

The five-day week plan, valuable as it is for workers in general, does not fit the requirements of scientific work. This needs no amplifications to make it clear to scientific men.

The furlough or reduction in salary makes the situation still more difficult, but it is our observation that the scientific workers generally are making the readjustments necessary to keep within reduced incomes.

The reduction of annual leave (no leave with pay for the current year) and 15 days instead of 30 after this year, throws the government still further out of line with educational institutions and will make the government positions less attractive than those in educational institutions.

It is too soon to appraise very accurately what the full effect of this legislation will be. Our policy in administering it will be to secure the greatest possible saving with the least injury to the work and workers.

### CANADIAN-AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL CONVENTION

THE program of the joint meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association and the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association during the week of August 22-27 at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, has been completed. The Ontario Retail Druggists Association will also hold its annual meeting at this time and will have charge of the entertainment of the delegates. The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain will be officially represented by President, F. G. Hines; past-president, Herbert Skinner; secretary, Hugh N. Linstead; and Thomas Marns, a member of the council. Mr. Skinner is also chairman of the British Pharmaceutical Conference. This will be the most important international pharmaceutical gathering held in North America.

The Plant Science Seminar, the Committee on Pharmaceutical Syllabus and the Conference on Pharmaceutical Research will meet in Toronto during the week preceding the Convention. The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy and the National Association Boards of Pharmacy will hold their sessions on Monday and Tuesday, August 22 and 23. The Canadian Pharmaceutical Association and the Ontario Retail Druggists Association will hold their business sessions on Tuesday, August 23, and their members will be free to attend the various sessions of the American Pharmaceutical Association on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Saturday will be spent visiting the Canadian National Exposition.

On Wednesday forenoon and Thursday afternoon, there will be joint sessions. At the first, the Presidents of the organizations, George A. Burbridge, of Nova Scotia, and Walter D. Adams, of Texas, will deliver their presidential addresses.

Mr. Marns, as chairman of the Committee on Law Enforcement of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great

Britain, will take part in the Conference of Law Enforcement Officials, and Secretary Linstead, of the Society, in the Conference of Pharmaceutical Association Secretaries. The five sections of the American Pharmaceutical Association—Scientific, Practical Pharmacy and Dispensary, Educational and Legislative, Commercial Interests, and Historical—have an unusual number of papers and discussions dealing with practically every phase of pharmacy. Canadian pharmacists will participate in all the programs, and a number of questions of mutual interest to the pharmacists of the United States and Canada will be considered in addition to the usual reports and items of business.

There will be a reception and dance on Monday evening, the joint banquet on Tuesday evening, a moonlight sail on Lake Ontario on Wednesday evening, a Farewell Party and Dance on Friday evening and an all day visit to the Canadian National Exposition on Saturday. In addition, special entertainment for the ladies, Veterans Luncheon on Thursday, sight-seeing parties, a number of special dinners and luncheons for associations, alumni and other groups. Special transportation rates by rail and water are offered.

### MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION AT HARVARD OBSERVATORY

DIRECTLY following the total eclipse of the sun, the triennial meeting of the International Astronomical Union (postponed for a year in order to coincide with the eclipse) will be held in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The meeting is open to delegates and specially invited guests. About eighty overseas astronomers have already signified their intention of attending the meeting.

Sessions of the general assembly, and meetings of scientific commissions, will be held in Alice Longfellow Hall of Radcliffe College. The student dormitories of Radcliffe College have also been lent by the college for the accommodation of the delegates.

The program of the meeting includes: Reception by the American Astronomical Society (Evening, September 2); garden party at the observatory residence (Afternoon, September 3); Excursion to Oak Ridge Station of the Harvard Observatory (September 4); Excursion by boat to Plymouth (Afternoon, September 6); Excursion to Wellesley College (Afternoon, September 8). On the evening of September 8 there will be a dinner, by the invitation of the American Section of the International Astronomical Union.

Meetings of the General Assembly of the Union, and of the various scientific commissions, will be held on the morning of September 3, the morning and after-

noon of September 5, the morning of September 6, the morning and afternoon of September 7, and the mornings of September 8 and 9.

On the evening of September 7 there will be a visit to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In

connection with this visit a public lecture will be given at the institute by Sir Arthur Eddington, Plumian professor of astronomy at the University of Cambridge, on "The Expanding Universe." Admission to the lecture will be by free ticket.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. JOHN J. ABEL, professor emeritus of pharmacology at the Johns Hopkins University, president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, returned on July 24 from Scotland, where he had received an honorary degree from the University of Aberdeen.

THE University of Sheffield has conferred the degree of doctor of science on Sir Alfred Ewing, president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Ewing was formerly professor of mechanism and applied mechanics at the University of Cambridge, and later, until his retirement in 1929, principal and vice-chancellor of the University of Edinburgh.

DR. OSWALD VEBLEN, professor of mathematics at Princeton University, has been appointed the delegate from the American Association for the Advancement of Science, to the British Association, which meets in York from August 31 to September 7.

DR. HENRY S. WASHINGTON, petrologist of the Geological Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, has been elected an honorary member of the Mineralogical Society, London.

THE seventy-fifth anniversary of the birthday of Dr. Frank J. Sprague was celebrated at a banquet given in his honor at the Engineering Societies Building on July 27. The speakers included Frank Hedley, president of the Interborough Rapid Transit Company; Rear Admiral S. S. Robison, retired, and Dr. John H. Finley, of the editorial department of *The New York Times*. Mr. Sprague responded with an address reviewing his long career, concluding with a prophecy of the progressive electrification of the main trunk line railways as "the next great step in advance after the present depression." Admiral Robison presented to Mr. Sprague a set of volumes containing more than five hundred autographed letters from friends all over the world, with photographs of the writers. A letter from President Hoover is included in the volume which reads: "I send you my cordial felicitations on your seventy-fifth birthday and all good wishes for the future. Your contribution in the development of the electric motor, followed by the application of electricity to street railways and to elevators, links your name for all time

with that distinguished group of inventors and engineers whose pioneer work made possible so many of our present utilities, comforts and conveniences. It is fitting that the engineering and scientific world should show general recognition of your noteworthy services to the electric art, and it is with regret that I find I shall not be able to be present at your anniversary celebration."

MAJOR OSCAR VAN PELT STOUT, irrigation engineer, Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, now stationed at Berkeley, California, was awarded the first Cyrus Hall McCormick medal of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers at the twenty-sixth annual meeting, held at the Ohio State University.

DR. ERNST WEBER, research professor of electrical engineering at the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, has won the annual award of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers for a paper read at Asheville, North Carolina, last year on "Field Transients in Magnetic Systems—a Study of Field Transients in Iron Cores partially Laminated and partially Solid."

THE joint committee of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, the Royal Physical Society and the Royal Scottish Geographical Society has awarded the Bruce Prize for the period of 1930–32 to Mr. Herbert G. Watkins, for contributions to the topography of Spitsbergen, Labrador and East Greenland and investigation of the ice cap of Greenland.

RESOLUTIONS of appreciation and a gold watch were presented to Dr. John F. Barnhill, Miami Beach, Florida, at the close of a graduate course on the eye, ear, nose and throat, which he conducted at Indiana University School of Medicine recently with the assistance of members of the faculty. Dr. Barnhill has been professor of surgery of the head at Indiana University School of Medicine for many years.

DR. HARRY C. MESSINGER, Providence, has been awarded the annual Fiske Fund Premium for his dissertation on "The Value of Ocular Signs and Symptoms in the Diagnosis of General Disease." This fund was established nearly 100 years ago by Caleb Fiske for the encouragement of original work.

DR. WILLIAM WARWICK, St. John, New Brunswick, was elected president of the Canadian Public Health Association at the recent annual meeting in Toronto.