

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE School of Mining of Leoben will confer an honorary degree in mining engineering on President Hoover for his services to mining and technology and for his literary work. It was planned to confer the degree on March 2 in the presence of representatives of the government and all the Austrian universities. The diploma was to be received by Gilchrist Baker Stockton, the United States Minister.

DR. WALLACE W. ATWOOD, president of Clark University, who was an American delegate to the Pan American Institute of History and Geology meeting in Rio de Janeiro, reached New York on February 22. After the meeting, which ended early in January, Dr. Atwood went to Peru and Bolivia, where he studied the highland country for Incan and pre-Incan archeological information. Dr. Atwood was elected president of the institute for the meeting to be held in Washington in 1935.

DR. JONATHAN C. MEAKINS, director of the department of medicine at McGill University, has been elected president of the American College of Physicians and Surgeons for 1934.

DR. CHARLES EDWARD MUNROE, chief chemist for explosives at the United States Bureau of Mines, emeritus professor of chemistry at George Washington University, has been appointed honorary chairman of the committee making plans for the Washington convention of the American Chemical Society, which opens on March 26. Dr. Munroe, who is now eighty-three years old, is the sole surviving charter member of the society, formed in 1876.

PROFESSOR THOMAS C. ESTY, from 1922 to 1929 dean of Amherst College and for many years a member of the department of mathematics, has been appointed by the trustees to be the first vice-president at the recommendation of President Stanley King. Professor Esty will exercise the power and carry on the work of the president in the absence of Dr. King.

DR. WILLARD E. HOTCHKISS, formerly dean of the Stanford Graduate School of Business, has been appointed president of the Armour Institute of Technology in Chicago.

DR. VICTOR GOLDSCHMIDT, professor of mineralogy at the University of Heidelberg, celebrated his eightieth birthday on February 10.

THE council of the Physical Society, London, has awarded the tenth Duddell Medal to Professor Wolfgang Gaede, director of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute of Physics at Karlsruhe, for his work on the design and production of high vacuum pumps.

THE Royal Dublin Society has awarded the Boyle

Medal to Dr. Paul A. Murphy, professor of plant pathology at University College, Dublin.

DR. AUSTIN F. ROGERS, professor of mineralogy at Stanford University, has been elected to membership in the Mineralogical Society of France.

AT Columbia University Dr. Arnold Knapp has been retired with the title of professor emeritus of ophthalmology. Dr. Howard B. Adelman has been appointed assistant professor of anatomy; Dr. Karl Meyer, assistant professor of biological chemistry, and Dr. Richard Thompson, assistant professor of bacteriology.

DR. LEWIS R. HILL has been appointed professor of bacteriology at Loyola University School of Medicine, Chicago, succeeding Dr. Emil Weiss, who resigned recently because of ill health.

DR. PAUL BLUM has been nominated professor of therapeutic hydrology and climatology at Strasbourg, and Dr. Cristol, professor of biological chemistry at Montpellier, in succession to Dr. Derrien.

IT was announced in SCIENCE last week that Captain Charles L. Oman had been appointed surgeon-general of the U. S. Navy. This appointment, like others made by the outgoing administration, has not been confirmed by the Senate.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM CHAMBERS has been transferred from the division of planning, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, U. S. Navy, Washington, D. C., to duty as director of the American Scientific Mission, Port au Prince, Haiti, succeeding Captain Montgomery O. Stuart.

D. L. VAN DINE, until recently an entomologist with the Tropical Research Foundation in Cuba, has been appointed head of the Division of Fruit and Shade Tree Insects of the Bureau of Entomology, U. S. Department of Agriculture. This appointment relieves Dr. C. L. Marlatt, chief of the bureau, of the direction of federal investigations on the insect enemies of fruit.

DR. R. VON IHERING has been commissioned by the Federal Government of Brazil to study the prospects of fish culture in the reservoirs of the arid regions of Northwest Brazil (frontier of the states from Piahy to Bahia). Biologists interested in limnology will be given transportation facilities for the study of subjects correlated with fish culture. Candidates recommended by their instructors can address Dr. R. von Ihering, cidade de João Pessoa, Estado de Parahyba, Brazil.

DR. JAMES ANGUS DOULL, professor of hygiene and public health in the School of Medicine of Western

Reserve University, has leave of absence to organize an epidemiological study for the Leonard Wood Memorial for the Eradication of Leprosy. Dr. Doull will sail on March 25 from Vancouver for the Philippine Islands, and will be absent from Cleveland for about six months. He will initiate studies on the frequency of leprosy in relation to diet, age, living conditions, contact with previous cases and other factors. These and similar studies will be continued over some years in the Philippines and possibly in other parts of the world.

DR. VICTOR NEHER, of the California Institute of Technology, is on his way to Peru, to make a further study of cosmic rays. He plans to fly over the highest peaks of the Andes, using one of the regular transport planes of Pan American Airways System specially chartered to carry his equipment.

DR. ROY W. MINER, curator of marine life at the American Museum of Natural History, sailed on February 24 to gather additional data, including motion pictures, of the Great Reef of Andros Island. He was accompanied by Chris E. Olsen, as artist. The object of the expedition is to add to the knowledge of such reefs and to enhance the display of great Bahamas coral reefs now in the museum.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM H. SELLEW, assistant director of the department of engineering research of the University of Michigan, has sailed for Germany, for a conference with Professor Planke, of Karlsruhe, an authority on air-conditioning methods.

DR. ALICE H. FARNSWORTH, associate professor of astronomy at Mount Holyoke College, is spending her sabbatical leave for the remainder of the year at the Perkins Observatory, Delaware, Ohio, pursuing special studies in spectroscopic problems.

KARL P. SCHMIDT, assistant curator of reptiles at Field Museum of Natural History, has returned to his post at the museum after six months of research on type specimens of reptiles in European museums, carried on under a fellowship awarded to him by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation of New York.

At its recent meeting the Committee on Scientific Research of the American Medical Association made grants to Dr. Ernest Carroll Faust, professor of parasitology, department of tropical medicine, Tulane University of Louisiana, for continuing his investigations on human strongyloidosis; to Dr. W. T. Dawson, professor of pharmacology at the University of Texas, for further work on the relations between chemical constitution and toxicity of cinchona alkaloids; to Dr. Jessie L. King and Miss Ethel Soule, of Goucher College, Baltimore, to aid in a study of the effect

of cortical extract on adrenalectomized rats, and to Dr. John Guttman, of New York City, to continue his research in the laboratories of the New York Post-Graduate Medical School of Columbia University on the electric current produced by sound in the auditory apparatus.

DR. L. H. ADAMS, of the Geophysical Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution, retiring president of the Washington Academy of Sciences, delivered on February 16 an address on "The Basic Concept of the Physical Sciences."

THE third Joseph Henry Lecture before the Philosophical Society of Washington will be given by President Karl T. Compton, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in the auditorium of the Cosmos Club on the evening of March 11. The subject of the address will be "High Voltage."

DR. ARTHUR H. COMPTON, professor of physics at the University of Chicago, gave a lecture on "Cosmic Rays" on February 22, at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, under the auspices of the department of physics and the Proctor Foundation of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences.

PROFESSOR EDWARD KASNER, of Columbia University, gave three public lectures in January and February before the People's Institute. The titles of these lectures were "Numbers and Infinity," "Spaces and Dimensionality," "Geometry and Physics."

PROFESSOR H. S. JACKSON, of the department of botany of the University of Toronto, gave the annual Darwin anniversary address under the auspices of the Botanical Seminar of Michigan State College on February 14. He spoke on "Some Life Cycles of the Rusts in Comparison with those of the Red Seaweeds."

DEAN FRANK C. WHITMORE, of the Pennsylvania State College, spoke before the Central Pennsylvania Section of the American Chemical Society on February 15 on "Some Unorthodox Organic Chemistry," and on the same subject on March 1 before the Kansas City Section of the American Chemical Society.

DR. HARLAN T. STETSON, director of the Perkins Observatory of Ohio Wesleyan University, addressed the Chicago Astronomical Society on February 8 at the Adler Planetarium, on "The Correlation of Solar Activity with Radio Transmission." On February 14 he lectured before the Rittenhouse Astronomical Society at the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, on "Some Coming Problems of Cosmic Astronomy."

On February 17 Dr. Arthur D. Little broadcast a ten-minute talk on "Industrial Research," this being one of the series of scientific talks sponsored by General Electric Company in recognition of the

electrical industry's debt to scientific research. In the afternoon of the same day, he spoke before the weekly colloquium of the Research Laboratory at Schenectady on "Some Professional Experiences."

PROFESSOR AUGUSTE PICCARD, of the University of Brussels, gave a Norman Wait Harris lecture at Northwestern University on February 15 on "Exploring in the Stratosphere."

SIR WILLIAM B. HARDY, director of food investigation, department of scientific and industrial research, gave the Trueman Wood Memorial Lecture before the Royal Society of Arts on February 22, on "Industrial Research with Biological Material."

At the fifteenth annual meeting of Edison Pioneers on February 11, the formation of an International Edison Foundation was announced. The foundation, which has not yet been incorporated, plans to provide fellowships in physics and chemistry in universities of the United States and other countries. American graduate students will be sent abroad and foreign students will be brought to the United States to continue their education in physics and chemistry. Dr. Arthur E. Kennelly, professor emeritus of electrical

engineering at Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is chairman of a committee of three appointed to confer on the fellowships.

RECENT action of the Rockefeller Foundation has approved a grant for two years, ending July 1, 1934, for a sum not to exceed \$20,000 to supplement the funds of the Ohio Wesleyan University for the maintenance of the scientific program of the Perkins Observatory.

A GIFT of £500 from the Rockefeller Foundation has been made to the Molteno Institute of Parasitology of the University of Cambridge, for the purchase of instruments and for assistance in connection with investigations carried on by Professor Keilin.

ACCORDING to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association the Thomas W. Salmon Memorial Committee of the New York Academy of Medicine announces that small grants are available to physicians and others who are engaged in research work in the field of psychiatry, mental hygiene and child guidance. Workers who are interested in receiving such grants may apply to the committee, 2 East One Hundred and Third Street, New York.

DISCUSSION

IS IT "FAIR TO SAY THAT HOOKWORM DISEASE HAS ALMOST DISAPPEARED FROM THE UNITED STATES?"

I. INTRODUCTION

SINCE 1930 I have motored about 10,000 miles through the Gulf-Atlantic states, chiefly in the sand-land districts. These trips have given an opportunity to compare present conditions with those of the earlier years of the century and to converse with people of all walks of life.

A striking point in these conversations has been the number of persons who believe that hookworm disease has been eradicated from this country and who cite as authority newspaper reports allegedly based on statements attributed to the Rockefeller Foundation.

The Thirteenth Annual Report (1927—for 1926) of the International Health Board of the Rockefeller Foundation contains in fact (pp. 5-6) the following paragraph:

The diseases that the Board has chosen for special attention have been world-wide in their distribution and of great economic importance. Field research in the epidemiology of hookworm disease has *advanced knowledge* concerning the life history of the hookworm, both in its free-living larval form and in its adult relationship to the host, so that we now have a much better understanding of the disease. This knowledge has enabled *governmental agencies* to *delimit* the field of control

work and to modify the methods of treatment and of prevention to such an extent that the former *administrative methods of control have been revolutionized. The results have been extraordinarily successful.* At the present time *it is fair to say that hookworm disease has almost disappeared from the United States* and is rapidly coming under control in many parts of the world. But the *great achievement* is not the social and economic rehabilitation of the more than six or seven million people who have been treated for the disease during the past ten or fifteen years; it is the development of administrative measures that will prevent millions yet unborn from ever suffering from its ravages. (Original not in italics).

Until recently I had no idea that so many people had taken the Foundation's report seriously, but during these recent trips I had to combat it so frequently that I wrote to Mr. Rockefeller, Jr., placed before him evidence as to the wide distribution of the disease in the Southern states, offered to motor with a representative of his selection in order to collect additional data for him, and urged him to take steps to modify the claim published by the Foundation. My letters were referred to the directors of the International Health Division, but up to date no retraction or modification has come to my attention.

II. ANALYSIS OF THE FOUNDATION'S CLAIM

The three essential points in the claim are:

(1) *Important discoveries in the biology of hook-*