

endure the discipline and place high value on criticism as helpful as it was keen, found in Davis a loyal friend. He told a man his faults, but told others his virtues. Many a student and younger scientific colleague has learned to his surprise of opportunities opened to him by the quiet but effective intervention

of the man who was his most vigorous critic. Beneath a brilliant and incisive intellect beat a warm heart capable of strong affection, whether for a great master like Gilbert or for his own disciples of a younger generation.

DOUGLAS JOHNSON

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

PEAT INVESTIGATIONS AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF SOIL SCIENCE

THE projected arrangements for the third International Congress of Soil Science, to be held at Oxford, England, from July 30 to August 6, 1935, include a program of the Subcommission for Peat Soils.

As at the previous congress, the interests of American members will find expression in the organization under the chairmanship of Dr. A. G. McCall, the representative of the United States National Section, and Dr. R. V. Allison, chairman of the regional committee.

The outstanding part of the program is to be a major theme dealing with the comparative study of "low moor" peat land from the standpoint of morphological profile features and the influence of drainage on the physical, chemical and biological properties of peat soils. Regional examples will be drawn upon to establish an agreement on methods and technique. The contributions will be summarized in a paper of 30 minutes' duration, to be read at a plenary session of the congress, and to be followed by general discussion.

In addition there will be sessions open to papers and discussions on various subjects in peat investigations, such as surveys performed by government bureaus of different countries, cartographic work and aerial photography, ecological and geographic relationships, changes in climate since postglacial times, localization of peat industries, problems connected with the various uses of peat land resources, highway construction and amelioration.

Another question to be discussed is the classification of peat soils and the terminology required to express new concepts. Lacking any authoritative standard, it is hoped that a tentative statement may be presented to the commission for approval.

It is deemed desirable to stress American attendance and participation in the program. The session is open to any person engaged in some field of peat investigation or interested in its practical application. The British government has taken official cognizance of the International Congress of Soil Science and has invited the United States government to be represented by a limited number of delegates. Attention is directed also to the fact that during the congress facilities will be afforded to visit historic places, and that immediately after the congress there will be a three-weeks tour of England, Wales and Scotland.

Blanks for membership in the congress may be se-

cured from the chairman of the National Section, Dr. A. G. McCall, U. S. Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, Washington, D. C. Manuscripts and reports for the congress are to be sent to Dr. R. V. Allison, at the same address.

THE RAINBOW BRIDGE-MONUMENT VALLEY EXPEDITION

AN expedition to continue exploration of the Rainbow Bridge-Monument Valley area on the Utah-Arizona border, one of the few little-known large areas remaining in the United States, will leave New York on June 28 under the direction of Ansel Franklin Hall, chief forester of the National Park Service.

According to an announcement in *The New York Times*, the tract to be visited, about three thousand square miles in extent, is known from exploration last year to contain interesting archeological, biological and other data. Its scenic features have led to discussion of the area as a national park.

Last year's expedition, under the leadership of Mr. Hall, mapped the principal features of the area, but did not succeed, in the time at its disposal, in reaching the less accessible parts, many of which are believed never to have been seen by a white man. A few Piute Indians, who are being made the basis of an ethnological study, live in the area.

Professor Charles Del Norte Winning, of New York University, has been appointed associate field director. He will be accompanied by about thirty specialists. Fifteen of these have already been appointed. Additional members will include biologists or specialists in particular fields of biology, such as herpetology or ornithology, and architects and artists to survey and sketch Indian cliff and mound dwellings, of which several have been discovered.

Besides Mr. Hall and Professor Winning, the staff as selected to date includes Gerald E. Marsh, of the University of California; John Wetherill, custodian of the Navaho National Monument; John E. Armstrong, of the University of California; Dr. Herbert E. Gregory, of Yale University, director of the Bishop Museum, Honolulu; Professor N. E. A. Hinds, of the University of California; Thorne E. Mayes, engineer of the General Electric Company, and Lyndon L. Hargrave, archeologist.

As was the case last year, the expedition is financed by its members, each being assessed \$398. The field

work is expected to require about two months, ending in September.

THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

At the annual meeting of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, held on May 9, at its house in Boston, the following new members were elected in the scientific classes:

FELLOWS

Class I—Mathematical and Physical Sciences

Franzo Hazlett Crawford, Harvard University
 Otto G. C. Dahl, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 Chester Laurens Dawes, Harvard University
 Jacob Pieter Den Hartog, Harvard University
 Griffith Conrad Evans, Rice Institute, Texas
 Jerome Clark Hunsaker, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 Louis Williams McKeehan, Yale University
 Donald Howard Menzel, Harvard University
 Harry Rowe Mimno, Harvard University
 Edward Leyburn Moreland, Boston
 Philip McCord Morse, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 Leigh Page, Yale University
 Leighton B. Smith, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 John Hasbrouck Van Vleck, University of Wisconsin
 David Elbridge Worrall, Tufts College

Class II—Natural and Physiological Sciences

Edgar Anderson, Harvard University
 Clarence Gordon Campbell, New York City
 Sterling Price Fergusson, Blue Hill Observatory
 Cyrus Hartwell Fiske, Harvard University
 John Farquhar Fulton, Yale University
 Hudson Hoagland, Clark University
 Henry Jackson, Jr., Harvard University
 Donald Forsha Jones, Connecticut Agricultural Station
 Leroy Matthew Simpson Miner, Harvard University
 Walter Harry Newhouse, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 William Carter Quinby, Harvard University
 Alfred Newton Richards, University of Pennsylvania
 Oscar Riddle, Cold Spring Harbor, N. Y.
 Carl-Gustaf Arvid Rossby, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 Arthur Hiler Ruggles, Providence, R. I.
 Edmund Ware Sinnott, Columbia University
 Gilbert Morgan Smith, Stanford University

FOREIGN HONORARY MEMBERS

Ronald Aylmer Fisher, London
 Archibald Vivian Hill, London

Arthur Holmes, Durham, England
 Paul Janet, Paris
 Luigi Lombardi, Rome
 Richard Willstätter, Munich

The following officers were elected for the year 1934–1935:

President, George Howard Parker
Vice-President for Class I, James Flack Norris
Vice-President for Class II, Walter Bradford Cannon
Vice-President for Class III, Edwin Francis Gay
Vice-President for Class IV, Arthur Stanley Pease
Corresponding Secretary, Tenney Lombard Davis
Recording Secretary, Walter Eugene Clark
Treasurer, Ingersoll Bowditch
Librarian, Alfred Church Lane
Editor, Robert Payne Bigelow

THE MEDAL MEETING OF THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE

THE medal meeting of the Franklin Institute was held on the afternoon of May 16 and in the evening a dinner was given in honor of the medalists.

Franklin Medals with certificates of honorary membership were presented to Dr. Henry Norris Russell, research professor of astronomy at Princeton University and director of the observatory, for his "pioneer work in the application of physical theories to astronomical problems," and to Dr. Irving Langmuir, associate director of the Research Laboratories of the General Electric Company at Schenectady, "in recognition of his investigations in physics and chemistry." Dr. Russell spoke on "The Atmospheres of the Stars" and Dr. Langmuir on "The Mechanical Properties of Monomolecular Oil Films."

The other awards were:

The Longstreth Medal, William Edwin Sykes, Buffalo, New York.
The Wetherill Medals, Dr. Johann B. Ostermeier, Augsburg, Germany; Dr. E. Newton Harvey, Princeton University, and Alfred Lee Loomis, Tuxedo Park, New York.
The Levy Medal, Dr. Kenneth T. Bainbridge, Cambridge, England.
The Potts Medal, Ernst Georg Fischer, Washington, D. C.
The Cresson Medals, Stuart Ballantine, Boonton, New Jersey; Union Switch and Signal Company, Swissvale, Pennsylvania.
Certificates of Merit, Albert Allen, Winchester, Massachusetts; Joseph Grundy Shryock, Philadelphia.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. GEORGE CARY COMSTOCK, director emeritus of the Washburn Observatory and professor of astronomy in the University of Wisconsin, formerly dean of the Graduate School, died on May 11 in his eightieth year.

DR. HARLOW SHAPLEY, of the Harvard College Observatory, delivered the George Darwin Lecture before the Royal Astronomical Society on May 11. At the conclusion of the lecture, Professor F. J. M. Stratton, professor of astrophysics at the University