

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

F. TRUBEE DAVISON, assistant secretary of war in charge of aeronautics, was elected president of the American Museum of Natural History to succeed Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn at a meeting of the board of trustees held on January 9. Dr. Osborn, who has been president of the museum for twenty-five years, was elected honorary president. Mr. Davison has been a trustee since 1923, when he succeeded his father, the late Henry P. Davison.

DR. HERMANN WEYL, professor of mathematics at the University of Göttingen, who was the Thomas D. Jones research professor of mathematical physics at Princeton in 1926 and 1928, and Dr. James Waddell Alexander, professor of mathematics at Princeton University, have been appointed professors in the Institute of Advanced Study at Princeton. This brings the number of professorships in the faculty of mathematics to four, the appointments previously made being those of Dr. Albert Einstein, of Berlin, and of Dr. Oswald Veblen, of Princeton. Dr. Solomon Lefschetz, professor of mathematics at Princeton University, has been appointed to the Henry Burchard Fine chair of mathematics to succeed Professor Veblen. The school of mathematics of the institute jointly with the faculty of mathematics of Princeton University will issue the *Annals of Mathematics* under a board of editors selected from each of the two institutions.

DR. J. JACKSON, chief assistant at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, has been appointed H. M. Astronomer at the Cape Observatory, South Africa, in succession to Dr. H. Spencer Jones, recently appointed Astronomer Royal at Greenwich.

DR. P. ZEEMAN, professor of experimental physics in the University of Amsterdam, and Dr. T. Levi-Civita, professor of mathematics in the University of Rome, have been elected foreign associates of the Royal Academy of Belgium.

WE learn from *The British Medical Journal* that on the occasion of the celebration of the tercentenary of the foundation of Dorpat University, fifty doctors, *honoris causa*, were created. These included Sir A. Smith-Woodward, of the Royal Society; Professor James Young Simpson, of the University of Edinburgh; Professor A. Birch-Hirschfeld, of Königsberg; Professor G. Liljestrand, of Stockholm, and Professor L. Martin, of Paris.

PROFESSORS F. A. F. C. WENT, of Utrecht, and F. F. Blackman, of Cambridge, have been elected corresponding members of the American Society of Plant Physiologists.

DR. GEORGE A. SOPER, consulting engineer, New

York, has been made an honorary fellow of the Royal Sanitary Institute of Great Britain.

MANY tributes to Dr. William B. Coley, surgeon, were paid at a dinner recently held in the Waldorf-Astoria, New York City, in honor of his seventy-first birthday and his retirement from Memorial Hospital after twenty-one years' service. More than two hundred guests attended. Among the speakers were Dr. James Ewing, director of Memorial Hospital; Dr. Charles W. Mayo, of Rochester, Minnesota; Dr. John M. T. Finney, of the Johns Hopkins University; Dr. George Davis Stewart, of the American College of Surgeons, and Dean Frederick S. Jones.

PROFESSOR W. MANSFIELD CLARK, De Lamar professor of physiological chemistry of the Johns Hopkins University, was elected president of the Society of American Bacteriologists at the meeting held in Ann Arbor; Professor M. J. Rosenau, professor of preventive medicine and hygiene at the Harvard Medical School and professor of epidemiology in the Harvard School of Public Health, was named vice-president, and Professor James M. Sherman, professor of bacteriology and dairy industry and head of the department at Cornell University, was reelected secretary-treasurer.

DR. EDWARD SAPIR, Sterling professor of anthropology and general linguistics at Yale University, has been elected president of the Linguistic Society of America.

DR. JAMES RAMSAY HUNT, New York, was elected president of the Association for Research in Nervous and Mental Disease at the close of the recent annual meeting in New York. Drs. Charles Macfie Campbell, of the Harvard Medical School, and Earl D. Bond, Philadelphia, were elected vice-presidents.

THE Royal Astronomical Society of Canada has elected officers for 1933 as follows: *President*, Dr. R. K. Young, associate professor of astronomy, University of Toronto; *Honorary President*, Mgr. C. P. Choquette, Montreal; *First Vice-president*, Dr. Lachlan Gilchrist, University of Toronto; *Second Vice-president*, Dr. Ralph E. DeLury, Dominion Observatory, Ottawa; *General Secretary*, R. A. Gray, Toronto; *General Treasurer*, J. H. Horning, Toronto. Dr. R. K. Young gave the presidential address on "The Trend of Astronomy" at the University of Toronto on January 17.

DR. CARL H. LENHART has been appointed to fill the newly established chair of surgery at Western Reserve University, made possible by an anonymous gift of \$300,000 in honor of Colonel Oliver H. Payne.

DR. ALBERT FISCHER, who has for several years been director of the laboratory for cellular physiology at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute in Berlin, has returned to Copenhagen as director of the new institute for research in experimental biology established through the cooperation of the Rockefeller Foundation, the Carlsberg Foundation and the Danish government.

DR. W. L. SCHMITT left Washington on January 5 to join an expedition sponsored by G. Allan Hancock, of Los Angeles. An intensive zoological investigation of the fauna of the Galapagos Islands and the adjacent mainland is planned during the three months that the party will be in the field.

DR. ALFRED F. HESS, New York City, will give the Ingleby Lectures at the University of Birmingham in the summer term of 1933.

THE Terry Lectures at Yale University will be given by Professor Herbert S. Jennings, professor of zoology at the Johns Hopkins University, who in three addresses will speak on "What Outlook on the Universe does the Study of Biology Yield?"

THE annual Alpha Omega Alpha Lecture of the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, was delivered by Professor Herbert M. Evans, of the University of California, on January 11, on "The Hormones of the Anterior Hypophysis."

PROFESSOR HUGH S. TAYLOR, chairman of the department of chemistry at Princeton University, will give a lecture on the evening of January 20 before the New York University Chapter of the Society of Sigma Xi on "The Concept of Speed in Chemical Reactions."

DR. CARLYLE JACOBSEN, of Yale University, spoke on January 16 before the psychological section of the New York Academy of Sciences on "The Effect of Lesions in the Frontal Lobe on Habit Formation." The address was illustrated by motion pictures of chimpanzees and monkeys.

THE Sigma Xi Club of the University of Florida held two meetings during the month of December. At the first, which was an open meeting, Dr. J. H. Brown, of the Johns Hopkins University, lectured concerning milk sanitation and public health. At the second, the department of biology entertained the club with a discussion of their research work and an exhibit of research apparatus, technique and collections of material.

DR. JAMES P. WARBASSE has inaugurated a discussion course on "Medical Sociology" at the Long Island College of Medicine. This is a required course for the students in their second year and is designed to stimulate them to realize the relationship of the physician not only to the profession but to society.

"THE Marquess and the Land Agent: A Tale of the Eighteenth Century" was the title of the presidential address of Professor G. N. Watson, professor of mathematics at the University of Birmingham, at a recent meeting of the Mathematical Association. The address consisted of a technical exposition of the researches of two eighteenth-century mathematicians, G. C. di Fagnano, Marchese di Toschi, and John Landen, on the rectification of curves. Their researches preceded the discovery of elliptic functions.

AT the annual conference of the Geographical Association which opened in London on January 4 at the London School of Economics, under the presidency of Dr. H. R. Mill, an exhibition of books, maps and appliances for the study of geography was given by Mr. G. A. German. A lantern lecture was given by Mr. J. M. Scott on "The British Arctic Air Route Expedition of 1930-31." Dr. Mill's presidential address was entitled "An Approach to Geography."

THE Rockefeller Foundation recently authorized a grant of \$20,000 to the Biological Laboratory at Cold Spring Harbor, to be applied in support of its work in 1933.

MR. ELDRIDGE R. JOHNSON, of Philadelphia, has placed his yacht *Caroline* at the disposal of the Smithsonian Institution for an exploration of the West Atlantic Deep, with sufficient funds to accomplish that end. This work has been placed in charge of Dr. Paul Bartsch, who has been busy for the past month gathering the necessary equipment and staff for such an undertaking. The exploration is to cover a period of four years. The first cruise set sail on January 17 from New York Harbor, and is intended to last until March 23.

DURING the months of January and February an exhibition of the "Atlas of the Historical Geography of the United States," a recent joint publication of the American Geographical Society and the Carnegie Institution of Washington, is being held at the house of the society in New York City. All the maps in the atlas are on display and a member of the society's staff is present to explain them to visitors. The exhibition is for the benefit of fellows and friends of the society and of teachers of history and geography in the schools of New York City and vicinity who may wish to familiarize themselves with the atlas.

THE annual report of the Gorgas Memorial Institute of Tropical and Preventive Medicine, covering the activities of the Gorgas Memorial Laboratory in Panama, for the period November 1, 1931, to October 30, 1932, has been made public. According to a summary given in the *Journal* of the American Medical Association, a study was made on the effect of mass treatment of malaria in a native population in

Panama, with quinine and plasmochin. In July, a station was established in the basin of the Tuira River, Province of Darien, where attention is being given to treatment of yaws with carbarsone and other drugs without the use of injection methods in an attempt to develop an oral treatment. Research was carried on in regard to the protozoologic, immunologic and pathologic features of malaria in Panama monkeys. Work was done to determine the susceptibility of local monkeys to trichinae, and whether they develop an immunity as do rats. Other investigations include those on the protozoa of the alimentary and genital tracts of the monkeys; anthropology and collection of skulls; genital tracts and uterine contents of monkeys and other animal life. Special studies on malaria in unprotected, insanitated areas were carried on in five river villages located on the Chagres River banks. Mass treatment for the entire population was given to prevent mosquito infection. The financial report disclosed that the total cash disbursements for the year were \$47,484, an excess of \$6,332 over the total cash receipts.

THE Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, reports an attendance of 1,824,202 during 1932. In addition 700,000 persons, mostly children, were reached by the extension departments. The number of visitors exceeded the number in any past year and represented an increase of about 20 per cent. over 1931. It was

the sixth consecutive year in which attendance exceeded one million, and during the last five years the museum has had approximately 1,000,000 more visitors than during the entire twenty-five years of its existence before occupying its present Grant Park site, to which it moved in 1921.

THE Board of Directors of *The Journal of Experimental Zoology*, at a recent meeting held in New York, voted to dissolve the corporation and turn over to the Wistar Institute the journal and all its assets. The modest endowment held by the corporation is to be held in trust by the Wistar Institute for the benefit of this journal. *The Journal of Experimental Zoology* has been published by the Wistar Institute since 1908. Its editors were the directors in a corporation which held title to the journal and the fund originally provided for its establishment. The editorial board will continue as it is and will be self-perpetuating. There will be no changes in editorial policy or publication management.

A "LANDING field" for birds traveling north and south has been provided by condemnation proceedings in the Federal Court as a result of which 8,240 acres in Dorchester County, Maryland, will be taken by the government at \$14 an acre. The bird sanctuary is being established as a result of a treaty with Great Britain which provides for the care of migratory birds which travel from Canada.

DISCUSSION

HAMILTON RED BEDS IN EASTERN NEW YORK

At the Toronto meeting of the Geological Society of America, the writer made the revolutionary announcement that the type Catskill red beds of the Catskill Mountain front had proved to be wholly of Portage age or older, thus much lower than the so-called "Catskill" reds farther west and actually *below* rather than above the Chemung. Extensive interfingering of heavy masses of continental red shales with upper and middle Hamilton faunal zones at the extreme east (Albany and Greene counties) was also reported. Subsequently¹ he has employed the name Kiskatom (kis' ka tom') red beds for this lower portion of the original Catskill group that belongs to the middle instead of the upper Devonian. This is the portion formerly falsely identified as "Oneonta"; the true Oneonta has been found to go much higher in the Catskill front and to correspond largely with the so-called "restricted Catskill" there.

Dr. Arthur G. Cooper's field work this summer, with which he has kept me informed, has shown that the top of the Hamilton (middle Devonian) goes even

higher in the red beds than I had supposed. The publication of his results will be awaited with greatest interest, but meantime it seems wise to extend the term Kiskatom, following the original intention, up to the top of the middle Devonian reds, until such time as these may submit to subdivision in the field.

The entire classification of the upper Devonian from central Ohio to eastern New York has been rebuilt during the fifteen field seasons now closing. The correlations demanded by the field relations are extensively summarized in other publications now appearing. In general, the great thickening of all these sediments eastward carries the horizons higher and higher in that direction than was previously believed, diagonally across those overlapping facies that formerly were incorrectly used for correlation. From west to east the reds ("Catskill") are of successively older age, thus:

7. Cattaraugus (Bradfordian);
6. Blossburg (of Conrad; late Chautauquan but post-Chemung);
5. Montrose (of Vanuxem; upper Chemung or Wellsburg);
4. Catawissa (lower Chemung or Cayuta);
3. Catskill proper (of Enfield or upper Portage age);

¹ *Eastern States Oil and Gas Weekly*, September 2, 1932, Vol. I, No. 17, p. 7.