

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

HOWARD NICHOLAS EAVENSON, consulting engineer, was elected president of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers at the annual meeting recently held in New York City.

THE Lamme Medal of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers for 1933 has been awarded to Dr. Lewis B. Stillwell, consulting engineer of New York City, "for his distinguished career in connection with the design, installation and operation of electrical machinery and equipment." The medal will be presented at the summer convention of the institute, which is to be held at Hot Springs, Virginia, June 25 to 29. Previous recipients of the awards of the Lamme Medal of the institute were: Allen B. Field, 1928; Rudolf E. Hellmund, 1929; William J. Foster, 1930; Giuseppe Faccioli, 1931, and Edward Weston, 1932.

THE Faraday Medal of the British Institution of Electrical Engineers has been awarded to Sir Frank E. Smith, secretary of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. The medal is awarded "for notable scientific or industrial achievement in electrical engineering or for conspicuous service rendered to the advancement of electrical science, without restriction as regards nationality, country of residence, or membership of the institution."

MEMBERS of the staff of the School of Medicine of Western Reserve University, Cleveland, gave a luncheon in honor of the sixtieth birthday of Dr. Torald Sollmann, dean of the school, on February 10. Those present included Dean W. G. Leutner, acting president; Dr. Charles F. Thwing, president emeritus; Dr. Robert H. Bishop, director of University Hospitals, and Dr. George W. Crile, professor emeritus of surgery. In memory of the occasion, Dr. Sollmann was given a decorated parchment manuscript in a blue pinseal folder, hand tooled in gold, inscribed as follows: "To Torald Hermann Sollmann: Your colleagues have gathered together to felicitate you upon the occasion of your sixtieth birthday, to congratulate you upon the scientific achievements which have given you eminence the world over. Your academic career, begun and continued in Western Reserve University, has brought luster to your name and distinction to the institution, which through many channels, you have served selflessly, faithfully, enthusiastically, energetically, and with inspiring loyalty. With affection, admiration and respect, we wish you many more years of fruitful investigation and happiness."

ON February 17, about 400 members of the Bureau of Plant Industry, together with representatives of various other bureaus of the Department of Agriculture, gathered in the main building of the department

to do honor to Dr. W. A. Taylor, who recently retired as chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry. In the course of the afternoon, Mr. H. P. Gould, who was for a long time associated with Dr. Taylor in horticultural investigations, presented him with a leather-bound souvenir volume which contained the following expression of appreciation signed by those present and by a considerable number of field employees of the Bureau of Plant Industry. "William A. Taylor, chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry from 1913 to 1933, and for more than forty-two years active in the work of the United States Department of Agriculture, life-long student of horticultural science, pioneer in broadening the field of botanical research, untiring leader, sympathetic adviser, keen and kindly critic of manuscripts, promoter of friendly cooperation, exemplar of the square deal in administration; this personal testimonial of grateful appreciation is affectionately dedicated by the members of the bureau he has so ably served."

DR. W. J. TURRELL, physician-in-charge of the electrotherapeutic department of the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, has received from Dr. Norman E. Titus, of New York, the Gold Key awarded to him at the last annual meeting of the American Congress of Physical Therapy. The distinction is the highest awarded in the United States for original research and distinguished services in the field of electrotherapy. The presentation was made to Dr. Turrell at a dinner given to Dr. Norman Titus by Dr. Howard Humphris, to whom the award was made by the congress in 1932.

ON the occasion of the centennial of the Medical School of the Ohio State University, which will be held on March 1, 2 and 3, the degree of doctor of science will be conferred on Dr. Henry S. Houghton, associate dean of the biological sciences at the University of Chicago; on Dr. Torald H. Sollmann, professor of pharmacology and materia medica at the School of Medicine of Western Reserve University, and on Dr. William S. McCann, Dewey professor and director of the department of medicine in the School of Medicine and Dentistry in the University of Rochester and physician-in-chief of the Strong Memorial Hospital.

DR. JOSEPH S. AMES, president of the Johns Hopkins University, on February 22 attended for the fiftieth time the commemoration day exercises. Dr. Ames entered the university as an undergraduate student in 1883 and has been associated with the university ever since with the exception of a year spent at the University of Berlin in 1886-87.

IN connection with the fiftieth anniversary of Tem-

ple University the doctorate of science was conferred on February 16 on United States Senator Royal S. Copeland, of New York; on Dr. George E. de Schweinitz, of the University of Pennsylvania, and on Dr. Albert L. Midgley, Providence, Rhode Island, secretary of the Dental Educational Council of America.

THE first award of the George W. Carpenter Fund for encouragement of scientific research has been made by the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia to Dr. Francis W. Pennell, curator of botany for his work on the Snapdragon family of eastern North America. In presenting the \$250 honorarium at the annual meeting, Effingham B. Morris, president of the academy, announced that this fund also would permit publication of Dr. Pennell's book on the subject. The George W. Carpenter Fund is a bequest from the late Mrs. Ellen D. C. Bennett, in memory of her father, one of the earliest members of the academy, who served as treasurer of the institution from 1826 to his death in 1880.

THE American Association of University Women has announced that its Sarah Berliner Research Fellowship of \$1,200 has been awarded to Dr. Emma Dietz, Brooklyn, now engaged in chemical research at Harvard University.

PROFESSOR EDWARD ELLERY, professor of chemistry at Union College and dean of the faculty, who, since the retirement last April of President Frank Parker Day, has been serving as acting president of the college, will return to his work in the department of chemistry at the close of the academic year. Dr. Dixon Ryan Fox, professor of history at Columbia University and president of the New York State Historical Association, has been elected to succeed Dr. Day as president.

DR. DAVID D. WHITNEY, professor of zoology, has been appointed chairman of the department of zoology at the University of Nebraska. He succeeds Dr. Robert H. Wolecott, who died on January 23.

DR. FREDERICK A. DAVIDSON, associate aquatic biologist of the Bureau of Fisheries, has been appointed acting director of the Fisheries Biological Laboratory at Seattle, Washington, relieving Joseph A. Craig, who has been serving as director since 1931.

DR. LESLIE C. DUNN, professor of zoology at Columbia University, has been given leave of absence for the academic year 1934-35; Dr. Charles C. Leib, Hosack professor of pharmacology, and Dr. Joseph F. Ritt, professor of mathematics, have leave of absence for the winter session. Leave of absence for the spring session has been granted to Dr. Gary N. Calkins, professor of protozoology; Dr. Earl Theron

Engle, associate professor of anatomy; Dr. Harry L. Hollingworth, professor of psychology; Arthur F. Taggart, professor of mineral dressing; Dr. Dudley J. Morton, associate professor of orthopedic surgery, and Dr. Edmund W. Sinnott, professor of botany.

ACTING at the request of the Forest Conservation Conference, Secretary Ickes has appointed to the executive committee as representative of public interest: Earle H. Clapp, assistant forester in charge of research, U. S. Forest Service; Ward Shepard, Indian Service; W. G. Howard, state forester, New York; O. M. Butler, executive secretary, American Forestry Association, and B. P. Kirkland, U. S. Forest Service.

DR. HARRY S. SMITH, entomologist at the Citrus Experiment Station of the University of California at Riverside, has been appointed chairman of the Standing Committee on Pacific Entomology, a branch of the Pacific Science Congress. The committee has been named to promote cooperation in the solution of entomological problems existing in nations bordering on the Pacific Ocean, particularly in relation to preventing the spread of pests from one country to another, and the interchange of beneficial insects for the control of pests.

THE Committee on Scientific Research of the American Medical Association has made the following grants-in-aid: Phillips Thygeson, University of Iowa, for work on virus diseases of the eye; Harry Goldblatt, Western Reserve University, for a study of experimental hypertension in dogs; Paul Visseher, Western Reserve University, for work on a chemical test for pregnancy; M. D. Overholser, University of Missouri, for work on experimental production of new growths in the genital tract of the monkey and on the relation of anterior hypophysis to experimental diabetes; M. G. Seelig, Barnard Free Skin and Cancer Hospital, St. Louis, for a study of radiosensitivity of neoplasms; C. Alexander Hellwig, St. Francis Hospital, Wichita, Kansas, for study of the thyroid function in colloid goiter; L. A. Emge, Stanford University School of Medicine, for work on the relation between pregnancy and tumor growth; Charles J. Sutro, Hospital for Joint Diseases, New York, for investigation with fluorescent microscope; M. L. Tainter, Stanford University School of Medicine, for study of the metabolic action of dinitrophenyl in man; Bernard Portis, Michael Reese Hospital, Chicago, for study of the immune reactions of the Flexner-Jobling rat tumor.

THE "Mangareva Expedition" has been organized by the B. P. Bishop Museum for conducting studies of ethnology and natural history in the little-known parts of southeastern Polynesia. Because other means of transportation are unavailable, the expedi-

tion is provided with two ships. The *Islander* (Captain W. G. Anderson), a high-powered sampan, will leave Honolulu on March 1 and during a six months' cruise will serve as a "master ship" for investigators, chiefly at Mangareva, Oeno, Pitcairn, Rapa, Tubuai, Rurutu, Raivavae and Rimitara islands. The second ship, the cutter yacht *Tiare Tahiti* (Captain Robert S. Burrell), under charter from May to October, will serve primarily as a "transfer ship" for the ethnologists at work in Mangareva and among the 360 islands of the Tuamotu Archipelago. The chief purpose of the expedition is to record data regarding native races, flora and land fauna, which are disappearing at a surprisingly rapid rate. Incidental observations on geology, marine zoology and general oceanography will also be made. The scientific staff includes Dr. Peter H. Buck, Kenneth P. Emory and J. Frank Stimson, ethnologists; Professor Harold St. John and Raymond Fosberg, botanists; Dr. C. Montague Cooke, Jr., and Donald Anderson, malacologists, and E. C. Zimmerman, field entomologist. Dr. C. Montague Cooke, Jr., has been appointed leader of the expedition.

DR. ROBERT A. MILLIKAN, of the California Institute of Technology, on November 1 delivered before the University of California at Los Angeles Chapter of the Society of the Sigma Xi an illustrated lecture on his recent work.

DR. EDWIN GRANT CONKLIN, professor of zoology at Princeton University, gave on February 20 one of a series of lectures arranged for the undergraduates of the New Jersey College for Women.

DR. LAFAYETTE B. MENDEL, Sterling professor of physiological chemistry at Yale University, addressed the Philadelphia Home Economics Association on February 15. His subject was "Nutrition and the Chemist."

DR. ALBERT W. HULL, assistant director of the research laboratory of the General Electric Company, Schenectady, New York, gave a lecture before the Franklin Institute on February 21 on "Fundamental Phenomena in Thyratrons."

DR. FRANK CHARLES MANN, professor of experimental surgery at the Mayo Foundation, will deliver the Stuart McGuire Lectures for the current year on the nights of April 2 and 3 at the Medical College of Virginia, Richmond. He will speak on "The Anatomy and Physiology of the Liver" and "Experimental Pathology of the Liver." The Stuart McGuire lectureship, inaugurated during the session 1929-30 in recognition of Dr. McGuire's service as teacher and president of the Medical College of Virginia, has been filled thus far by Dr. William J. Mayo, Rochester, Minnesota; Dr. S. A. Mitchell, University of Virginia; Dr.

James S. McLester, University of Alabama Medical School, and Dr. Ronald T. Grant, University College Hospital Medical School, London.

RECENT lectures and clinics at Duke University were given as follows: Dr. George L. Streeter, of the Carnegie Institution Department of Embryology, Baltimore, on "Foetal Amputations"; Dr. E. F. Lowry, of the U. S. Navy Recruiting Station, at Raleigh, N. C., on "A Medical Career in the Navy." Dr. Charles D. Lucas and Dr. Fred W. Stewart, of the Memorial Hospital for the Treatment of Cancer and Allied Diseases, New York City, gave a clinic on "Cancer."

THE February lecture on the Smith-Reed-Russell series at the School of Medicine of George Washington University was delivered by Dr. Edward Francis, of the National Institute of Health, who spoke on "The Study and Control of Tularemia." Dr. Elliott Proctor Joslin, clinical professor of medicine in the Harvard Medical School, addressed the students in the School of Medicine on February 12 on "Diabetes."

SIR ARTHUR EDDINGTON gave the Rickman Godlee Lecture at University College, London, on February 16 on "The Constitution of the Stars." The chair was taken by Lord Dawson of Penn.

DR. G. ELLIOT SMITH, professor of anatomy in the University of London, recently delivered three lectures at the Royal Institution on "Human Biology."

THE trustees of the New York Museum of Science and Industry have installed an exhibition illustrating that "Science and Invention Make More Jobs." A preview was held on February 22 at which Dr. Karl T. Compton, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Dr. Robert A. Millikan, of the California Institute of Technology, were especially invited guests. At a meeting in the evening arranged by the New York Electrical Society and the American Institute of Physics, addresses were made on the subject by Drs. Compton and Millikan and by Dr. F. B. Jewett, president of the Bell Telephone Laboratories.

THE American Society of Mammalogists will hold its sixteenth annual meeting at The American Museum of Natural History, New York, from May 8 to 12. Concurrently the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists and the American Association of Physical Anthropologists will meet in New York.

THE Fifth Annual Greater New York Safety Conference will be held at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York City, on March 6 and 7.

A JOINT meeting of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, the Wisconsin Archeological Society and the Midwest Museums Conference will be held at Lawrence College, Appleton, Wisconsin, on April 6 and 7. Two concurrent sections will

be held for the reading of papers: Section A for archeology, history, literature and the social sciences; Section B for zoology, botany, physics, chemistry, astronomy, mathematics and applied science. The annual academy dinner will be held on Friday evening, April 6. Following the dinner Professor Laurence M. Gould, of Carleton College, will give an illustrated lecture on some phase of his experiences and observations as geologist with Commander Byrd's first South Polar Expedition.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT has transferred the Bureau of Mines from the Department of Commerce to the Department of the Interior where it was prior to the Hoover administration. The transfer will become effective in sixty days unless vetoed by the Congress.

By an agreement between the War and Interior Departments the whole of Bedloe's Island will be made a national monument and will be transferred to the Office of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations.

THE Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, will erect on a six-acre plot owned by the museum in the Bronx, New York City, full-sized reproductions of American Indian dwellings and ceremonial buildings.

DRS. WILLIAM J. AND CHARLES H. MAYO, of the Mayo Foundation, Rochester, Minnesota, have given \$500,000 to the University of Minnesota to supplement the endowment of \$1,500,000 provided by them originally for the foundation. The Mayo Clinic opened in 1915 when the original fund had grown through interest to \$2,000,000.

DR. ANNIE J. CANNON, curator at the Harvard Observatory, who last year received the prize of \$1,000 awarded by the Association to Aid Scientific Work by Women, has contributed the amount of the prize to found the Annie J. Cannon Prize, to be awarded every three years for a distinguished contribution to astronomy by a woman. The fund will be administered by the American Astronomical Society, and the first award will be made in December.

THE *London Times* writes: The practise which is being increasingly adopted in industry and commerce of setting scientifically devised intelligence and psychological tests to applicants for employment has now been put into use by Messrs. Peek, Frean and Company, Limited, who employ some 4,000 people at their works in Bermondsey in the production there of over 40,000,000 biscuits a week. During the last few days a number of juvenile applicants for posts have been interviewed and tested. Mr. J. H. Fullwood, employment manager at the works and president of the Institute of Labor Management, stated recently that investigations showed that the labor turnover at the works was too high and uneconomic. The National Institute of Industrial Psychology were approached, and certain specially designed tests were supplied. The firm had now adopted a four-years' plan for the scientific selection of juvenile workers, and already the results indicated that the tests were sound, and he was hopeful that they would bring about a substantial reduction of the wastage of labor turnover.

DISCUSSION

A SUGGESTION REGARDING THE CHEMICAL FORMULAE OF COMPOUNDS CONTAINING HYDROGEN AND OXYGEN ISOTOPES

PRIOR to the discovery of the isotope of hydrogen of mass 2, the isotopes of chemical elements did not introduce difficulties in the writing of chemical formulae, because it had been found impossible (with any technique known at the present time) to separate into its component atoms an isotopic mixture. With the discovery of hydrogen of mass 2, however, we are faced with not only the possibility of a complete separation of the hydrogen isotopes from each other but also with the fact that in all probability we are upon the threshold of a new series of organic compounds in which hydrogen of mass 2 may be substituted either wholly or in part for hydrogen of mass 1. It therefore appears imperative that some uniform scheme be devised to designate the structural formulae of such organic compounds.

Various suggestions have already been put forth. It has been suggested that hydrogen of mass 2 be called "deuterium," with hydrogen of mass 1 to be known as "protium." It has been further suggested that a hydrogen of mass 3 may exist and that this could be called "tritium." Some workers have suggested that the symbols for these isotopes of hydrogen might be "D" for deuterium and "Pm" for protium. No one has as yet suggested a symbol for tritium, although apparently by analogy this would be "Tr."

The writer objects strongly to the use of such symbols, believing that they would greatly confuse the beginning student and would greatly slow up the thinking processes of even the expert. An alternative suggestion which has already been used rather extensively is to employ both subscripts and superscripts, the superscript indicating the mass of the isotope, the subscript having its usual meaning in chemical symbols; thus H_2^2O would indicate water containing only