

Sir Frederick Hopkins, *president*; Sir Henry Lyons, *treasurer*; Sir Henry Dale and Sir Frank Smith, *secretaries*, and Lord Rayleigh, *foreign secretary*.

Other members of council.—Dr. E. J. Butler, Dr. W. T. Calman, Professor C. H. Desch, Professor T. R. El-

liott, Professor A. V. Hill, Mr. C. N. Hinshelwood, Professor A. Hutchinson, Dr. H. S. Jones, Professor J. C. McLennan, Dr. F. H. A. Marshall, Sir Charles Martin, Professor E. Mellanby, Professor R. Robinson, Mr. H. T. Tizard, Professor E. T. Whittaker and Mr. G. U. Yule.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. WILLIAM H. WELCH, president of the Board of Scientific Directors of the Rockefeller Institute since the foundation of the institute in 1901, has retired and has been succeeded by Dr. Theobald Smith. The trustees of the institute have elected Dr. Welch member emeritus of the board, a new office created in order to honor him.

DR. GEORGE D. BIRKHOFF, professor of mathematics at Harvard University, received an honorary degree from the University of Poitiers, France, at the recent quincentenary celebration at the university.

DR. COLIN G. FINK, head of the division of electrochemistry at Columbia University, has been awarded the Perkin Medal of the New York section of the Society of Chemical Industry for 1934, in recognition of his contributions to metallurgy and electrochemistry. Presentation of the medal will be made at a meeting in New York City early in January.

A CHEMICAL INDUSTRY MEDAL, to be awarded annually for a valuable application of chemical research to industry, has been established by the American section of the Society of Chemical Industry, to take the place of the Grasselli Medal, now discontinued. The first award was made to James G. Vail, vice-president and chemical director of the Philadelphia Quartz Company. The presentation was made by Professor Marston T. Bogert, of Columbia University, at a joint meeting held recently at the Chemists' Club, New York, of the American Chemical Society, the Electrochemical Society and the Société de Chimie Industrielle. Professor Walter T. Taggart, of the University of Pennsylvania, described Mr. Vail's work, and the latter delivered an address on the many new and varied applications of water glass.

DR. FREDERICK E. TURNEAURE, dean of the college of engineering at the University of Wisconsin, was recently made an honorary member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, by vote of the directors of the society. There are nineteen honorary members in a total membership of over fifteen thousand.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association reports that Dr. F. G. Banting, professor of medical research in the University of Toronto, has been admitted to honorary fellowship in the Royal College of Surgeons. He was already a member of the college. He was welcomed by the president, Sir Hol-

burt Waring, and signed the roll in the presence of the council. It is three years since Dr. Banting was nominated for the fellowship, but this was the first opportunity to confer it on him.

DR. FRIEDRICH VON MÜLLER, professor of internal medicine at Munich, has recently celebrated his seventy-fifth birthday.

THE Goethe Medal of the German Empire has been awarded to Dr. Albrecht Penck, professor of geography at the University of Berlin.

DR. ROSS V. PATTERSON, dean of Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, was elected president of the Association of American Medical Colleges at the annual meeting which was held in Rochester and Minneapolis, from October 30 to November 1. Dr. Charles W. Poynter, Omaha, was elected vice-president and Dr. Fred C. Zapffe, Chicago, was reelected secretary. Nashville was selected as the place for the meeting in October, 1934.

M. LEMOINE, director of the National Museum of Natural History at Paris, has been elected president of the Association of Museum Curators of France.

DR. G. E. HARMON, associate professor of hygiene and vital statistics of the School of Medicine of Western Reserve University, was elected chairman of the section of vital statistics of the American Public Health Association at the recent meeting in Indianapolis.

DR. FREDERICK G. COTTRELL, of Washington, has been appointed chief consulting chemist of the Tennessee Valley Authority. Dr. Cottrell for some time has directed the fertilizer experiments for the authority, which has set aside \$4,000,000 for construction of fertilizer works at Muscle Shoals.

E. C. CRITTENDEN, chief of the Division of Electricity of the U. S. Bureau of Standards, has been appointed assistant director of the bureau in charge of research and testing, to fill the vacancy created by the appointment of Dr. Lyman J. Briggs to the directorship of the bureau. Mr. Crittenden has been connected with the Bureau of Standards since July 1, 1909.

At the Pennsylvania State College, Dr. F. F. Linger, professor of agricultural economics and agricultural economist, has been granted leave of absence

from August 7 to February 7, 1934, and from June 1 to 30, for the purpose of participating in a study of the administration of the Agricultural Adjustment Act to be made by the Brookings Institution of Washington, D. C.

DR. ROBERT V. ALLISON, soils specialist, who has been in charge of the Florida Everglades Station, has been temporarily appointed senior soil conservationist in the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils to take over the planning and directing of investigations at the ten erosion stations of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Dr. Allison will take charge of this work during the absence of H. H. Bennett, who has been loaned to the Department of the Interior to direct a large-scale demonstrational program under allotment of \$5,000,000 from the Public Works Administration.

FERDINAND W. HAASIS has been temporarily appointed under NRA funds as physiologist to study windbreaks and erosion control at the Great Plains Field Station, Cheyenne, Wyoming, effective on December 1.

PROFESSOR HERBERT OSBORN, of the Ohio State University, has donated his collections of Hemiptera to the university, and the trustees in accepting the gift have provided a curator of insect collections in the department of zoology and entomology to assure the permanent preservation of these and other collections belonging to the institution. Mr. J. N. Knull, formerly with the Pennsylvania Bureau of Plant Industry, has been secured as curator and will take up the work in January. Dr. Osborn's collection is extensive, representing material which he has collected from his boyhood up to the present. It is rich in type material, especially in the family of Cicadellidae.

JOSEPH M. VIAL has been appointed specialist in animal husbandry by President Raymond A. Pearson, of the University of Maryland. Mr. Vial comes from La Grange, Illinois, and fills the vacancy created when Kenneth A. Clark resigned to become manager of a number of farms in Frederick County.

G. W. FERNER, who was recently granted the J. T. Baker fellowship in analytical chemistry, Midwest Division, has started work at Purdue University under the direction of M. G. Mellon.

THE trustees of the Ray Lankester Fund have elected Professor N. J. Berrill, associate professor of zoology at McGill University, Montreal, to be the Ray Lankester investigator at the Marine Biological Laboratory, Plymouth, from June 1, 1934. The subject of Dr. Berrill's research will be metamorphosis in ascidians and regeneration in sabellids.

THE first award of the Andrew Balfour studentship at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medi-

cine has been made to G. M. Balfour, who is taking the course of study for the diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

THE Ramsay Memorial Fellowship Trustees have made the following awards of new fellowships for the year 1933-34: Dr. A. G. Winn, a British fellowship of £300, tenable for two years, at University College, London; Dr. N. W. H. Addink, a Netherland fellowship of £300, at the University of Cambridge, and Dr. J. Smittenberg, a Netherland fellowship of £300, at the University of Bristol. The trustees have renewed the following fellowships for the same year: Dr. J. M. Albareda, Spanish fellow, Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden; Dr. Walter Cawood, British fellow, the University of Leeds, and Dr. John MacArthur, Glasgow fellow, the Royal Institution, London.

RALPH F. NIELSON, for the past three years instructor in chemistry at the Kansas State College, has sailed for Copenhagen, Denmark, where he will engage in chemical research under Professor J. N. Brønsted at the Institute of Physical Chemistry of the University of Copenhagen.

DR. MARTIN L. BONAR, head of the department of pharmacology of the school of medicine of West Virginia University, is spending three months in the Balkan states making a survey for the Near East Foundation.

PROFESSOR HOWARD Y. MCCLUSKY, of the University of Michigan, is on leave of absence this semester. He plans to spend his time in England and on the Continent, where he will visit psychological clinics.

EARL K. FISCHER, who for the past three years has held a Julius Stieglitz research fellowship at the University of Chicago, working with Professor W. D. Harkins in the field of colloid chemistry, is now employed as research chemist for the United Color and Pigment Company, Newark, N. J.

PROFESSOR OTTO STERN and Professor I. Estermann, of Hamburg, recently joined the staff of the Carnegie Institute of Technology at Pittsburgh, not the University of Pittsburgh, as was erroneously stated in *SCIENCE* for October 20.

DR. ELMER V. MCCOLLUM, professor of biochemistry at the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, on November 16 gave a lecture under the auspices of the Council on Dairy and Food of Connecticut on "Present Trends in Nutrition."

DR. O. R. MCCOY, of the School of Medicine of the University of Rochester, lectured on November 14 before the departments of medical zoology of the School of Hygiene and Public Health of the Johns

Hopkins University on "Immunity to Trichina Infection."

THE two hundred and fifty-fifth meeting of the Washington Academy of Sciences was held at the National Museum, Washington, on November 16, when the Rev. Dr. G. Lemaître, professor of physics in the University of Louvain and lecturer at the Catholic University of America, delivered an address on "The Expanding Universe."

PROFESSOR DR. OTHENIO ABEL, of the University of Vienna, will give a course of three lectures on "Paleobiology and Evolution" at University College, London, on November 24, 27 and 29.

THE Sigma Xi Club of the University of Denver held its first meeting for the year on October 20, under the leadership of Dr. Thomas Garth, *president*, and Dr. Earl Engle, *secretary-treasurer*. The 1933-34 program contains three lectures by outside speakers—Dr. Edward Jackson on "The Evolution of the Eye," Dr. E. R. Mudge on "Human Blood Groups" and Dr. Maurice Rees, dean of the University of Colorado Medical School, on "Developments in Medical Education." Dr. E. B. Renaud, professor of anthropology at the university, will give an illustrated talk on "Old and New World Cultures," and Dr. Ira Cutler, of the department of zoology, will speak on "Birds of Colorado." The other meetings will be given over to reports on the research of graduate students and instructors in the science departments.

THE eleventh annual series of the Aldred Lectures of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have been announced. In the first lecture of the series, on November 17, C. M. Ripley, of the General Electric Company, described "The Next Great Boom." Dr. A. E. Kennelly, professor emeritus of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University, on December 8, will speak on "The Relations of Engineering to Our Modern World." "The Cultivation of Judgment" will be analyzed by E. C. Mayo, president of the Gorham Manufacturing Company of Providence, in the third lecture on January 19. Dr. Harlow Shapley, director of the Harvard Observatory and member of the corporation of the institute, on February 16 will give an illustrated address on "Engineering Problems and Practices in the Construction of Galaxies." Concluding the series on March 16 will be a lecture by R. E. Flanders, president of the Jones

and Lamson Machine Company, on "The Future of Business Enterprise."

THE Cameron Prize Lecture at the University of Edinburgh was delivered on October 6 by Dr. George F. Dick, professor of medicine at the University of Chicago. The Cameron Prize, founded in 1878 by the late Dr. Andrew Robertson Cameron, is awarded each year for an important contribution to practical therapeutics made during the preceding five years. This year it has been divided equally between Dr. George F. Dick and his wife, Dr. Gladys H. Dick, for their joint work on the cause, prevention and cure of scarlet fever.

FRIENDS of the late Professor U. S. Grant have created a fund to commemorate his distinguished services as a geologist and teacher by a series of lectures on some phase of geology, to be given at Northwestern University. The first series was given by Dr. W. H. Collins, director of the Geological Survey of Canada, on November 21, 22 and 23. The subjects of the lectures are "The Economic Future of Northern Canada," "Major Correlational Problems of the Great Lakes Region" and "The Sudbury Mining Field."

THE Sixth International Congress of Botany will meet at Amsterdam from September 2 to 7, 1935. It was originally planned to hold the congress in September of the present year.

THE Tokyo correspondent of the London *Times* announces a gift of 30,000,000 yen (£3,000,000 at par) to establish a foundation for public purposes from the Mitsui family, through which cultural and welfare institutions in town and country are to be supported, but the first place is to be given to scientific research and technical experiment. The Mitsui family, the wealthiest in Japan, are the owners, after three centuries of trade, of one of the largest business aggregations in the world, including trading, banking, mining and insurance corporations. The object, according to Seishin Ikeda, the present managing director, is to develop essential industries, such as aeronautics, where private enterprise is insufficient. During the recent terrorist outbreaks, according to the *Times*, the Mitsuis with other capitalists were denounced by patriotic agitators and Baron Dan, the managing director, was assassinated.

DISCUSSION

PALESTINE, GREAT NATURAL LABORATORY OF THE EAST

FOR the biologist, Palestine offers a singularly favorable field of research. The flora and fauna of

the Mediterranean region meet in this land with those of the great desert belt that stretches from Morocco to Turkestan. In the Jordan Valley, tropical influences are to be found. Only a few hundred