in 1928. The hard winter of 1928–29 and the boisterous gales of the last two months of the year caused severe losses among shrubs and large trees, but the long hot summer gave an unusual brilliance of color to the abundant crops of fruits and berries on many of the trees, and the later incessant and heavy rains effectively cleansed trees and shrubs from soot and dirt.

The more strictly botanical activities of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, have benefited by generous grants from the Empire Marketing Board, which have rendered possible visits by the scientific staff and various collectors to different parts of the empire overseas and elsewhere, resulting in valuable accessions to the gardens and herbarium, and the gain of invaluable experience to individual members of the staff. Mr. Hutchinson's botanical tour in South Africa produced a harvest of more than 3,000 species, including a large number of living succulent plants. Work of botanical exploration has also been carried out in British Guiana, Persia, Somaliland and the Solomon Islands. Considerable additions have been made to the herbarium, mainly by the incorporation of stored material. An important feature of the work is the international cooperation in research rendered possible by an extension of the system of reciprocal loans between important botanical institutions; during the year more than 9,000 specimens were borrowed and nearly 6,000 sent out on loan. Botanical work in South Africa will be greatly facilitated by an arrangement to present to the National Herbarium at Pretoria duplicates of authentic specimens in the Kew Herbarium. The report of the museums records an increasing interest taken in the economic products of plants, involving much correspondence and discussion of home and colonial products with visitors. The difficulty in answering questions as to possibilities of new crops for home or the colonies is often enhanced by the lack of discretion on the part of optimistic journalists.

[1] *Nature.*

SUMMER SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS OF ENGINEERING

THE Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education in conjunction with the Carnegie Institute of Technology will conduct a summer school for engineering teachers beginning on June 12 and ending on June 21. The session this summer will be devoted to engineering drawing and descriptive geometry, and will be held on the Carnegie campus.

The summer school is an enterprise growing out of the general investigation of engineering education conducted by the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education. Its general purpose is the improvement of the teaching of engineering. Each session is devoted to the study of methods of teaching a particular subject of the engineering curriculum.

William E. Mott, director of the College of Engineering, and Harry M. McCully, professor of drawing and descriptive geometry at the Carnegie Institute of Technology, are local director and secretary, respectively, of the summer course. Thomas E. French, professor of engineering drawing, Ohio State University, will be chairman of the teaching staff.

The nine-day session will begin with an address of welcome by Mr. John L. Porter, chairman of the trustees' committee of the Carnegie Institute of Technology. The various meetings will be conducted by teachers who are recognized as leaders in their fields. Entertainment features, including a smoker given by the Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania, will be arranged during the session. Trips to the larger Pittsburgh industrial plants have been planned.

Professors from schools in all parts of the country and from Canada and Mexico will attend the meeting. Registration will be limited to a hundred teachers.

Besides those mentioned above, the teaching staff will include the following: Franklin DeR. Furman, dean of the Stevens Institute of Technology; H. W. Harold, architect, Pittsburgh; Frederic G. Higbee, the State University of Iowa; Randolph P. Hoelscher, University of Illinois; George J. Hood, University of Kansas; Harvey H. Jordan, University of Illinois; A. E. Lofberg, Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, East Pittsburgh; Clair V. Mann, Missouri School of Mines; Henry W. Miller, University of Michigan, and author of the recent book on the famous German gun "Big Bertha"; P. J. Reich, American Bridge Company, Ambridge, Pa.; Robert L. Sackett, dean of the School of Engineering, Pennsylvania State College; Charles H. Schumann, Jr., Columbia University; William G. Smith, Northwestern University; Carl L. Svensen, Texas Technological College; William D. Turnbull, the Ohio State University; Frank M. Warner, University of Washington, and William E. Wickenden, president of the Case School of Applied Science.

The summer school is under the immediate direction of Harry P. Hammond, head of the department of civil engineering, Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute. Professor Frederic L. Bishop, of the University of Pittsburgh, is secretary of the society.

AWARD OF THE DANIEL GUGGENHEIM MEDAL FOR AERONAUTICS

THE second Daniel Guggenheim gold medal for notable achievement in aeronatuics has been awarded to Dr. Ludwig Prandtl, professor at the University of Göttingen, Germany, "for pioneer and creative work in the theory of aerodynamics." Dr. Prandtl is one of the world's most eminent authorities on aerodynamics and other sciences underlying the art of aviation. He is also well known as an investigator and teacher of the laws of mechanics, thermodynamics and the flow of fluids, particularly air and other gases.

Last fall, Dr. Prandtl traveled eastward from his home city as a delegate to the World Engineering Congress in Japan at the end of October and the beginning of November. He presented an important paper at this congress. After the congress, he crossed the Pacific Ocean to the United States. He stopped at a number of our universities on his homeward journey, beginning with Stanford University and the University of California. He returned home in March, completing the trip around the world.

Dr. Prandtl visited New York in February and on that occasion was entertained at dinner at The Engineers' Club by a group of forty American engineers. Following the dinner he delivered an address before the Metropolitan Section of The American Society of Mechanical Engineers. Dean George B. Pegram, of Columbia University, presided at the dinner. Dr. Elmer A. Sperry, past-president of The American Society of Mechanical Engineers and vice-president of the Daniel Guggenheim Medal Board, introduced Professor Prandtl on the occasion of his address.

Dr. Prandtl was born on February 4, 1875, at Freising, Germany, and attended the technical high school in Munich. He has been professor at the University of Göttingen since 1904. He has received many honors, among them the Great Gold Medal of the Royal Aeronautical Society of England in 1927 and the Grashof Medal of the Verein Deutscher Ingenieure in 1929. More than any other one man he stands out as the "father" of the present aerodynamic theory. He has written many treatises on subjects related to aviation and is a widely respected authority.

The members of the board which made the award are: *American*—W. F. Durand, E. P. Warner, Elmer A. Sperry, Arthur Nutt, Howard E. Coffin, Paul G. Zimmermann, E. E. Aldrin, Emory S. Land; *Foreign*—Griffith Brewer, England; Johann Schuette, Germany; Giulio Costanzi, Italy; Baron Chuzaburo Shiba, Japan. Dr. Rateau, of the Société Française de Navigation Aerienne, died before the ballot was cast.

The first award of the Guggenheim Medal for notable achievement in aeronautics was made to Orville Wright a year ago and the medal was presented to him in Washington on April 8 in connection with the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of The American Society of Mechanical Engineers. This society is one of the two American organizations from which members of the Medal Corporation are chosen, the other being the Society of Automotive Engineers. In addition, five foreign organizations are represented on the board of award, one each in England, France, Germany, Italy and Japan.

The medal was founded in 1927 by the Daniel Guggenheim Fund for the Promotion of Aeronautics, of which Mr. Harry F. Guggenheim, now ambassador to Cuba, was then president. At the annual meeting on May 7 the following officers were elected: *President,* William B. Stout, representing the Society of Automotive engineers, president of the Stout Air Service; *Vice-President,* Captain E. E. Aldrin, manager, Aviation Department of the Standard Oil Development Company; *Secretary* and *Treasurer,* Alfred D. Flinn, director of the Engineering Foundation; *Executive Committee,* the president, Captain Aldrin and Mr. E. P. Warner, editor of *Aviation.*

A. D. F.

THE RETIREMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

PRESIDENT WILLIAM WALLACE CAMPBELL, who, on commencement day nearly one year ago, announced