

and so laid a basis for the work of the institute as regards public relations. Mr. Howard W. Blakeslee, science editor of the Associated Press, served at toastmaster. Dr. Karl T. Compton, president of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, addressed the guests on the subject of the American Institute of Physics. His brother, Dr. Arthur H. Compton, of the University of Chicago, then spoke on "Recent Developments in Physics in Europe," in particular those concerned with the atomic nucleus.

Mr. Waldemar Kaempffert, science editor of *The New York Times*, and Mr. Watson Davis, managing editor of Science Service, spoke for the journalists. They welcomed the formation of the institute in very gratifying terms, emphasizing the news value of scientific developments and promising the whole-hearted cooperation of the press.

The program concluded with a demonstration by Dr. Robert J. Van de Graaff of his recently announced electrostatic high voltage generator.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Nobel Prize in chemistry for 1931 has been awarded jointly to Dr. Frederick Bergius, general director of the I.-G. Farbenindustrie, Ludwigshafen, and to Professor Karl Bosch, of the University of Heidelberg.

DR. JOHN J. ABEL, professor of pharmacology and experimental therapeutics in the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, has announced his intention of retiring from the chair at the end of the present academic year. Dr. Abel's retirement is the outcome of a desire, on his part, to be relieved of academic duties in order that he may devote his entire time to his own investigations and to editorial work in connection with *The Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics*.

DR. W. H. WRIGHT, astronomer at the Lick Observatory of the University of California, has been appointed faculty research lecturer for the year 1931-1932. This is the highest honor which the faculty can award to one of its members during the academic year. The lecture will be delivered on the eve of the sixty-fourth anniversary of the founding of the university on March 23, 1932.

A DINNER in honor of Professor Winterton C. Curtis, who has completed thirty years of service in the zoology department at the University of Missouri, was given on November 7. The speakers were Dr. F. H. Woods, Dr. Lewis Stadler and President Walter Williams, of the University of Missouri; Colonel Lloyd E. Thatcher, of the Branham-Hughes Military Academy, and Father Alphonse M. Schwitalla, of St. Louis University. It was announced that a fund of \$2,100 had been raised to establish a graduate scholarship in zoology for summer study at marine laboratories.

MR. L. A. SPINDLER, of the zoological division of the U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry, was on November 6 the guest of the departments of medical zoology of the School of Hygiene and Public Health at the Johns Hopkins University. As after luncheon speaker Dr. Spindler told of his experiences in the

southern United States and later in the day gave a lecture on the life history of the nodule worm *Oesophagostomum longicaudum*.

ON the occasion of the opening of the new laboratory of physical chemistry at the University of Freiburg im Breisgau on October 30, honorary degrees were conferred on Lord Rutherford, Professor Manne Siegbahn, professor of general physics in the University of Uppsala, and Professor V. M. Goldschmidt, of Göttingen.

AN oil painting of the late Dr. S. Z. de Ferranti, an honorary member and past president of the British Institution of Electrical Engineers, has been presented to the institution by Mr. H. Marryat.

PROFESSOR ROBERT DECOURCY WARD, professor of climatology at Harvard University, died on November 12 in his sixty-fourth year.

DR. JAMES SIMPSON CHESTER WELLS, adjunct professor of analytical chemistry at Columbia University from 1905 to 1909, died on October 29 at the age of eighty years.

DR. JOSEPH KITTREDGE, JR., senior silviculturist at the Lake Forest Experiment Station of the University of Minnesota, has been appointed professor of forestry at the University of California and forester at the experiment station.

MR. WILLIAM J. MILLER, formerly dean of the school of engineering and head of the department of electrical engineering in the Texas Technological College, has been elected head of the electrical engineering department at the University of North Carolina. He succeeds Dr. Parker H. Daggett.

AT the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Dr. Albert E. Roussel, professor of medicine, and Dr. James E. Talley, professor of cardiology, have been made professors emeritus.

DR. LESLIE T. GAGER, clinical associate in medicine at the George Washington University Medical School,

has been appointed professor and head of the department of medicine at the Howard University School of Medicine.

DR. E. T. BODENBERG has been appointed assistant professor of biology at Wittenberg College.

DR. HOWARD JAMES STOVER, instructor in price and statistics in the department of agricultural economics at the New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University, has been appointed assistant agricultural economist to the Giannini Foundation of the University of California.

DR. J. HOLMES MARTIN, of the University of Kentucky, has been appointed managing editor of *Poultry Science*, to succeed Dr. L. E. Card, who, after serving for eight years, relinquished his office with the November issue of the journal.

THE council of the Institution of Chemical Engineers of Great Britain has appointed Mr. H. W. Cremer to be honorary secretary in succession to the late Professor J. W. Hinchley.

PROFESSOR KANZAEMON KUKUCHI, head of the department of biology of the Toyama High School, Japan, is studying the collections of oriental invertebrates at the U. S. National Museum. Dr. Teiichi Kobayashi, of the Geological Institute of the Imperial University, Tokyo, Japan, has also arrived at the museum with a large collection of early Paleozoic fossils.

THE *Museums Journal* reports that Mr. Frank H. H. Roberts, of the Bureau of American Ethnology, spent the summer conducting a series of excavations in a pit house site south of Allantown, Arizona. Fifteen pit houses were uncovered and specimens of pottery, stone and bone implements, arrow heads, spear points and pendants were obtained.

At the annual meeting of Delta Omega, the honorary public health society, which was held in the Windsor Hotel on September 14, Dr. James A. Tobey, of New York, was elected national president, succeeding Dr. John A. Ferrell. Professor Charles G. Hyde, of the University of California, was elected vice-president, and Professor Ira V. Hiscock, of the Yale School of Medicine, was reelected as secretary-treasurer. Dr. Mazyck P. Ravenel, of the University of Missouri, was elected as the ninth national honorary member of the society.

It is reported in *Nature* that officers of the Philosophical Society of the University of Durham have been elected as follows: *President*, Professor R. A. Sampson; *vice-presidents*, Sir Westcott Abell, Professor G. H. Goldbrough, Professor T. H. Havelock, Professor J. G. Leawood, Sir William Marris, Professor J. Payne Mason; *honorary general secretary*,

Mr. W. M. Madgin; *honorary treasurer*, Mr. J. W. Bullerwell; *editor*, Professor G. W. Todd, and *honorary librarian*, Dr. F. Bradshaw.

THE New York County Medical Society has held its monthly meeting at which officers for the coming year were nominated as follows: *President*, Dr. David J. Kaliski, Beth Israel Hospital; *first vice-president*, Dr. Terry M. Townsend, West Side Dispensary; *second vice-president*, Dr. Walter T. Danpreuther, Postgraduate Hospital; *secretary and director*, Dr. Daniel S. Dougherty, Polyclinic Hospital; *assistant secretary*, Dr. Peter Irving, Roosevelt Hospital; *treasurer*, Dr. George Kosmak, Women's Hospital; *assistant treasurer*, Dr. Ten Eyck Elmendorf. Dr. Charles Gordon Heyd, president, presided. The election will be held next month. Two new amendments to the organization's constitution were read. They call for the creation of the office of president-elect and a board of five trustees. The amendments also will be voted upon at the meeting on November 23.

DR. ROBERT A. MILLIKAN delivered a lecture on recent progress in experimental physics at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute, Berlin, on November 13.

DR. EDGAR DOUGLAS ADRIAN, Foulerton research professor of the Royal Society at the University of Cambridge, delivered a lecture at Harvard University Medical School on November 3 on "Sense Organs and Nerve Cells."

At the meeting of the American Mathematical Society in New York on October 31, Professor D. V. Widder, of Harvard University, at the request of the program committee, delivered an address entitled "Some Recent Developments in the Theory of Laplace Integrals."

THE seventeenth annual meeting of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists will be held at Oklahoma City on March 24, 25 and 26, 1932, at the Biltmore Hotel. The Oklahoma City Geological Society is arranging entertainment for the meeting. The Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists, a technical division of the association, will hold a concurrent meeting. Special entertainment and a technical program are being arranged.

AN International Mathematical Congress will be held in Zurich, Switzerland, from September 4 to 12, 1932, all nations participating. The president of the committee on organization is Professor R. Fueter, of the University of Zurich.

THE Chemical Foundation has given \$10,950 to Columbia University, of which \$10,000 is for research in biological chemistry and \$950 for research in bacteriology.

DR. E. D. MERRILL, director of the New York

Botanical Garden, has made an agreement with Lingnan University, Canton, China, for cooperative work in the botanical exploration of southern China.

THE South Carolina Food Research Laboratory at the State Medical College, Charleston, is in receipt of a grant of \$13,000 from Mr. Bernard M. Baruch, to forward its investigations into the relation of diet to the etiology of simple goiter. A considerable portion of the grant will be used in studying seasonal and other variations in the amount of iodine available normally in the environment of people in goitrous and non-goitrous regions. Goiter is not endemic in South Carolina.

THE American Mathematical Society has recently concluded two reciprocity agreements with foreign organizations similar to the one now in force between the society and the London Mathematical Society. The new agreements are with the Unione Matematica Italiana and the Deutsche Mathematiker-Vereinigung. Besides other privileges, members of one of these foreign organizations may become members of the American Mathematical Society on the payment of initiation fee and one half the annual dues, and members of the American Mathematical Society may become members of the foreign organizations on the same terms.

Two journals of eugenics have been established recently. One, *Genesis*, is published quarterly by the Italian Federation of Eugenics; the other, *Eugenics*, is the monthly organ of the Japanese Eugenics Institute.

THE Black Rock Forest Laboratory at Cornwall-on-the-Hudson, New York, has been elected to membership in the International Union of Forest Research Organizations.

THE report of the council of the senate of the University of Cambridge on the establishment of a Goldsmiths professorship of metallurgy recommends that the Goldsmiths readership in metallurgy be discontinued and that on the establishment of the professorship the stipend of the professor be £1,200 a year.

A RECOMMENDATION is made by the general board of the University of Cambridge that in the interests of economy and simplification of administration the department of aeronautics should be suppressed and amalgamated with the department of engineering.

AT a meeting of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, held on October 14, it was resolved that in view of the national situation, the ceremonies in connection with the celebration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of the college be postponed to a future date.

THE 69-inch mirror for the Perkins Observatory telescope at Delaware, Ohio, is now undergoing final tests at the factory of Mr. J. W. Fecker, in Pittsburgh, according to an announcement by Dr. Harlan T. Stetson, director of the observatory. Invited scientists cooperating in these tests are: Dr. J. S. Plaskett, director of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory at Victoria, British Columbia, and Dr. I. C. Gardner, of the optical division of the Bureau of Standards. An addition to the Mining Laboratories of the University of Toronto, built at a cost of \$250,000, was opened on November 7. The principal address was given by the Honorable Charles McCrea, minister of mines for the province of Ontario, which made the appropriation for the building. In the evening a number of prominent mining men and former students of Professor H. E. T. Haultain, professor of mining engineering in the University of Toronto since 1908, tendered him a complimentary dinner in honor of the occasion.

DR. EDWARD R. WEIDLEIN, director of the Mellon Institute of Industrial Research, Pittsburgh, has announced that the institution has accepted from the National Grain Yeast Corporation, Belleville, N. J., a grant for a comprehensive investigation of the chemistry and technology of yeast. This research, which will be operated as an industrial fellowship of the institute, will be conducted with the close collaboration of specialists in the donor's organization. The results will be made available as the various stages of the studies are completed. Dr. Roy Irvin, a food and nutritional chemist, has been appointed to the incumbency of the fellowship. He has been a fellow of Mellon Institute since 1917, following the completion of his professional graduate work at the University of Kansas, and has contributed to the literature of bread and baking technology, cereal products and eating habits.

ENGINEERING graduates of Cornell University celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of the College of Engineering on October 17. Tribute was paid to the memory of Hiram Sibley, of Rochester, first president and founder of the Western Union Telegraph Company, through whose gifts the beginnings of the engineering college were made possible. As a part of the celebration the engineering alumni joined in the world-wide observance of the one hundredth anniversary of Faraday's discovery of the principle of electromagnetism. George S. Moler, professor emeritus, reenacted the historic scene when Professor W. A. Anthony and he in 1875 generated electricity with a dynamo they constructed according to Faraday's plans and lighted the Cornell campus while New York and Paris were still using gas illumination.

THE assistance which the Citrus Laboratories of

the U. S. Department of Agriculture have rendered citrus-fruit growers of California and Florida in solving problems of by-product disposal has led to the extension of this work to Texas, following repeated requests for such aid from fruit growers of that state. The last congress appropriated funds for the laboratory which is to be placed on the state-owned land of the Texas State Agricultural Station at Weslaco. Total plantings of citrus in Texas amount to approximately 6,650,000 trees, about half of which are now bearing. This represents an acreage of about 90,000, with grapefruit accounting for three fourths of the total.

THE department of zoology at New Jersey College for Women (the undergraduate woman's college of Rutgers University), New Brunswick, has opened, in its zoology building, a new teaching museum, occupying the room known as the Yardley Memorial Room, in memory of Mrs. Margaret Tufts Yardley, first president of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs, under whose direction the money for the building was raised, and given by the federation to the college for a hall of science. The museum, equipped with aluminum-frame cases and glass shelves, houses about half the teaching exhibits of the department of zoology. These exhibits are on display to the public, and consist of a series of some 225 mounted birds, representing the species found in New Jersey, together with about 90 skins of birds, both native and exotic; an exhibit of the hawks of the state, so placarded as to bring out their value or detriment to agriculture; a series of skeletons of typical vertebrates and of skeletal parts disarticulated; a series of preserved materials, such as human embryos, embryological series of rat and bird, typical reptilia, vertebrate brain series, human brain, head of an Egyptian mummy (probably predynastic), and miscellaneous material; some 50 anatomical models, both human and infra-human mammal structures, and preserved specimens forming a systematic collection of all phyla of animals, as well as a series of the common invertebrata and smaller vertebrata of the state. This last item numbers some 200 exhibits, and is largely divided up among the different laboratories in the building.

NATIONAL forest area in Eastern, Southern and Lake States will be increased by the purchase of 16,558 acres of forest land recently approved by the National Forest Reservation Commission, which authorized the expenditure of \$52,624.82 for the purpose. The commission took recess action in order to advance the date of payment by some six months, as most of the purchases are to be made in areas affected by last year's drought or handicapped by unfavorable financial conditions and unemployment. Individual purchases approved will number 166, involving mainly small tracts. Prompt payment of cash for these holdings is expected to afford some relief to individual owners and local communities. Lands acquired will be added to existing national forest purchase units already protected and administered by the Forest Service for continuous development of forest resources and safeguarding of watershed values. More than half the proposed new purchases lie in or are contiguous to the Ozark and Ouachita National Forests in Arkansas, and 1,121 acres are in the Kiamichi forest purchase unit in Oklahoma. The Nantahala National Forest in the southern Appalachians will be increased by 1,612 acres. About 2,500 acres are to be added to other forests in the South, 389 to the White Mountain National Forest, and 1,858 to purchase units in the Lake States.

ACCORDING to the *Journal of Education* the Cuban National University, which has been closed since September, 1930, was reopened this fall under an entirely new plan which will remove it from the direct supervision of the government, according to the proposal of Dr. Carlos Miguel de Cespedes, secretary of public instruction, who is working out the details of a proposal to be submitted to Congress. The plan is to turn over all buildings and grounds now owned by the state to the university, which will become a separate organization governed by a board of directors composed of twenty-six deans and professors who were appointed to the faculty in 1900 after competitive examinations. The government will arrange an endowment of \$2,000,000. The matriculation fee will be set at \$200 and the government will each year purchase 1,500 scholarships to be distributed among men and women who would be otherwise financially unable to attend the university.

DISCUSSION

OESTRUS

A LETTER in *SCIENCE* of March 27 by Professor S. A. Asdell, of Cornell, protests the misuse of *oestrus* for *oestrus*, affirming not only that the former, since it can not be a neuter nominative, must necessarily be a masculine accusative and so entirely unjustified;

able; and also affirms that Heape introduced *oestrus* into literature as a synonym for animal tumescence. Is he quite correct in either statement? If not too late, may I be permitted briefly to trace the respective histories of the terms?

Oestrus is of course the Latin transliteration of the