

in orderly fashion an increasing use of American farm products in American industry.

The hope is entertained that such cooperation will result in the gradual absorption of much of the domestic farm surplus by domestic industry; put idle acres to work profitably; increase the purchasing power of the American farmer on a stable, permanent basis; increase the demand for manufactured products which the American farmer wants, needs and then will be able to purchase; create new work, thus reviving American industry and aiding American labor. The sponsors of the conference believe that in proportion as these objectives are accomplished, the depression will recede and dependable national prosperity will return.

The sessions will be held at Dearborn Inn, Dearborn, Mich., where Carl B. Fritzsche, chairman of the committee on arrangements, has opened headquarters. Those who will take part in the program include: Dr. E. R. Weidlein, director of the Mellon Institute; Dr. C. F. Kettering, president of the General Motors Research Corporation, and Dr. Charles H. Herty, Pulp and Paper Laboratory of the Industrial Committee of Savannah, Inc., at Savannah, Ga.

#### THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE ON THEORETICAL PHYSICS

SCIENTIFIC men from various universities throughout the country gathered in Washington on April 19, 20 and 21 for a conference on theoretical physics under the joint auspices of the Carnegie Institution of Washington and the George Washington University.

The conference was the first of a series to be held annually in Washington in connection with the researches in nuclear physics conducted by the Carnegie Institution, and the work which is being done in this field at the George Washington University under the leadership of Dr. George Gamow. Dr. Gamow, who is known for his work on atomic nuclei and the theory of radio-activity, has served during the past year as visiting professor of theoretical physics in the George Washington University. His appointment to the regular staff of the university was recently announced.

Day sessions of the conference were held at the university and evening sessions at the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism of the Carnegie Institution. On the opening day members of the conference were the guests of Dr. Cloyd H. Marvin, president of the university, at a luncheon at the Cosmos Club.

The purpose of the conference was to discuss informally problems and recent advances in nuclear physics. Specific topics included: (1) General nuclear model; (2) nuclear transformations; (3) the process of beta-disintegration; (4) the effects of high-energy radiations. Each session was opened by a brief intro-

duction of the subject by one speaker, and the balance of the time left free for discussion.

Those who attended the conference included: Dr. G. Breit, University of Wisconsin; Dr. Edward U. Condon, Princeton University; Dr. P. A. M. Dirac; Dr. S. Goudsmit and Dr. G. E. Uhlenbeck, University of Michigan; Dr. A. Lande, the Ohio State University; Dr. L. Nordheim, Purdue University; Dr. H. Bethe, Cornell University; Dr. G. Beck, University of Kansas; Dr. J. C. Merriam, Dr. John A. Fleming, Dr. L. R. Hafstad and Dr. M. A. Tuve, of the Carnegie Institution of Washington; Dr. L. J. Briggs, Dr. F. L. Mohler and Dr. L. B. Tuckerman, of the National Bureau of Standards; Dr. Charles R. Mann, Dr. T. B. Brown, Dr. James H. Taylor and Dr. George Gamow, of George Washington University. Dr. J. R. Oppenheimer, of the University of California and the California Institute of Technology, who was among those invited to participate, could not attend.

Next year the conference will place the emphasis on certain problems related to chemistry.

#### THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

AT the general meeting of the American Philosophical Society held in Philadelphia on April 18, 19 and 20, the Penrose Memorial Lecture was given by Dr. W. F. G. Swann, director of the Bartol Research Foundation of the Franklin Institute, whose subject was "Is the Universe Running Down?" The addresses at the annual dinner were given by Dr. H. H. Donaldson, of the Wistar Institute of Anatomy; Dr. Edwin G. Conklin, of Princeton University, and Dr. Harlow Shapley, director of the Harvard College Observatory. On Saturday afternoon a reception was given at the Franklin Institute, preceded by an address entitled "A Brief Sketch of the Franklin Institute," by Dr. Howard McClenahan, director of the institute. In the morning there were addresses on "Cosmic Rays," by Dr. Robert A. Millikan, director of the Norman Bridge Laboratory of Physics and chairman of the executive council of the California Institute of Technology, and by Dr. Arthur H. Compton, professor of physics at the University of Chicago.

The following members were elected:

- Dr. Roger Adams, professor of organic chemistry and head of the department, University of Illinois.
- Dr. Leo H. Baekeland, honorary professor of chemical engineering, Columbia University.
- Dr. Franz Boas, professor of anthropology, Columbia University.
- Dr. Lyman J. Briggs, director of the National Bureau of Standards.
- William L. Bryant, director of the Park Museum, Providence, Rhode Island.
- Rhys Carpenter, professor of classical archeology, Bryn Mawr College.

- Dr. George Ellett Coghill, professor of comparative anatomy and member of the Wistar Institute of Anatomy, Philadelphia.
- Dr. James Bryant Conant, president of Harvard University.
- Dr. Harvey N. Davis, president of Stevens Institute of Technology.
- Frederic Adrian Delano, Washington, D. C.
- Dr. Harold Willis Dodds, president of Princeton University.
- Dr. Franklin Edgerton, Salisbury professor of Sanskrit and comparative philology, Yale University.
- Dr. Frank Albert Fetter, professor of political economy, Princeton University.
- Dr. Dixon Ryan Fox, president of Union College, Schenectady.
- Dr. Yandell Henderson, professor of applied psychology, Yale University.
- Dr. Karl Landsteiner, member of The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.
- Professor Charles Edward Merriam, chairman of the department of political science, University of Chicago.
- Dr. George Richards Minot, clinical professor of medicine at the Harvard Medical School and director of the Thorndike Memorial Laboratory.
- Dr. Eugene Gladstone O'Neill, playwright, Sea Island, Georgia.
- Dr. Frederick Leslie Ransome, professor of economic geology, California Institute of Technology.
- Dr. Alfred Newton Richards, professor of pharmacology, University of Pennsylvania.
- Dr. F. K. Richtmyer, professor of physics and dean of the Graduate School, Cornell University.
- Dr. Harold Clayton Urey, professor of chemistry, Columbia University.
- Dr. Hermann Weyl, professor of mathematics, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, N. J.
- Dr. William Hammond Wright, astronomer, Lick Observatory.

*Foreign resident:*

- Dr. Arthur Berriedale Keith, Regius professor of Sanskrit and comparative philology, University of Edinburgh.

Dr. Roland S. Morris, of Philadelphia, was reelected president and Dr. Henry H. Donaldson, member of the Wistar Institute of Anatomy, was elected a vice-president. Vice-presidents reelected were Dr. Edwin G. Conklin, of Princeton University, and Dr. Robert A. Millikan, of the California Institute of Technology. Dr. William E. Lingelbach, professor of modern and European history at the University of Pennsylvania, was elected secretary, and Professor John A. Miller, of Swarthmore College, was reelected. Dr. Albert P.

Brubaker is curator. Four councillors were elected to serve for three years. These are Dr. Frank Aydelotte, president of Swarthmore College; Dr. Isaiah Bowman, director of the American Geographical Society and president-elect of the Johns Hopkins University; Gustavus W. Cook; Dr. Harlow Shapley, director of the Harvard College Observatory, and to fill an unexpired term of two years, Dr. William Trelease, emeritus professor of botany, University of Illinois.

### RECENT DEATHS

DR. JOHN LIVINGSTON RUTGERS MORGAN, since 1905 professor of physical chemistry at Columbia University, died on April 12. He was sixty-two years old.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL FIELDING HUDSON GARRISON, U.S.A. (retired), librarian of the Welch Medical Library at the Johns Hopkins University since 1930, died on April 18, at the age of sixty-four years.

JOSEPH EDWARD GUTHRIE, professor of zoology at the Iowa State College, died suddenly on April 16. He was sixty-three years old.

THE death is announced on April 20 at the age of forty-seven years of Dr. Jesse Erwin Day, professor of chemistry at the Ohio State University.

DR. RUDOLPH MELVILLE HUNTER died on March 19. He was a member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He was also a foundation member of the Société Française des Electriciens, Paris. A correspondent writes: Mr. Hunter was a widely known inventor and patent expert and counsel for many companies, among which were the General Electric Company, the Victor Talking Machine Company, the Westinghouse Company and the Dentists' Supply Company of New York.

WILLIAM RICHARD HODGKINSON, who retired in 1918 after serving for thirty-one years as professor of chemistry and metallurgy at the Military College of Science, Woolwich, England, died suddenly on April 8, in his eighty-fourth year.

*Nature* records the death of Dr. Shepherd Dawson, principal lecturer in psychology, logic and ethics in Jordanhill Training College, Glasgow, known for his work on vision and statistical problems in psychology, on March 26, and on March 14 of Professor A. Hantzsch, formerly professor of chemistry in the University of Leipzig.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Franklin Medal and the sum of \$1,000, representing the income from the Franklin Medal Fund of the Franklin Institute of Philadelphia, have been

awarded to Dr. Albert Einstein, of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, and to Sir John Ambrose Fleming, consulting electrical engineer, En-