

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. HERBERT SPENCER GASSER, since 1931 professor of physiology and director of the physiological laboratories of the Cornell University Medical College, New York City, previously professor and head of the department of pharmacology at Washington University, St. Louis, has been appointed to succeed Dr. Simon Flexner as director of the laboratories of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

DR. WILBUR A. SAWYER, associate director of the International Health Division of the Rockefeller Foundation, has been appointed director to succeed Dr. Frederick F. Russell, who will retire on September 1 because of the age limit. Dr. Russell has been appointed lecturer on preventive medicine and on public health at the Harvard Medical School and the Harvard School of Public Health.

DR. RALPH S. MUCKENFUSS, assistant professor of medicine in the School of Medicine of Washington University, St. Louis, has been appointed temporary assistant director of the Bureau of Laboratories of New York City. It is expected that the assistant director will be later the successor of Dr. William H. Park, professor of bacteriology and hygiene at New York University, who is director of the Bureau of Laboratories. Health Commissioner John L. Rice is reported to have said: "It has been a difficult job to find a younger scientific investigator to serve as understudy to Dr. Park, one who holds out promise to maintain the Health Department's laboratories at the high point of scientific attainment developed by Dr. Park. The position of associate director carries a salary of only \$6,000 and demands the appointee's full time and thought. A careful search was first made in New York City for a qualified person who would accept the position at the available salary. A number were approached, but all declined. We then canvassed the entire country, and the result is the appointment of Dr. Muckenfuss."

THE Roosevelt Medal for 1935 has been awarded for "distinguished service in the administration of public office" to Dr. William H. Park, director since its establishment in 1894 of the Bureau of Laboratories of the Health Department of New York City. The citation reads in part: "In that capacity he has worked with rare wisdom and devotion for the public health. He ranks as the leading bacteriologist in the United States. His achievements in the field of preventive medicine have been recognized by authorities not only in this country but abroad. The laboratory which he organized has been described as 'the first in the world in which the discoveries of Pasteur and Koch were systematically applied to the protection of

public health' and for forty years has remained a model scientific institution, unaffected by political changes in the city government." The citation continues: "Dr. Park's most conspicuous service has been in 'the conquest of diphtheria,' he being the first to introduce into this country the antitoxin, and being 'mainly responsible' for the reduction of the death rate from diphtheria from 295 to less than 3 per 100,000. He also has been a pioneer in the discovery of the part played in the spread of communicable disease by carriers who are themselves not infected."

THE medal of the British Society of Chemical Industry was presented to Dr. E. F. Armstrong, "for conspicuous services to chemistry," at the annual meeting of the society held in Glasgow from July 1 to 6. On this occasion Dr. Armstrong delivered an address entitled "The Past, the Present and the Future."

THE Osler Memorial Medal, which is awarded every five years to the Oxford medical graduate who has made the most valuable contribution to the science, art or literature of medicine, has been awarded to Dr. Arthur F. Hurst, senior physician to Guy's Hospital, London.

AT the recent congress of the German Society for the Study of the Circulation, the Karl Ludwig Medal was presented to Professor K. F. Wenckebach, of Vienna, for his work on diseases of the circulation.

AT the one hundred and fourteenth annual commencement exercises of Colby College, the degree of LL.D. was conferred on Dr. Clarence C. Little, director of the Rosecoe B. Jackson Memorial Laboratory, Bar Harbor, Me., the commencement speaker. The doctorate of science was conferred on Dr. George H. Parker, emeritus professor of zoology at Harvard University, and on Dr. Marston Morse, who this year goes from Harvard University to accept a chair at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton.

DR. PETER DEBYE, professor of experimental physics at Leipzig, has received the honorary doctorate of the University of Liège. On June 26 the degree of doctor of science was conferred on him by the University of Oxford.

AT the congregation of the University of Leeds on July 1, the degree of LL.D. was conferred on Lord Rutherford, professor of experimental physics and director of the Cavendish Laboratory at the University of Cambridge; on Dr. William Stroud, Cavendish professor of physics, emeritus, at the University of Leeds and, *in absentia*, on Dr. Harvey Cushing, Sterling professor of neurology at Yale University.

PROFESSOR CORNELIUS WINKLER, emeritus professor of neurology and psychiatry at Utrecht, has recently celebrated his eightieth birthday.

DR. ARTHUR H. COMPTON, professor of physics at the University of Chicago, and Manabu Miyoshi, professor of botany at the University of Tokyo, have been elected corresponding members of the Vienna Academy of Science.

PROFESSOR J. GRAHAM KERR, Regius professor of zoology in the University of Glasgow, has been elected member of Parliament for the Scottish Universities. The voting was: Professor J. Graham Kerr (National Government), 20,507; Mrs. N. Mitchison (Labor), 4,293. *Nature* states that Professor Kerr's election involves giving up the chair of zoology, which he has occupied since 1902.

THE Washington Society of Pathologists recently held a farewell banquet in honor of Major Virgil H. Cornell, retiring curator of the Army Medical Museum and secretary-treasurer of the society. Lieutenant-Colonel William Denton, who has been appointed curator, has also been elected secretary of the society.

THE Chicago Chemists' Club held a luncheon on July 2 in honor of Professor L. Ruziřka, of the Technische Hochschule, Zurich. Professor Ruziřka is a visiting professor in the department of chemistry of the University of Chicago, where he is presenting two series of lectures during the summer session.

DR. DONALD C. BALFOUR, professor of surgery at the University of Minnesota Graduate School of Medicine, Rochester, has been appointed to the newly established position of associate director of the Mayo Foundation.

DR. STANTON C. CRAWFORD has been appointed dean of the college at the University of Pittsburgh. He succeeds Dean Herbert L. Spencer, who recently resigned to become president of the Pennsylvania College for Women, Pittsburgh. Dr. Crawford was formerly professor of zoology at the university and has been director of high-school relations since 1933.

DR. CHARLES LEONARD BROWN, associate professor of internal medicine at the University of Michigan Medical School, has been appointed professor and head of the department of medicine of the School of Medicine of Temple University. He succeeds Dr. John A. Kolmer, who resigned recently.

DR. RUDOLF THEODORE KEMPTON, research associate at the University of Pennsylvania, has been appointed assistant professor of biology at Princeton University.

At the University of Washington the regents have created separate departments from the former department of geology and geography. Dean Henry Landes

will continue as head of the department of geology and Dr. Howard H. Martin will be head of the new department of geography.

DR. DAVID ROCKWELL GODDARD, for the last two years a National Research fellow at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York, has been appointed instructor in botany with special reference to plant physiology at the University of Rochester. He will be associated with Dr. Wm. D. Merrell, chairman, in the development of the work in the newly established (1933) department of botany.

DUGALD C. JACKSON, JR., head of the department of electrical engineering at the University of Kansas, has been appointed director of the Lewis Institute, Chicago. His resignation from the faculty of the University of Kansas will not become effective until the end of the fall semester, however, and he will spend six of the 18 weeks of the semester as a part-time professor at the university. Lewis Institute is a coeducational polytechnical school. Its four main divisions are engineering, business administration, education and home economics and it also has pre-legal and pre-medical courses.

THE Josiah Macy, Jr., Foundation has made a grant of \$4,000 to Purdue University, to support psychological research in the genetics of attitudes by Dr. H. H. Remmers, director of the Division of Educational Reference.

DR. EDWARD A. DOISY, professor of biochemistry and director of the department at the School of Medicine at St. Louis University, sailed for London on July 5 to attend a meeting on July 15 as the representative from the United States of the permanent commission on biological standardization of the League of Nations.

DR. CHARLES N. FREY, director of the Fleischmann Laboratories, New York, has been appointed a delegate to the fourth International Technical and Chemical Congress being held at Brussels from July 15 to 28.

PROFESSOR OTFRIED FOERSTER, of Breslau, will deliver the Hughlings Jackson Lecture, under the auspices of the Royal Society of Medicine, London, on July 31.

Nature writes: "The first Sharpey-Schafer Memorial Lecture, given on June 21 by Sir Charles Scott Sherrington, was a notable tribute paid to the late distinguished physiologist by his fellow-worker and friend. Sir Charles referred more particularly to Sir Edward Sharpey-Schafer's work in endocrinology and in neurology, and dwelt on the great interest and importance of the observations made by Schafer in 1877 on the nerve-elements in the jelly-fish *Aurelia*, and in

his later work on localization in the cerebral cortex and on the structure of the spinal cord."

DR. PAUL F. RUSSELL, of the International Health Division of the Rockefeller Foundation, recently gave a series of lectures on the epidemiology of malaria at the second International Malaria Courses of the League of Nations in Singapore. After a short leave of absence he will take up work at the King Institute of Preventive Medicine, Madras, in connection with malaria investigations in South India.

AMERICAN delegates to the Berlin meeting of the International Commission on Illumination include: F. C. Breckenridge, National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C.; A. F. Dickerson, General Electric Company, Schenectady, N. Y.; C. D. Fawcett, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.; Charles Franck, Holophane Company, Inc., New York City; Heman Greenwood, International General Electric Company, Schenectady, N. Y.; John Kliegl, Kliegl Bros., New York City; M. G. Lloyd, National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C.; A. L. Powell, General Electric Company, New York City; G. B. Regar, Philadelphia Electric Company, Philadelphia, Pa.; C. H. Sharp, White Plains, N. Y., and Walter Wagner, Philadelphia Electric Company, Philadelphia, Pa.

SCIENTIFIC departments at Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill., have been transferred to their new quarters in the Wallberg Hall of Science, a building made possible by a bequest of more than \$200,000 from the estate of the late Marie Wallberg and her brother, the late Emil Wallberg, of Toronto, Canada. In the new building, which is constructed of Indiana limestone and of tile finish within, the departments of botany, zoology and physiology will be accommodated on the first floor, physics and geology on the second and chemistry on the third. A fourth floor provides considerable space for future expansion. In the basement are a machine shop and workshops for the departments of physics and geology, as well as general stock rooms and unassigned space. A service elevator runs from the basement stock rooms to the various departmental store rooms on the upper floors. A general lecture hall and scientific library on the first floor will be utilized by all departments. Throughout the building is equipped with new laboratory furniture of the most modern design, and much new scientific equipment has also been added. Dedication of the Wallberg Hall of Science took place on June 6, on which occasion addresses were given by Dean George A. Works and Professor Anton J. Carlson, both of the University of Chicago. Dr. Carlson is an alumnus of the institution.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT has allotted \$13,713,117 to the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine for eight

projects for disease and insect control. The latter included \$2,376,920 for control of black stem rust by eradication of certain types of barberry bushes in seventeen states, producing large quantities of small grains; \$970,000 to combat the spread of the brown-tail moth, now attacking shade trees in New England, and \$2,800,000 for control of the gipsy moth, also in New England. The allotments for brown-tail moth control included \$13,313 for Connecticut. For gipsy moth control the allotments included: Connecticut, \$496,664; Pennsylvania, \$792,288; New York, \$172,299, and New Jersey, \$72,664.

ACCORDING to an Associated Press dispatch, the Department of Agriculture has requested a Federal appropriation of \$2,750,000 with which it is believed that the elm tree disease can be controlled. It is urged that unless the infected trees within the quarantined area are found soon and destroyed by fire the disease may spread. It is said there are more than 400,000 trees known to be diseased and tagged for destruction. Officials of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine report that despite efforts of field crews the infection is spreading faster than the bureau's force can keep track of it. Workers must be taken from relief rolls, so that the department can not reemploy trained personnel. William B. Duryee, secretary of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, has written to the state's congressional delegation urging aid to obtain additional Federal appropriations. He states that the requirement that workers be taken from relief rolls hampers the work, which requires trained technicians, scouts, climbers and foremen, as well as experienced laborers.

It is reported that Chinese philanthropists will contribute a million silver dollars toward the medical center in Shanghai to be established in cooperation with the Rockefeller Foundation. Construction of the new buildings will be started late this summer on a site in the French concession. The cost of the plant, including land, will represent an outlay of about \$2,000,000.

AFTER five years of negotiations with the Grand Lama of Tibet the American Museum of Natural History has obtained permission to send a scientific expedition across the closed Tibetan frontier into the forbidden hinterland of Asia. The Grand Lama's consent was obtained by Suydam Cutting, a member of the board of trustees. Mr. Cutting sailed on June 29 for London. In England he will be joined by Arthur S. Vernay, who recently returned from an American Museum expedition to Burma. Together they will fly to Calcutta, India, proceeding to Tibet by way of Sikkim. From that point they will make their way,

through the three-mile-high passes of the Himalayas, by horse and mule to Shigatse, a short distance from the sacred city of Lhasa. In Tibet the expedition will collect anthropological material for the American Mu-

seum and botanical specimens for the New York Botanical Garden. Out of respect for Buddhist tradition, which holds all living things sacred, no animals or other living creatures will be removed.

DISCUSSION

HUMAN REMAINS IN GRAVEL NEAR WEST UNION, MINN.

THE record of recent discoveries as reported in *SCIENCE* indicates that Minnesota is unusually rich in the remains of early man. A skeleton recently uncovered in West Union Township, Todd County, appears to belong to this group, although there are various uncertainties that need to be solved by further study.

A gravel pit on the land of Daniel W. Fraser (Lot 1, N E 1/4 Sec. 11 T. 127 N., R 35 W.) has been the source of gravel for the improvement of certain roads. The gravel is dug by hand and the ordinary procedure is to shovel from the base of a face 20 feet high. Once or twice a day the men go up on top, spade the loam from a strip 2 to 3 feet wide, throw it to one side and then cave down the bank. A considerable number of men with Ralph Smith as foreman, were employed, including Romaine Johnson, Ludwig Elven, Melvin Irwin, Earl Tompkins, Martin Brakken, Bob Iverson, and Teddy Randall. These men are agreed that the first unusual fact that attracted notice was a bone, afterwards identified by me as the tibia, that projected from the bank about 3 to 4 feet below the top. This bone lay in undisturbed gravel and fell or was pulled out and two smaller bones came with it. Later, on June 11, 1935, two men were on top, stripping and caving when the spade of Earl Tompkins struck bones and at the instant that he saw them, a large mass of gravel fell down the bank carrying the bones to the bottom of the pit. As this occurred at the end of the day the men quit work, and did not realize that a skeleton had been brought down until the next morning, June 12, when they picked the skull and bones out of the gravel. On that day I obtained the bones from the owner of the pit, and interviewed the men. The next day I took photographs of the site and on June 17 recovered from the waste pile two of the first bones seen. At various times I searched the road on which the gravel had been dumped and recovered small fragments of bone.

The gravel pit lies on a ridge which is part of the southern boundary wall of the flat-bottomed valley of Sauk River. The upper 7 feet of gravel in the pit consists of bedded fine and coarse gravel much iron-stained, which I call the West Union gravel. It rests unconformably on till at the south end of the pit and

on slightly deformed gray gravel at the north end where the skeleton was found. Similar gravel is exposed in a pit on the top of the next ridge 700 feet southwest, but elsewhere it has not been found. Geological alternatives are as follows: (1) Is this gravel part of a more wide-spread deposit of a stream or streams later than the lower till and gravel? (2) Is this gravel only a part of the till which has been exposed at this place by erosion?

Archeologically, it is unfortunate that conclusive evidence by trained observers is not available as to the disposition of the bones in the gravel. The men estimate the depth of the bones from 16 inches to 4 feet. They agree that the bones lay well below the loam which is a foot thick and that the well-stratified gravel appeared to them to be undisturbed.

If the West Union gravel is a stream deposit later than the till (Hypothesis 1 above) it is Postglacial in age and the skeleton may be contemporaneous with it. One would have to suppose that a man was killed or died on the banks of the stream and his body entombed by natural processes.

On the other hand if the West Union gravel is part of the moraine complex, a mere fragment of gravel caught up and embedded in till, it dates back to the Bemis stage of the Keewatin Ice-sheet ("New Gray Drift") or may even be of "Iowan" age ("Old Gray Drift"). The relatively modern type of the skull makes contemporaneity with such comparatively old deposits unlikely. One would have to suppose that the man was buried in the gravel and that the evidence of a grave passed unnoticed by the workmen.

Further studies of the geology are planned. The skeleton is to be referred to a competent physical anthropologist.

HENRY RETZEK

THE RECTORY
ST. ALEXIUS CHURCH
WEST UNION, MINN.
JUNE 30, 1935

KILLARNEAN AND EARLIER GRANITE

PROFESSOR A. C. LAWSON has a note, "Is the Killarney granite different in age from the Algomian?" in *SCIENCE* for May 24. Lawson does not doubt that radioactive measurements are of geologic value, for as chairman of the Division of Geology and Geography of the National Research Council he himself organized