

University, the taxonomy and relationships of the fungus genus, *Cercospora*; L. R. Cleveland, assistant professor of protozoology, Harvard University Medical School, the protozoa of termites and roaches from Java and Ceylon; Margaret C. Ferguson, research professor of Botany, Wellesley College, a cytological and genetical study of *Petunia*; J. Douglas Hood, professor of biology, University of Rochester, the Thysanoptera of Trinidad and of Northeastern America.

Frances Densmore, collaborator, Bureau of American Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution, tribal songs of Indians of the Gulf States; Melvin R. Gilmore, curator of ethnology, Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan, the ethnological significance of botanical

specimens from the Indian Pueblos of the Rio Grande Valley, New Mexico.

J. E. Evans, professor of psychology, Iowa State College, the relation between the reaction time and skill of automobile drivers; John A. McGeech, professor of psychology, University of Missouri, the relation between retroactive and reproductive inhibition.

Applications to be considered at the next meeting of the Committee on Grants-in-Aid must be filed with the committee before October 15, 1932.

W. H. HOWELL,

Chairman, National Research Council

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

SIR JOSEPH LARMOR will retire from the Lucasian professorship of mathematics in the University of Cambridge on September 30. He will be succeeded by Dr. Paul Adrien Maurice Dirac, fellow of St. John's College.

PROFESSOR E. F. BURTON, of the department of physics at the University of Toronto, has been appointed head of the department and director of the McLennan Physics Laboratory, to succeed Professor J. C. McLennan, who retired on June 30.

THE University of Oxford conferred the honorary degree of D.C.L. on Lord Moynihan on the occasion of the delivery of the Romanes Lecture. The subject of the lecture was "The Advance of Medicine."

SIR GEORGE NEWMAN will deliver the Harveian Oration of the Royal College of Physicians, London, on October 18.

DR. MAX PLANCK, professor emeritus of theoretical physics at the University of Berlin, received recently a Goethe Medal from the German Government.

DR. CARL E. CORRENS, director of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Biology, has been awarded the Harnack Medal of the Kaiser Wilhelm Association.

THE Bisset Hawkins Gold Medal of the Royal College of Physicians, London, has been awarded to Dr. T. H. C. Stevenson, for work when superintendent of statistics in the office of the Registrar General.

SIR HENRY S. WELLCOME recently visited for the first time the new buildings of his alma mater, the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science. Preceding a luncheon given in his honor, Sir Henry placed a wreath on the grave of Dr. W. W. Keen. In the afternoon, at the college, he was presented with a facsimile reproduction of his graduation thesis and replicas of the molds and models that accompanied it. He plans to place these in the London museum which he founded.

THE American Society of Clinical Pathologists has elected to honorary membership Charles Achard, professor of clinical medicine in the Faculty of Medicine, member of the Institute and the Academy of Medicine, Paris; Charles F. Craig, Colonel U. S. Army, Retired, director of the department of tropical medicine, Tulane University, and Dr. E. C. Dodds, Courtauld professor of biochemistry in the University of London and chemical pathologist to the Middlesex Hospital.

AT the annual meeting of the American Society for Testing Materials the following officers were elected: Mr. Cloyd M. Chapman, consulting engineer, as president (1932-1933); Mr. William H. Bassett, metallurgical manager of the American Brass Company, as vice-president (1932-1934), and the following as members of the executive committee (1932-1934); Messrs. H. A. Gardner, J. O. Leech, J. T. MacKenzie, J. C. Ramage and H. S. Vassar.

ON the occasion of the retirement of Alvin Frank Linn from the chair of chemistry at Wittenberg College, a luncheon was given in his honor by the faculty at which a tribute was presented to him transcribed on a plaque in the style and manner of the medieval illuminators.

DR. D. H. MENZEL, assistant astronomer at the Lick Observatory of the University of California, has been appointed assistant professor of astrophysics at Harvard University.

DR. C. D. LEAKE, professor of pharmacology at the University of California, has been given the additional title of librarian of the State Medical Library.

DR. A. A. SCHAEFFER has been appointed chairman of the department of biology in Temple University.

PROFESSOR GIUNIO SALVI, who holds the chair of normal human anatomy, has been chosen rector of the University of Naples.

C. A. ADAMS, professor of engineering at the Engineering School of Harvard University, has been elected director of the American Bureau of Welding.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM BULLOCH has been elected chairman of the governing body of the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine in succession to the late Sir David Bruce.

SIR ARTHUR KEITH has been appointed by the Royal College of Surgeons master of the Buckston Browne Research Farm.

By an order of the committee of the British Privy Council, made after consultation with the Medical Research Council and with the president of the Royal Society, Professor A. E. Boycott, Graham professor of pathology at University College Hospital, London, and Professor E. D. Adrian, Foulerton professor of the Royal Society and fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, are appointed members of the Medical Research Council in succession to Professor Robert Muir and Sir John H. Parsons, who retire in rotation on September 30 after four years' service.

DR. PAUL R. NEEDHAM, in association with the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries, is conducting a government survey of fish conditions in California this summer. The object of the survey is the restoration of original game conditions in the streams.

DR. N. GIST GEE, who has spent the last thirty-one years in China in scientific work, first with Soochow University and later with the Rockefeller Foundation, is leaving China and returning to the United States. Yenching University has invited him to act as its representative in the United States and he will take over that position, beginning on September 1.

SIR CHARLES SHERRINGTON will deliver the presidential address at the ninth annual conference of the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaus, which will be held at Oxford from September 23 to 26.

THE American Society of Agricultural Engineers will hold its annual meeting in 1934 at Asilomar, California.

THE seventeenth annual meeting of the Optical Society of America will be held at Lake Placid Club, Essex County, New York, from October 13 to 15. The club has made a special rate of \$7.00 per day (meals included) to members of the society and its guests. In addition to the usual program of papers contributed by members on their own initiative, the meeting will include the following special features: An evening lecture on "The Early History of Optics" and a session devoted to invited papers on "A Century of Optics," including "The Era of Young and

Fresnel" and "The Electromagnetic Theory and The Modern Theory of Light." There will be, as usual, group conferences on selected fields of optics. The annual dinner will be given at the club.

THE ninety-second meeting of the German Association of Men of Science and Physicians will take place at Wiesbaden and Mainz from September 25 to 29. Applications for membership should be made to Professor B. Rassow, Gustav-Adolf-Str. 12, Leipzig, C1.

THE three hundredth anniversary of the birthday of Spinoza will be commemorated by a philosophical congress to be held at The Hague under the auspices of Societas Spinozana from September 5 to 10. In addition to a study of Spinoza's philosophy in the historical and critical problems, there will be symposia on physics and metaphysics, religion and philosophy in the light of modern thought and on the teaching of Spinoza.

By the will of the late George F. Kunz Columbia University receives \$1,500 for a fund to be used to purchase mineralogical specimens and "common minerals" for the free use of students in the mineralogical department. The New York Mineralogical Club receives Dr. Kunz's collection of minerals with a request that it remain permanently at the American Museum of Natural History where it now is. Bequests of \$1,000 each were left to the New York Academy of Sciences, for a prize fund for research in mineralogy or geology, "preferably with respect to the study of the region within fifty miles of New York City; to the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society; to the New York Mineralogical Club of the American Museum of Natural History which was founded by the testator, the fund to be used for scientific work or for picture specimens found in this region; to the Mineralogical Society of America, and to the U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C., the income to be applied to the general publication fund of that society."

THE Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research in Yonkers has recently made the New York Botanical Garden an important gift of about 3,400 trees and shrubs, representing about 1,500 species and varieties. This large accession, with one from the Department of Parks of Rochester, has necessitated the provision of additional nursery space. A temporary nursery has been established in the area near Bronx Park East. This has been enclosed by a fence and a water-supply has been installed.

A PRIVATE observatory containing valuable astronomical instruments, including a telescope with a 23-in. reflector, has been offered to the University of

Leeds. The observatory was erected by Mr. Scriven Bolton, a well-known amateur astronomer who died in 1929. The telescope is clock-driven and is believed to be the largest private telescope in the country, and the third largest instrument of its kind in Great Britain.

SIR AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN has received an offer from the chairman and directors of the Prudential Assurance Company to contribute £1,500 a year for a term of seven years to the funds of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, of whose Court of Governors Sir Austen is chairman. The directors of the company are impressed by the importance of the teaching and research in all branches of preventive medicine in which the London School is engaged, and have suggested that the contribution shall be directly associated for the duration of the gift with the university chair of public health, held by the dean of the school as head of the Division of Public Health and Industrial Hygiene.

AN exhibit of testing apparatus and related equipment by the American Society for Testing Materials will be held at the Hotel Stevens in Chicago in 1933, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the society, during the week beginning June 26. Chief among the factors leading to this decision is reported to be the favorable reception accorded the first exhibit held in 1931, together with the fact that an exhibit will attract a large number of engineers who will be attending the various engineering society meetings being held during the week of the exhibit.

THE Fourteenth Exposition of Chemical Industries, according to *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*, will be held in New York during the week of February 27 to March 4, 1933. The Grand Central Palace will again be the location and three entire floors will be devoted to the exhibits, showing the newest developments in raw materials, machinery and manufactured products. More than one hundred and seventy-nine companies have already reserved space. The exhibitors represent over forty American industries which are classified as chemical. Special groupings of exhibits are being made, such as general equipment; chemicals and chemical products; plastics, molded

products, lacquers, etc.; laboratory equipment and supplies; instruments of precision; containers and packaging section and materials-handling equipment; raw materials, natural resources and industrial opportunities, and educational instructional exhibits. The last exposition, which was held in 1931, reported an attendance of 103,000, with a registration of 22,000. Admission to the Fourteenth Exposition will be without charge, and by invitation, or by registration only. An unprecedented attendance is anticipated, because of the timely value of the new products and processes which will be displayed. Exhibits of these new products developed by research will corroborate the findings of a survey conducted recently by the Division of Engineering and Industrial Research of the National Research Council. This survey was made to ascertain the present status of activities of leading industrial research laboratories. Returns from three hundred and fifty companies show that one half had invested more in research in 1931 than in 1929.

A NEW substation, known as the Clemson College Truck Experiment Station, has been established under the South Carolina Experiment Station in Charleston County for experimental work with vegetables. A tract of 67 acres, located seven miles south of Charleston, has been deeded to the county for the use of the substation, and the county has appropriated \$10,000 for buildings and equipment. The main office and laboratory building is nearing completion at a cost of \$5,000, and a deep well water supply with pressure system is being installed at a cost of about \$800. Two projects in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture are being conducted, one with the Bureau of Plant Industry on bean diseases and the other with the Bureau of Entomology on truck crop insects.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Journal* of the American Medical Association states that since the outbreak of hostilities between Japanese and Chinese soldiers in February, the Institute of Science at Shanghai has been closed, and rumor had it that it would sooner or later be removed in the near future. Dr. Yokote, the director, and all his assistants who had come back in Japan, are reported to have gone back to Shanghai in order to reopen the institute, as peace is restored.

DISCUSSION

NOTE ON PREMATURE FLOWERING IN GRAPEFRUIT FROM X-RAYED SEEDS

IN the course of experimental work now in progress in the Research Laboratory of the General Electric Company on the effect of x-radiation in the growth of citrus fruits, two seedling plants have shown characteristics sufficiently striking, it is thought, to be

worthy of a note at the present time. It is hoped later to publish the results of this investigation in full.

The seeds concerned were part of a lot of grapefruit, lemon, lime, tangerine and orange seed most kindly sent us in March, 1932, by Mr. R. G. La Rue, superintendent of cultivations at the college of Agri-