

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THIS issue of *SCIENCE* completes the fortieth year and the eightieth volume under the present control and editorship. The journal was established in 1883 by Alexander Graham Bell, who acquired the rights of an earlier weekly publication of the same name, established by Thomas Alva Edison. In 1900 *SCIENCE* became the official journal of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; in 1925 a contract was signed making the journal under certain conditions the unencumbered property of the association when the present owner and editor relinquishes control.

THE American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Associated Societies will be meeting at Pittsburgh when the present number of *SCIENCE* is issued. The address of the retiring president, Dr. Henry Norris Russell, will be given on the evening of December 31. Details concerning the program were printed in the issue of *SCIENCE* for November 30. The special issue of *SCIENCE* containing the report of the meeting, edited by Dr. Henry B. Ward, permanent secretary of the association, will be published on February 1.

HONORARY membership in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers was awarded at the annual dinner on December 5 to Dr. William F. Durand, professor emeritus of mechanical engineering at Stanford University, and to Dr. David S. Jacobus, head of the engineering department of the Babcock and Wilcox Company. Both are past-presidents of the society.

DR. IRVING LANGMUIR, associate director of the General Electric Research Laboratory at Schenectady, has been awarded the Fourth Order of the Rising Sun by the government of Japan, where he recently delivered a series of six lectures for the Iwadare Foundation of the Japanese Institute of Electrical Engineers. The decoration is bestowed by Japan in recognition of distinguished service. Two of these lectures were given in each of the following subjects: "Fundamental Industrial Research," "Surface Chemistry" and "Electric Discharges in Vacuum and Gases at Low Pressures."

A FAREWELL dinner has been given to Dr. William H. Wilmer by the boards of trustees of the Johns Hopkins University and of the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. Dr. Wilmer, who retired as director of the Wilmer Institute of Ophthalmology in July, is returning to Washington, D. C., where he practised medicine from 1889 to 1925. He was professor of ophthalmology at Georgetown University School of Medicine from 1906 to 1925. In attendance at the dinner were Dr. Daniel Willard, president

of the board of trustees of the university; Mayor Jackson; Herbert L. Satterlee, of the board of the Wilmer Foundation, and Mrs. Henry Breckenridge, originator of the foundation. Newton D. Baker, Cleveland, formerly Secretary of War, was toastmaster, and speakers included Dr. George E. de Schweinitz, emeritus professor of ophthalmology, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, and Dr. William H. Howell, director emeritus of the School of Hygiene and Public Health of the Johns Hopkins University. The dinner was held in the hall of the Welch Medical Library.

THE Adolf Fick prize was recently awarded to Hans Spemann, Freiburg im Breisgau, by the Physico-Medical Society of Würzburg. According to *Nature*, the prize, which consists of 1,000 marks with a silver portrait medal of the physiologist Adolf Fick (1829-1901), was founded by his sons in 1929 in commemoration of the centenary of his birth. It is awarded to any member of a German-speaking country for the most important publication on a physiological subject during the last five years, with the proviso that "the competitor has not shown any anti-German activity or committed any anti-German action." On the occasion of the presentation of the award Dr. Spemann gave the results of experimental investigations on "A Theory of Development."

DR. ERNST F. W. ALEXANDERSON, consulting engineer of the General Electric Company, known for his contributions to radio, has been elected to membership in the Royal Academy of Science of Sweden.

THE degree of doctor of science was conferred on November 22 by the University of London on Dr. Karl Pearson, professor emeritus, formerly Galton professor of eugenics and director of the Francis Galton Laboratory for National Eugenics.

THE honorary degree of master of arts has been conferred by the University of Cambridge on Dr. W. P. Wynne, emeritus professor of chemistry in the University of Sheffield, who is now resident in Cambridge engaged in research at the Chemical Laboratory.

DR. HERBERT U. WILLIAMS, professor of pathology and bacteriology at the University of Buffalo School of Medicine, has retired after forty years of teaching. Dr. Kornel Ludwig Terplan, research professor of pathology since 1930, has succeeded Dr. Williams.

THE University of Liverpool has conferred the title of professor emeritus upon Dr. J. M. Beattie, formerly professor of bacteriology, and upon Dr. John Hay, formerly professor of medicine.

DR. OSCAR M. GILBERT, associate professor of medicine at the University of Colorado, was made emeritus professor of medicine following his recent resignation. He has been connected with the school since 1900.

O. T. ZIMMERMAN, formerly research chemist, School of Dentistry, University of Michigan, has become research chemist and chemical engineer with the Detroit Dental Manufacturing Company.

WILLIAM A. JENNER, of Potsdam, N. Y., has been appointed director of the Bureau of New York State Institution Farms by Charles H. Baldwin, State Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets. He succeeds E. C. Pooler. Mr. Jenner has for two years been assistant director. The bureau supervises the activities of forty-five state-owned and twenty-four state-rented farms.

F. H. ABBOTT, of the dairy industry division of the University of California, at the branch of the College of Agriculture at Davis, is chairman of a committee named to draft laws to present to the next legislature to enable the dairy industry of the state to carry out marketing agreements. G. E. Gordon, dairy specialist of the Agricultural Extension Service, and M. R. Benedict, acting head of the Giannini Foundation, also are members of the advisory drafting committee.

J. R. MOFFATT has been appointed farm manager at the Rothamsted Experimental Station in succession to the late H. G. Miller. For the past two years Mr. Moffatt has worked on the Rothamsted farm, first as recorder and assistant manager, then as temporary manager during the illness of Mr. Miller.

THE British Medical Research Council has appointed F. J. Marquis and Professor W. W. Jameson to fill vacancies in the membership of its Industrial Health Research Board.

WITH the cooperation of the Mexican government E. A. Goldman and L. J. Goldman, of the Bureau of Biological Survey, are undertaking a three-month study of waterfowl conditions in Mexico, where large numbers of the migrant birds that breed in Canada and the United States spend the winter. It is expected that the investigation will yield information that will be valuable in framing legislation for the protection of the waterfowl in the United States and Mexico.

DR. HAROLD ST. JOHN, professor of botany at the University of Hawaii, recently returned to Honolulu from a six-months' expedition to isolated South Sea islands, made, with other investigators, in an 88-foot Bishop Museum sampan. The trip covered a 9,600-

mile route which included the Tuomotus, Mangareva, Pitcairn, Rapa and Austral islands. Thirty-one island groups were visited and landings were made on more than one hundred different islands. Collections made for the Bishop Museum included more than 15,000 sheets of plant specimens.

DR. FREDERICK A. SAUNDERS, professor of physics at Harvard University, has been granted leave of absence for the second half of 1935-36.

DR. LIVINGSTON FARRAND, president of Cornell University, sailed from New York on December 20. He plans to inspect, at the request of the Carnegie Institution, the Mayan ruins of Yucatan.

DR. HUGH S. CUMMING, surgeon-general of the United States Public Health Service, returned on December 18 after visiting Buenos Aires to attend the ninth annual Pan-American Sanitary Conference.

A COMMITTEE, under the direction of Dr. Largret, of the Pasteur Institute at Tunis, has gone to French East Africa to study methods of inoculating against yellow fever.

It is expected that Dr. J. B. S. Haldane, professor of genetics in the University of London, will lecture in the United States during the winter. The general subject of his lectures is announced to be "Science, Morals and Religion."

PROFESSOR CASSIUS JACKSON KEYSER, of Columbia University, spoke on "Mind, the Maker, the World Theory of the late William Benjamin Smith," at Teachers College, Columbia University, on December 10, under the auspices of The Forum of the Friends of Scripta Mathematica.

FRANCES DENSMORE, collaborator of the Bureau of American Ethnology, lectured on December 14 before the Mayo Foundation chapter of the Sigma Xi Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota. Her subject was: "Medical Practises of the Chippewa and Other Indian Tribes."

THE Western Society of Naturalists and the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine, Southern California Section, will hold meetings at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography of the University of California on December 27, 28 and 29. The society has a membership of about 200. The meeting will include presentation of 25 scientific papers, and two symposia. One symposium on host-parasite relations will be led by Professor C. A. Kofoed, of the department of zoology at Berkeley. The second will deal with micrometabolism, and will be led by Professor H. S. Reed, of the Riverside Citrus Experiment Station. Professor William E. Ritter, director emeritus of the Scripps Institution, will make an address on

"What Charles Darwin did and what he left undone." The meeting of the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine will be held on December 28.

THE Colorado Wyoming Academy of Science met on November 30 and December 1, at the Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colorado. Section meetings were held in chemistry, education, geology, geography, physics, plant science and zoology. One hundred and forty papers were presented. Exhibits of teaching equipment, experiments and apparatus were set up for observation. The annual dinner was addressed by President George Norlin, University of Colorado. His subject was "Nationalism and Truth." Officers elected were as follows: *President*, E. B. Renaud, University of Denver; *Vice-president*, J. H. Johnson, Colorado School of Mines; *Secretary*, R. J. Gilmore, Colorado College; *Treasurer*, C. T. Hurst, Western State College; *Chairman Program and Publication Committee*, C. A. Hutchinson, University of Colorado. *Executive Committee*: T. R. Garth, University of Denver; F. P. Goeder, Colorado State College; P. E. Boucher, Colorado College; Laura A. White, University of Wyoming; C. F. Poe, University of Colorado; S. H. Knight, University of Wyoming. The 1935 meeting will be held at Colorado College, on November 29 and 30, 1935.

THE American Society of Agronomy at its recent meeting in Washington assumed the sponsorship of an award of \$5,000 to be made annually by the Chilean Nitrate of Soda Educational Bureau, for work dealing with the importance of the rarer elements in agriculture. The first award will be made next year at the time of the annual meeting of the society. Professor R. I. Throckmorton, of the Kansas State College, is chairman of the special committee appointed to draw up the regulations of the contest.

A PRIZE of a gold medal and a thousand crowns has been offered by the Royal Academy of Sciences and Letters of Denmark for a study of Eskimo origins.

AN Associated Press dispatch reports that the University of Pennsylvania on December 9 announced the adoption of a definite policy of prohibiting the patenting for profit by any one connected with it of any invention or discovery affecting the public health. The university or individuals in its employ will not be permitted to patent new drugs, process or apparatus invented or discovered which "are intended primarily for medical or surgical use." Dr. Thomas S. Gates, president of the university, pointed out that it has not been the practise of the university or its employes to patent such discoveries, but there has never been a definite ruling previously.

THE University of Maryland, in cooperation with the Maryland Nurserymen's Association, has estab-

lished a complete collection of typical plants on a newly acquired property which adjoins the university campus at College Park. Much interest is said to be manifested in the new project and many individuals and organizations have assisted by donating seeds and plants for its establishment. The work is under the direct supervision of A. S. Thurston, professor of floriculture and landscape gardening at the university.

THE final accounting of the estate of the late Frank Lusk Babbott has been filed. Mr. Babbott, who died on December 7, 1933, left all but \$615,680 of his net estate of \$4,094,156 to charities and educational institutions. Specific legacies amounting to \$240,000 were made in the will to public agencies, and the residuary estate, estimated at more than \$3,000,000, was divided among Amherst College, Vassar College, Long Island College Hospital, Long Island College of Medicine and Brooklyn Hospital. The specific bequests were Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, \$100,000; Packer Collegiate Institute, Y. W. C. A., Memorial Presbyterian Church and Brooklyn Bureau of Charities, all of Brooklyn, \$25,000 each; Waterville Public Library, Waterville, N. Y., \$25,000; the First Presbyterian Church, Waterville, \$25,000; Amherst College, \$20,000. Vassar College's share of the residuary estate amounted to \$540,000, and the Long Island College of Medicine announced last month that it had received \$1,500,000 under the residuary clause. The bequest to Amherst College under the same provision of the will was said by the college authorities to be \$1,100,000.

ALLOCATION of \$10,000,000 of Emergency Conservation work funds to be used for purchase of additional lands for the National Forests has been made by executive order of President Roosevelt. This is the second such allocation of emergency funds, the first having been made on July 21, 1933, when \$20,000,000 was provided, making possible the purchase of more than 6,000,000 acres of forest lands in the last eighteen months. These lands have been placed under the administration of the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Purchases already approved by the commission have exhausted the first allocation, and the \$10,000,000 is transferred expressly for the purpose of continuing the acquisition program. The tracts to be purchased are examined by the Forest Service and are selected for their value as national forest land. Upon approval by the commission they become immediately available for management by the Forest Service and for work projects employing men of the Civilian Conservation Corps and local woodsmen. Purchases are also made with reference to local wood-working industries and uses that will tend to improve or continue employment in local communities.