dressing the society spoke of it as "the general staff of German science in our peaceful campaign for the spiritual, cultural and material development of our people."

At the "festive session" Professor Max Planck, president of the society, reviewed its work and two scientific papers were read by members. The session was attended by representatives of the government, party and army as well as of industry and science, but of the Cabinet members only Baron von Neurath, Foreign Minister, and Dr. Hjalmar Schacht, Minister of Economics, were present. To Chancellor Hitler was sent a telegram saying:

> Science and business stand loyally by the German Reich that you created, knowing that only under your leadership and the protection of the armed forces can they perform useful work.

To this Chancellor Hitler replied with greetings and best wishes. Bernhard Rust, Minister of Education, regretted he could not be present but also sent good wishes and promised to attend the jubilee banquet.

The *Times* states that in his review Professor Planck expressed sincere thanks to the government for recognizing the society's importance and furthering and protecting its work, but in opposition to the collectivist tendencies displayed by National Socialists he also proclaimed the independence of science and the liberty of the individual investigator whose tasks, he insisted, could not be performed by state institutions.

He said:

> New scientific ideas never spring from a communal body, however well organized, but only from the mind of the individual, divinely inspired research worker, who wrestles with his problems in lonely thought and concentrates all his powers on the single point, on which for the moment he focuses his entire world.

Mr. Tolischus continues:

> Professor Planck also announced a congratulatory telegram had been received from the former Kaiser and that thanks had been wired to him in return. Likewise, he paid tribute, among others, to the late Professor Fritz Haber, Nobel Prize winner and inventor of the synthetic nitrate process that enabled Germany to carry on during the war, but whom the National Socialist anti-Jewish campaign drove into exile and suicide, and to the late Franz von Mendelssohn, another Jew, who was the society's treasurer until his death in June of last year.
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> For, contrary to the general impression, the Kaiser Wilhelm Society has refused to introduce the "Aryan clause," whereby even small-town tennis clubs have to expel their Jewish members. The society has lost quite a number of Jewish members and collaborators, of whom Professor Haber was and Dr. Albert Einstein now is the most famous.
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> But the society prides itself on the fact that it never expelled anybody and that its losses were never due to any action of its own, but to forces beyond its control. As a matter of fact there are still many scientists of Jewish antecedents working with the society, for whom it is a haven of refuge after their expulsion from German universities.

THE ADAM SEYBERT MINERAL COLLECTION

THE first mineral collection formed in America, made in the 1790's by Dr. Adam Seybert of Philadelphia, has been put on exhibit in the Free Natural History Museum of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. This "beginning of mineralogy" in the United States contains 1,725 specimens of rocks and crystals, and is shown in the original cabinet built for it by Dr. Seybert, and as he arranged it.

The exhibit is doubly interesting because it also marks the beginning of the academy, the oldest institution of its kind in this country, which was founded a hundred and twenty-four years ago. On the evening of January 25, 1812, the six founders met in John Speakman's apothecary shop. In anticipation of the organization of the academy, Mr. Speakman had purchased the Seybert collection for $750, a large sum in those days. Shares of $20 were issued to reimburse him for the expenditure, and the effort to pay off this indebtedness helped to keep the academy group together.

Soon after the formal organization of the institution on March 21, 1812, a small room was hired over a milliner's shop at 121 North Second Street. There the collection was installed as the feature of the new museum, and Dr. Gerard Troost, first president of the academy, delivered a course of lectures on mineralogy.

Dr. Seybert was America's first mineralogist. While a student in Paris and Göttingen, he had accumulated a fine mineral collection, into which he incorporated the specimens described in his catalogue of some American minerals which are found in different parts of the United States. This catalogue is included in the exhibit.

Some idea of the importance of this pioneer collection may be gained from the fact that a few years prior to its purchase for the academy, Benjamin Silliman, newly appointed professor of chemistry and natural history at Yale College, had journeyed by stage-coach from New Haven to see the Seybert collection. On arriving in Philadelphia he engaged lodgings at Mrs. Smith's, whose house, occupying the triangle at Dock and Walnut Streets, was frequented by Connecticut members of the congress and by Robert Hare, Horace Binney, John Sargent, George Vaux and Elihu Chauncey.

Silliman had brought with him, in a small candle

box, the entire mineral collection of Yale College—a lot of unlabeled stones. Box under arm, he trudged past the markets of High Street to the shop of Seybert, chemist and mineralogist, at 168 North Second Street, to have them named. And he went back with the desired information.

In his catalogue forty different minerals in the collection were described. He told of a "radiated zeolite found investing hornblende rock, on the canal near the river Schuylkill, about three and a half miles from Philadelphia." Further, "I have some specimens of marble found in York County which approach those allowed to be the pride of Italy." He announced, in 1806, the occurrence of "sulphuret of zinc" (zinc blende) near the Perkiomen Creek, in Montgomery County, and demonstrated that it would yield zinc metal, resulting in the opening of the Perkiomen mines.

Most of the specimens, however, are from Europe. They are small in size, and single crystals are neatly mounted on small wooden plaques. All are ticketed with numbers referring to the manuscript catalogue.

There is a specimen of celestite, the sulfate of strontium, a species first described from Blair County, Pennsylvania. There are specimens from the mines of Cornwall, England—some of which have not been worked for 150 years; Iceland spar from Iceland; two specimens of cryolite from Greenland; "elastic sandstone" from Brazil, and spinel and silicates in blocks of limestone ejected by Vesuvius.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE FIELD MUSEUM

IN a review by Dr. Stephen C. Simms, director of the Field Museum of Natural History, it is stated that more than 1,172,000 visitors were received at the museum during 1935. Of the visitors, only about 53,700, or less than five per cent., paid the 25-cent admission fee charged on certain days; all the rest, approximately 95 per cent., either came on the free admission days, or belonged to classifications such as children, teachers and students, who are admitted free.

Although it was again necessary, as it has been for several years past, to conduct the institution on a budget very much curtailed as compared to what was formerly considered normal, all services with which the public is directly concerned were maintained in full. Internal economies were effected in all departments and divisions, and expeditions for collecting new material and scientific data were eliminated from the program of activities for the year. Through special funds provided by Mrs. Emily Crane Chadbourne, the museum was enabled to obtain some zoological specimens collected by an Arctic expedition led by Captain Robert A. Bartlett; and the marine life collections were enriched by a share of the collections made by the South Seas Expedition of the John G. Shedd Aquarium.

Largely from an accumulation of stored specimens obtained by expeditions in previous years, the museum installed many new exhibits. New zoological exhibits include habitat groups of nilgai or blue bull of India; snow leopards of the Himalayas; common leopard of Asia; Axis deer and the antelopes known as blackbuck and chinkara from India; elephant seals from Guadalupe Island, Mexico, and various important new series of birds and reptiles. In the paleontological division of the department of geology several especially rare and important large skeletons of prehistoric South American animals were installed, including the only known complete specimen of *Astrapotherium magnum*, and what is probably the only complete specimen of *Megatherium americanum* in any North American museum. The department of botany completed a detailed miniature reproduction of a Brazilian coffee plantation and a number of new reproductions of exotic plants for the series in the hall of plant life. Outstanding among new exhibits in the department of anthropology were reconstructions of ancient graves of prehistoric inhabitants of Peru, and a model of the great Toltec pyramid of Quetzalcoatl in Mexico.

All educational activities, both intra-mural and extra-mural, were continued without curtailment. The library of the museum, with its collection of 100,000 volumes on natural history, and the study collections of specimens maintained in the departments, continued to serve the public, especially large numbers of students, teachers and scientific men. From the Field Museum Press there was a large output of scientific publications for international circulation.

The museum continued, as it has since 1933, cooperating with governmental relief agencies by providing useful avenues of employment for workers assigned by the Illinois Emergency Relief Commission, during the earlier part of the year, and by the federal Works Progress Administration, in the latter months. At the end of the year there was a total of 186 WPA workers at the museum engaged in a wide variety of tasks ranging from common labor to research projects. However, regular employees on the museum's payroll continued with their usual duties, and the work done by the relief assignees was all of a character which could not be undertaken by the regular staff because of the pressure of more urgent work.

PRESENTATION OF THE PERKIN MEDAL TO PROFESSOR WARREN K. LEWIS

THE Perkin Medal for 1936 was presented on January 10 to Professor Warren K. Lewis, professor