

Arthur A. Noyes, founder of the laboratory and acting president of the institute from 1907 to 1909, now director of the Gates Chemical Laboratory at the California Institute of Technology.

The program in the afternoon included a meeting at which Dr. Arthur H. Compton, of the University of Chicago, described the latest work on the origin and nature of the cosmic rays. At this meeting Dr. Charles A. Kraus, professor of chemistry at Brown University, made an address on "Thirty Years of Physical Chemistry."

At the conclusion of the afternoon meeting the inspection of laboratories was resumed, after which the visitors attended a tea in the Forris Jewett Moore Room. In the evening they were the guests at a private dinner in Walker Memorial, and later attended a reception by President Compton and members of the staff of the new laboratories.

PROFESSOR EINSTEIN

AS SCIENCE has reported, the French Government has offered its hospitality to Professor Einstein, and for this purpose has created a chair of mathematical physics at the College of France. This has been offered to Professor Einstein, who has accepted the call.

The London *Times* states that the creation of this new chair required legislation, and a bill was hastily prepared by the Ministry of Education. It was introduced into the Chamber by M. de Monzie, the responsible minister, and was rapidly passed through all the necessary stages before the deputies separated for the recess.

In the preamble to the bill M. de Monzie recalled as a precedent the action of the French Government in 1840 in creating a Chair of Slavonic Literature for the Polish poet Adam Mickiewicz, then in exile, and declared that the Third Republic should show itself to be at least as liberal as the July Monarchy. The chair was destined for the occupation of a foreign *savant* who would find in the foundation of Francis I. the spiritual liberty and serenity necessary to his labors and the welcome due to his genius.

At the close of a brief discussion of the measure in the Chamber M. Daladier asked the deputies to

associate themselves with the government in passing the bill and thus honor not only a man of genius but a man of courage. The measure was unanimously adopted.

Professor Einstein has addressed the following open letter to the Prussian Academy of Sciences, from which he recently resigned:

I have received from absolutely reliable sources the report that the Academy of Sciences, in an official declaration, spoke of the "participation of Albert Einstein in the atrocity campaign in America and France."

I hereby declare that I have never taken part in any atrocity campaign, and I must add that I have seen nothing whatsoever of such a campaign. In the vast majority of cases people contented themselves with repeating and commenting upon official declarations and decrees of responsible persons in the German Government as well as the program for the economic destruction of the German Jews.

The information I have given to the press was that I would resign my position in the academy and surrender my rights of German citizenship; I gave as my reason the fact that I did not want to live in a country where equality before the law and freedom of speech and of teaching were not granted to the individual.

In addition I explained the state of present-day Germany as one of psychic illness in the masses and said something about the causes. In an article which I gave for circulation purposes to the International League for Combating Anti-Semitism, and which was in no way intended for the press, I further summoned all thoughtful people who remain true to the ideals of a threatened civilization to do everything possible to prevent this mass psychosis, which had manifested itself in such an appalling way in Germany, from spreading further.

It would not have been difficult for the academy to have acquired a proper text of my statements before talking about me in the way it has done. The German press has misrepresented my statements in a tendentious manner, as is only to be expected in view of the present gagging of the press.

I stand by every word I have uttered. But I expect in return that the academy—particularly as it has contributed to my defamation before the German public—should put this statement of mine before its members and the German public before whom I was calumniated.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. JAMES B. CONANT, Sheldon Emery professor of organic chemistry, was on May 8 elected president of Harvard University by the corporation to succeed Dr. A. Lawrence Lowell.

At a meeting of the board of trustees of the American Museum of Natural History on May 1, a resolution was adopted directing that the hall which houses the collection of the Pleistocene period be known as

the "Osborn Hall of the Age of Man," in recognition of Dr. Osborn's "untiring devotion to vertebrate paleontology." At this meeting a portrait of Dr. Osborn by Mr. Julian Lamar was presented to the museum by the trustees.

DR. MAX PLANCK, professor of physics in the University of Berlin, celebrated his seventy-fifth birthday on April 23.

PROFESSOR D'ARSONVAL recently retired from the chair of physiology at the Collège de France on the occasion of his eighty-first birthday.

THE Berlin correspondent of the *Journal* of the American Medical Association writes: "The recognized leader among German pharmacists, Professor Hans Horst Meyer, of Vienna, celebrated his eightieth birthday, March 17. At the age of twenty-nine he held the chair of pharmacology at the University of Dorpat, Estonia. From Dorpat he was called to Marburg; in 1904 he was given the chair of pharmacology at Vienna, and, refusing a call to Berlin, he held this position until he reached the age of enforced retirement. On his seventieth birthday, the Vienna Academy of Sciences established the Hans Horst Meyer prize, which is bestowed every five years for the best research in the German language in the field of experimental medicine."

ON the occasion of the celebration of a half-century of progress in dentistry at the University of Pennsylvania on May 8 the honorary degree of doctor of science was conferred on Dr. Herbert S. Jennings, director of the zoological laboratory of the Johns Hopkins University; Dr. Milo Hellman, professor of orthodontia at Columbia University and research associate of the American Museum of Natural History; Dr. Leroy Matthew Simpson Miner, dean of the Harvard Dental School, and Dr. Charles Root Turner, dean of the Dental School of the University of Pennsylvania. The doctorate of laws was conferred on Dr. Samuel P. Capen, chancellor of the University of Buffalo. Addresses were made by Professor Herbert S. Jennings on "The Biologist's Outlook on the World" and by Surgeon-General Hugh S. Cumming, U. S. Public Health Service, on "The Relationship of Dentistry to Public Health." At the annual dinner addresses were made on "The Field of Dentistry," by Dr. Leroy M. S. Miner; on "Dental Education," by Dr. Samuel P. Capen, and on "The Dental School in the University," by Dr. Thomas S. Gates, president of the University of Pennsylvania.

THE Mendel Medal, awarded annually by Villanova College to "a Catholic who has achieved distinction in the advancement of the sciences," was presented on May 4 to Dr. Hugh S. Taylor, David B. Jones professor of chemistry and chairman of the department of chemistry at Princeton University. Rev. Edward V. Stanford, president of the college, made the presentation.

FELIX M. WARBURG has resigned as a member of the board of trustees of the American Museum of Natural History after a membership of twenty-three years. The vacancy has been filled by the election of Mr. Warburg's son, Frederick M. Warburg. John

D. Rockefeller, 3rd, has been elected to succeed Frederick E. Brewster, who resigned in January after serving for twenty years.

PROFESSOR J. T. J. MORRISON, on his retirement from the chair of forensic medicine and toxicology at the University of Birmingham, has been elected by the Court of Governors emeritus professor and a life governor of the university.

DR. BENNO E. LISCHER, professor of orthodontics in the University of California, has been appointed dean of the School of Dentistry, Washington University, St. Louis.

DR. SOLOMON LEFSCHETZ, professor of mathematics at Princeton University, has been appointed to the Henry Burchard Fine chair of mathematics to succeed Professor Oswald Veblen, now a member of the faculty of the Institute for Advanced Study.

DR. HENRY MCE. KNOWER, research fellow in the Osborn Zoological Laboratory at Yale University, has been appointed research associate in biology with the rank of associate professor.

DR. S. F. HILDEBRAND, senior ichthyologist of the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries, has been "loaned" to Mississippi to make investigations on which to base a scientific program for fish conservation and propagation in Mississippi, following representations to the bureau from the State Fish and Game Commission and the congressional delegation of that state asking for assistance in securing information on spawning seasons of the various fish.

DR. GEORGE M. SUTTON, curator of birds at Cornell University, has left for the Chisos Mountains in the Big Bend Region of Texas, on a joint Cornell-Carnegie Institution bird-hunting expedition.

NEW officers of the Western Reserve University Chapter of Sigma Xi include: Dr. Harold S. Booth, associate professor of chemistry, *president*; Dr. James Angus Doull, professor of public health, *vice-president*; Dr. Wilton Marion Krogman, associate professor of physical anthropology, *secretary*; Dr. Amos Henry Hersch, assistant professor of biology, *treasurer*; Dr. Webster G. Simon, professor of mathematics, and Dr. Bradley M. Patten, associate professor of histology and embryology, *members of the nominating committee*.

AT the annual meeting of the Boston Society of Natural History, held on May 3, the following officers were elected for 1933-1934: *President*, Charles H. Taylor; *Vice-presidents*, Nathaniel T. Kidder, Glover M. Allen, William M. Wheeler; *Secretary*, Clinton V. MacCoy; *Treasurer*, Augustus P. Loring, Jr.; *Trustees*, Thomas Barbour, John A. Blanchard, William

L. W. Field, Ralph Hornblower, Frederic H. Kenard, John C. Phillips. At the same meeting the annual Walker Prizes in Natural History, offered this year for the best memoir on any subject in the field of botany, were awarded to Lyman B. Smith, of Harvard University, for his paper on "Evolutionary Lines in the Bromeliaceae," and to George Hume Smith, of Indianapolis, for his paper on the "Anatomy of the Embryonic Leaf." Alice A. Mackenzie, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, received honorable mention for her paper entitled "A Few Observations on Adaptations for Support Exhibited by Plants."

THE Board of Directors of the Bache Fund, composed of Professors E. B. Wilson, W. J. V. Osterhout and Heber D. Curtis, chairman, at their meeting in Washington on April 26, made grants as follows: To Miss Cecilia H. Payne, Harvard College Observatory, Cambridge, Mass., for the determination of photographic magnitudes of southern stars; to Robert R. McMath, McMath-Hulbert Observatory, for motion picture researches on the solar prominences; to Dr. Graham Edwards, School of Medicine, University of Buffalo, for renal researches; to Dr. O. J. Lee, Dearborn Observatory, for investigation of the spectra of faint stars; to Dr. J. Elery Becker, Iowa State College, for researches on the protozoal parasites of ground squirrels; to Dr. Michael Heidelberger, Presbyterian Hospital, New York, for the purchase of an interferometer for the study of precipitin reactions.

DR. JOYCE CLENNAM STEARNS, professor of physics and mathematics at the University of Denver, has been given a grant of \$300 from the Carnegie Institution and another for the same amount from the Rumford Committee, which he will use for further study of the cosmic ray.

THE Secretary of Agriculture, Henry A. Wallace, spoke before the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, on May 9, the title of his address being "Agriculture and Science." He described the present situation of the scientific departments of the government, as well as the relationship of science to agriculture.

DR. JOHN CAMPBELL MERRIAM, president of the Carnegie Institution, delivered a James Arthur Foundation lecture on May 4, entitled "Time and Change in History."

DR. GEORGE W. MCCOY, director of the National Institute of Health of the United States Public Health Service, delivered a public address on April 27, under the auspices of the Lehigh University Chapter of Sigma Xi, on "Our National Defense against Disease."

DEAN GEORGE F. KAY, head of the department of geology at the State University of Iowa, and state geologist of Iowa, lectured recently at the University of Rochester, Cornell University and Vassar College, on "Glaciation: the Background of Mississippi Valley Development."

DR. E. W. GOODPASTURE, professor of pathology, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, gave the annual address of the LaFayette Guild chapter of the Gorgas Medical Society at the University of Alabama, on April 28. The subject of his address was "A Medical Pageant." Following the address, Dr. Goodpasture was made an honorary fellow of the Gorgas Medical Society.

DR. ALEXANDER PRIMROSE, formerly dean and professor of clinical surgery, University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine, Toronto, delivered the seventh annual Donald C. Balfour Lecture in Surgery at the university on April 5. Dr. Primrose's subject was "The Interrelation of Anatomy and Surgery." The day was the one hundred and sixth anniversary of the birth of Lister.

SIR FRANK DYSON, formerly astronomer royal of Great Britain, who has arrived at Capetown on a holiday in South Africa, addressed a meeting of the Astronomical Society of South Africa, giving a critical summary of the work of his predecessors at Greenwich.

ALL works of Dr. Franz Boas, professor of anthropology in Columbia University, have been removed from the library of the University of Kiel. The writings of Professor Boas are particularly distasteful to the Nazi, because of his opposition to the theory of "Nordic" or "Aryan" racial superiority which forms the basis of the National Socialist social philosophy. Professor Boas received the doctorate degree from Kiel in 1881 and was last year given an honorary degree by the university.

AFTER a period of inactivity since 1918 the Arkansas Academy of Sciences held its annual meeting in Little Rock on April 14 and 15. The academy was organized and chartered by the state in 1917 and was active into 1918, but because of the war, activities were suspended until last fall when the organization was revived. The following officers were elected: *President*, D. M. Moore, University of Arkansas; *Vice-president*, C. F. Allen, Little Rock; *Treasurer*, H. H. Schwardt, University of Arkansas; *Permanent Secretary*, L. M. Turner, University of Arkansas.

A GROUP of fifty-seven advanced and graduate students of the department of chemical engineering of the Ohio State University left Columbus on May 1,

on the twenty-seventh Annual Chemical Engineering (Eastern) Inspection Trip under the direction of Dr. James R. Withrow, chairman of the department, and Assistant Professor Joseph H. Koffolt. They planned to visit plants in Rittman, Barberton, Akron, Cleveland, Niagara Falls, N. Y., Rochester, New York City, Grasselli, New Jersey, Wilmington, Delaware, Baltimore, Maryland, and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The industries visited included the paper board industry, rubber industry, chemical stoneware, dirigible fabrication, paints, varnishes, insulators, high tension problems, manufacture of tungsten filaments, glass bulb blowing, hydroelectric power development, carborundum, petroleum refining, heavy chemical manufacture, manufacture of graphite, rayon, electrolytic caustic soda, chlorine, glass-lined equipment, silver salts, photographic films, sugar refining, dyes, chemicals and intermediates, industrial alcohol, alcohol chemicals, the U. S. Bureau of Mines, Pittsburgh, and the Fuel Testing Laboratory of the Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh.

GIFTS to the National Research Council since last October include three new appropriations from the Rockefeller Foundation: (a) A fund of \$50,000 for the continuation of the general research aid fund which has been administered by the council since 1929, making a total of \$320,000 provided by the foundation for this purpose. (b) A fund of \$75,000 for the support of the program of research in problems of sex which has been directed by the council since 1922, with the aid of grants from the foundation now amounting to \$735,000. (c) A further appropriation of \$75,000 has been made by the foundation to *Biological Abstracts* for the expense of the editorial work of this journal. This fund will be administered through the National Research Council. Altogether a total of \$793,000 has been provided by the foundation toward the support of the *Abstracts* since the establishment of the journal, which began publication in 1926. The firm of E. R. Squibb and Sons has given the sum of \$1,400 for the support of two fellows working in cooperation with the Committee on Drug Addiction, one with the group engaged upon chemical investigations

for the committee at the University of Virginia, and one with the group at the University of Michigan, which has charge of the physiological investigations of the committee.

THE late Dr. Alexander S. Monroe, Vancouver, B. C., former president of the Canadian Medical Association, who died on August 12, 1932, bequeathed to the University of British Columbia a fund of \$80,000 for medical research. The bequest will become available after the death of all beneficiaries of the will.

ACCORDING to the London *Times*, an official decree issued by the commissarial burgomaster of Munich, Herr Fiehler, restricts all Jewish doctors in the Munich municipal hospitals (including most of the university institutions) to Jewish bodies in their dissection work, and bans all Jewish medical students from these hospitals.

THE transmission of weather maps by teletype, over a mileage of airways which already amounts to about 13,000 miles, is a new feature introduced in the weather service in the United States through a co-operative arrangement made between the Weather Bureau of this department and the Department of Commerce. Such transmission is a valuable improvement in the efficiency of weather service for air traffic of all kinds, says the Weather Bureau. For the purpose of the teletype distributing system the country is divided into three regions, for which Cleveland, Kansas City and Oakland, Calif., serve as distributing centers. At these centers Weather Bureau personnel prepare base weather maps every four hours for the respective regions. These base maps are then given to teletype operators of the Department of Commerce, who place them in a teletypewriter and type on them symbols representing ceiling, visibility, lines of equal barometric pressure, etc. The maps are sent over a number of electric circuits simultaneously by use of an automatic perforator and perforated tape. With the use of the perforated tape the map is duplicated at all teletype-equipped points in the circuits. After a map has been transmitted to the circuits in its own region it is then relayed to circuits in other regions.

DISCUSSION

DESTRUCTION OF MOORING ROPES BY TEREDO; GROWTH AND HABITS IN AN UNUSUAL ENVIRONMENT

IN the summer and autumn of 1930 a species of *Teredo* appeared in Long Island Sound in unprecedented numbers. Instead of confining their borings exclusively to piles and other submerged pieces of wood, as is usually the case, the young mollusks also attacked the ropes which held buoys and mooring floats at anchor. In a number of cases the ropes

were entirely severed and the boats set adrift. The greatest damage seems to have occurred in New Haven Harbor, but similar trouble was reported from near New York. Mr. Raymond E. Miskelly, of the Plymouth Cordage Company, who first called my attention to this attack on rope, informs me that injuries of this nature were more or less general along the coast south of Cape Cod, as well as in Long Island Sound, during the same months.

The species responsible for this aberrant behavior