

THE FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH ON METEORITES

THE Society for Research on Meteorites, an associated organization of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, will hold its fourth annual meeting at the University of California at Los Angeles on June 23 and 24. There will be two sessions a day, mainly for papers. On Tuesday evening there will be a dinner in Kerekhoff Hall for members and their guests, followed by an excursion to the Griffith Observatory and Planetarium, at which a lecture demonstration will be given.

The society was organized at Chicago in August, 1933, by Dr. Frederick C. Leonard, with a group of about fifty-five charter members, at the Field Museum of Natural History, the home of the most representative collection of meteorites in the world. Its purpose is "to promote the discovery, collection, investigation and preservation of meteorites, and to advance the science of meteorites, and related sciences, through the increase and diffusion of knowledge concerning meteorites." Although it welcomes to membership any one who is interested in meteorites, the majority of its members are professional men in the several fields of astronomy, geology, mineralogy, chemistry and physics. The organization is international in scope, with members in thirty-five states and seven foreign countries. Its "Contributions," edited by the president and the secretary from Los Angeles, are published serially in *Popular Astronomy* and are reprinted annually in fascicle form.

The second annual meeting was held at the University of California, Berkeley, in June, 1934, and the third at the University of Minnesota, in June, 1935. These meetings occurred in conjunction with the summer conventions of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The original officers of the society, who were elected at the organization meeting in Chicago and who will continue to serve until June, 1937, are: *President*, Dr. Frederick C. Leonard, University of California at Los Angeles; *First Vice-president*, Dr. C. C. Wylie, University of Iowa; *Second Vice-president*, Dr. W. F. Foshag, U. S. National Museum; and *Secretary-Treasurer*, Professor H. H. Nininger, Nininger Laboratory and Colorado Museum of Natural History.

THE SCIENTIFIC EXHIBIT OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

IN the scientific exhibit at the Kansas City meeting of the American Medical Association there were one hundred and fifty exhibits prepared by individuals under the auspices of the various sections of the Scientific Assembly; twenty exhibits in the Educational Classification were prepared by national organizations and government agencies; four exhibits from the headquarters of the American Medical Association and two special exhibits subsidized by the Board of Trustees.

Thirty-eight papers read before the various sections of the Scientific Assembly were also accompanied by material in the scientific exhibit, thus giving an opportunity to the individuals who had heard the papers to consult the authors and go over the work at leisure.

As reported in the *Journal* of the association, gold and silver medals were awarded in Class I for exhibits of individual investigation, which were judged on the basis of originality and excellence of presentation, and in Class II for exhibits which do not exemplify purely experimental studies and which were judged on the basis of excellence of presentation. The awards were as follows:

CLASS I

The gold medal to Charles B. Huggins, W. J. Noonan and B. H. Blocksom, department of surgery, University of Chicago, Chicago, for original investigation on the distribution of red and yellow bone marrow and the reticulo-endothelial system in the bone marrow.

The silver medal to G. C. Supplee and S. Ansbacher, research division, The Borden Company, New York, for original investigations on the development of pure lactoflavin, an entity of the water soluble vitamin B complex.

The bronze medal to Alvan L. Barach, Presbyterian Hospital, New York, for original investigations on the rôle of helium and oxygen in various types of dyspnea.

CLASS II

The gold medal to Rudolf Schindler, Marie Ortmyer and John F. Renshaw, University of Chicago, Chicago, for excellence of presentation of an exhibit on chronic gastritis as studied by gastroscopy.

The silver medal to John O. Bower, J. C. Burns and H. A. Mengle, department of research surgery, Temple University School of Medicine and General Hospital, Philadelphia, for an exhibit illustrating the treatment of spreading peritonitis complicating acute appendicitis.

The bronze medal to Hamilton Montgomery, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn., for excellence of presentation of an exhibit illustrating the histopathology of various types of cutaneous tuberculosis.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. ARTHUR EDWIN KENNELLY, professor emeritus of electrical engineering at Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, received on May 28 the honorary degree of doctor of engineering

on the occasion of the centenary of the Darmstadt Institute of Technology.

DR. E. D. MERRILL, administrator of botanical collections at Harvard University, was awarded the degree

of LL.D. at the seventy-third commencement of the University of California on May 23.

THE degree of doctor of science was conferred by Columbia University at commencement on Dr. William Francis Giauque. The citation made by Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler was as follows: "William Francis Giauque—born in Canada and graduated from the University of California in 1920; outstanding research worker in the field of thermodynamics and discoverer of a method for securing the lowest temperatures which have thus far been secured; professor of chemistry at the University of California."

THE doctorate of science "in recognition of his continuing scientific achievements and his contribution to the literature of biology" was conferred on June 10 by Western Reserve University on Dr. Francis Hobart Herrick, who has been a member of the faculty since 1888 and who retired with the title of professor emeritus of biology in 1929.

At the commencement of the University of Montreal on May 29, the degree of doctor of science *honoris causa* was conferred on William Procter, of Bar Harbor, Maine. Mr. Procter is the organizer and director of the Biological Survey of the Mt. Desert Region.

At its regular annual convocation on June 3, the University of Toronto conferred upon Dr. W. H. Collins the degree of doctor of science, *honoris causa*, in recognition of his contributions to geological science. Dr. Collins has been director of the Geological Survey of Canada since 1920.

AN oil portrait of Dr. Raymond Dodge, professor of psychology at Yale University, has been presented to the university by his friends and colleagues. The portrait, the work of Lloyd Bowers Embry, of the Yale School of the Fine Arts, has been hung in the Institute of Human Relations. A volume of scientific articles is now being prepared by leading psychologists in commemoration of Dr. Dodge's contributions to the field of experimental psychology.

A PORTRAIT bust of Dr. Anton J. Carlson, professor of physiology at the University of Chicago, a member of the faculty for thirty-two years, was formally unveiled on June 1 in the corridor of the building for physiology. Dr. Arno Luckhardt made the presentation. Vice-president Frederic Woodward, on behalf of the university, accepted the bust, which is executed in bronze by Mrs. Alice Littig Siems. It is the gift of a group of friends and former students.

At the fifty-second annual commencement of the Case School of Applied Science, on June 1, the address was delivered by Professor Dayton C. Miller, on

"The Spirit and Service of Science." This occasion marked his retirement from active duty after forty-six years in the faculty of Case School. In recognition of his distinguished services the trustees presented him with an illuminated testimonial designating him as honorary professor of physics for life. Dr. Miller also received the honorary degree of doctor of engineering for his contributions to architectural acoustics.

At the close of the present academic year, Dr. E. P. Lyon, dean of the Medical School, retires from active service at the University of Minnesota. A correspondent writes: "During his administration, covering a period of twenty-three years, the Medical School has exhibited steady and continued growth. As a fitting tribute to his stimulating leadership, the alumni and faculty of the Medical School propose to establish in his honor the Elias Potter Lyon Medical Lectureship at the University of Minnesota. The fund for this purpose is to be raised through subscriptions by alumni, faculty, students and friends. Contributions to the Lyon lectureship fund may be sent to William T. Middlebrook, comptroller, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis."

DR. EDUARD UHLENHUTH, professor of anatomy, University of Maryland School of Medicine, received on June 9 the Van Meter Prize of the American Association for the Study of the Goiter for his thesis, "Isolation of the Thyreoactivator Hormone from the Anterior Lobe of the Bovine Pituitary Gland," which he presented before the annual session of the society.

DR. H. H. DONALDSON, member of the Wistar Institute of Anatomy, Philadelphia, was elected president of the American Neurological Association at the Atlantic City meeting. Other officers elected were: Dr. Samuel D. Ingham, of Los Angeles, and Dr. Edwin G. Zabriskie, of New York, *vice-presidents*; Dr. Henry A. Riley of New York, *secretary* and *treasurer*; and Dr. Bernard J. Alpers, of Philadelphia, *assistant secretary*.

DR. CYRIL N. H. LONG, director of the George S. Cox Medical Institute of the University of Pennsylvania Hospital, has been appointed professor of physiological chemistry at Yale University School of Medicine. He succeeds the late Lafayette B. Mendell as head of the department of physiological chemistry.

DR. JAMES C. GREENWAY, who has been director of the department of university health at Yale University since it was established in 1916, will retire and will be succeeded by Dr. Orville F. Rogers, who is now assistant director of the department. Dr. Rogers has been associated with the department since its organization and has been assistant director since 1921.

DUDLEY P. CRAIG, associate professor of mechanical engineering at Purdue University since 1921, has resigned to become professor and head of the department of mechanical engineering of the Colorado State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts.

DR. WARREN L. McCABE, associate professor of engineering at the University of Michigan, has been appointed professor of chemical engineering at the Carnegie Institute of Technology.

DR. McKEEN CATTELL has been appointed associate professor of pharmacology in charge of the department at Cornell University Medical College, New York City.

THE Charles Mickle fellowship of the University of Toronto has been awarded to Dr. Donald D. Van Slyke, member of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, in recognition of his methods of blood analysis, gasometric micro-analysis and his work on respiratory and renal reactions, diabetes and nephritis. This fellowship provides the annual income from an endowment fund of \$25,000.

THE Electrochemical Society has awarded the eighth Weston fellowship of \$1,000 to Dr. Henry B. Linford, of Pullman, Wash. Dr. Linford will continue his studies on the electrochemical properties of the elements of the fourth group in the periodic table, the work to be done under the direction of Professor Colin G. Fink at Columbia University.

J. D. FIGGINS has been appointed to the directorship of the Amanda Bernheim Memorial Museum, in connection with the Isaac W. Bernheim Foundation, near Louisville, Ky. After serving as director of the Colorado Museum of Natural History for a period of more than twenty-five years, Dr. Figgins became director of the foundation. The museum building will be built on high ground on a 13,200 acre tract of forest, situated twenty-seven miles south of the city of Louisville. It is planned for the illustration of the natural history of the Americas. Immediate preference will be given to Kentucky and the region lying south of the Ohio River and east of the Mississippi River. The museum will not be erected until a number of exhibits are ready for installation, among these being habitat groups of the prehistoric Indians of Kentucky.

DR. ROBERT OLESEN, specialist in goiter research, formerly of Cincinnati, has been appointed assistant surgeon general, under Dr. Thomas Parran, who recently succeeded Dr. Hugh S. Cumming as Surgeon General of the U. S. Public Health Service. Dr. Olesen will assume the post formerly held by Dr. Ralph C. Williams, who has been assigned to a place on the Texas Centennial staff.

HENRY TEUSCHER, for the past three years dendrolo-

gist at the New York Botanical Garden, left on May 1 for Canada, where he has become superintendent and chief horticulturist of the newly established Botanical Garden of Montreal. His work there includes the planning and preliminary planting and construction of the garden, of which Frère Marie-Victorin is scientific director.

MME. IRENE JOLIOT-CURIE has been appointed by M. Blum, premier of France, Under Secretary of State for Scientific Research in the cabinet.

DR. E. B. MAINS, director of the herbarium of the University of Michigan, and Dr. C. L. Lundell, assistant curator, will spend the summer in the mountains of the El Cayo District of British Honduras. A study of the plants of the region will be made as part of the biological survey of the Maya area being made by the University of Michigan in cooperation with the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

DR. ROBERT HEGNER, professor of protozoology in the Johns Hopkins University, will sail for Europe on June 17. He will spend the summer in Spain and Portugal studying the control of malaria and will attend the International Congress on Malaria in Madrid in October.

DR. P. W. BRIDGMAN, Hollis professor of mathematics and philosophy at Harvard University, and Dr. Joel H. Hildebrand, professor of chemistry at the University of California, have been invited to introduce two phases of discussion at the annual meeting of the Faraday Society, in Edinburgh, Scotland, this autumn. Dr. Bridgman will introduce the discussion on "Intermolecular Forces in Pure Liquids" and Dr. Hildebrand the discussion on "Intermolecular Forces in Solutions." The meeting will be held from September 24 to 26.

DR. KARL T. COMPTON, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will address the graduates of Middlebury College on the occasion of its one hundred and thirty-sixth commencement on June 15.

DR. EDWARD KASNER, professor of mathematics at Columbia University, recently lectured at the University of North Carolina and at Duke University on "New Groups of Element Transformations."

THE third annual lecture under the Arno B. Luckhardt Lectureship in the School of Medicine of the University of Chicago was given on May 21 by Dr. Walter J. Meek, of the department of physiology of the University of Wisconsin, on "A Present Day Concept of Shock." This lectureship was established in the School of Medicine by the Delta Chapter of Phi Beta Pi.

PROFESSOR R. ADAMS DUTCHER, head of the department of agricultural and biological chemistry of the

Pennsylvania State College, delivered the commencement address at the School of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, at Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, on May 25. After his return he will give a series of lectures on nutrition at the summer session of the Oregon State College.

At the annual meeting of the College of Medicine of the University of Illinois Chapter of Sigma Xi, John Bellamy Taylor, of the General Electric Company, delivered the lecture on "The Electric Eye and the Human Eye." Invitations to attend the lecture were extended to the Northwestern Chapter and the Chicago Chapter, as well as to the senior class of the College of Medicine.

THE ninth annual meeting of the Committee on Electrical Insulation of the Division of Engineering and Industrial Research of the National Research Council will be held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on November 6 and 7. Contributions to the technical program, reports on research in progress and discussion in the field of dielectric theory and insulation should be sent to Dr. J. B. Whitehead, chairman, the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., has been selected for the annual meeting of the American Medical Association for 1937.

THE German Society of Naturalists and Physicians will hold its annual meeting from September 21 to 24.

THE annual meeting of the International Society of Medical Hydrology, which is open to non-members on payment of a fee of £1, is to be held this year in Austria, from October 10 to 16. The opening ceremonies and the first medical discussion will take place in Innsbruck, by invitation of the university and of the municipality; the party will then proceed to Badgastein, visiting Hofgastein, and from there to Salzburg. An optional one-day motor tour of the Salzkammergut follows the meeting and there will also be optional excursions to Vienna and Budapest, beginning on the seventeenth. The two principal subjects for consideration are: "The Spa Treatment of Disorders of Old Age," to be introduced by Sir Humphry Rolleston, followed by Professor Pap (Budapest) and Dr. J. Sehneyer (Badgastein), and "Radio-Activity in Medicinal Waters," studied in its physical, physiological and clinical aspects by Dr. Penkava (Prague), Dr. Cerke (Badgastein) and Drs. Pierret and Stieffel (La Bourboule and Plombières). Supplementary papers may be offered and there will also be an open session for communications on any hydrological subject. A party will be formed to travel from London on October 9. The anticipated costs of participation are, if a party of fifteen can be formed, £10 to £11 return

fare to Innsbruck and back from Salzburg, plus the "inclusive charge of 180 Austrian schillings (circa £7) for traveling, accommodation, board, etc., after arrival at Innsbruck. Fuller particulars may be obtained from the General Secretary, International Society of Medical Hydrology, 109, Kingsway, London, W.C.2.

Nature reports that under the presidency of the Earl of Clarendon, governor general of the Union of South Africa, the South African Association for the Advancement of Science will hold its thirty-fourth annual session from October 5 to 10 in Johannesburg. The meeting coincides with the celebrations connected with the jubilee (fifty years) of Johannesburg and with the holding there of the Empire Exhibition. Sectional presidents and the subjects of their addresses follow: A, Dr. E. J. Hamlin, city engineer, Johannesburg, "The Researches of a City Engineer's Department"; B, Professor E. D. Mountain, professor of geology and mineralogy at Rhodes University College, Grahamstown, C.P., "Minerals"; C, Professor John Phillips, professor of botany in the University of the Witwatersrand, "Biology and Industry: with Special Reference to Plant Biology and the Mining Industry"; D, Dr. R. Bigalke, "The Naturalization of Wild Animals with Special Reference to South Africa"; E, Professor M. R. Drennan, professor of anatomy in the University of Cape Town, "Human Growth and Differentiation"; F, Dr. I. D. MacCrone, lecturer in psychology in the University of the Witwatersrand, "The Problem of Race Differences." Professor L. Fouché, professor of history in the University of Witwatersrand, will deliver a public evening lecture on the history of the Witwatersrand. Visiting scientific workers will be made honorary members for the session.

THE American Eugenics Society, founded by Professor Irving Fisher, of Yale University, will move its headquarters from New Haven to the Rockefeller Center in New York City. The new offices will be in charge of Rudolph Bertheau.

Rock formations of southeastern Wyoming and adjacent Colorado will be studied by field workers in geology in connection with the Columbia University Summer Session. From the headquarters camp in the Medicine Bow Mountains, trips of several days' duration will be made beginning on June 20 and continuing to July 25. Professor Samuel H. Knight, of the University of Wyoming, will direct the research. Preceding this work in Wyoming, Dr. G. Marshall Kay, Dr. Horace N. Coryell and Dr. Philip Krieger, of Columbia University, will lead field trips in the Precambrian and Paleozoic rock section of eastern North America. A second party will observe stratigraphic sections and structure of areas along the St. Lawrence

River east to Gaspé for three weeks. In Virginia and West Virginia, one of the most typical non-glaciated areas of the eastern United States will be studied by

students of geography under the direction of Professor Frank J. Wright, of Denison University, Granville, Ohio.

DISCUSSION

SOIL TEMPERATURES AT BOZEMAN, MONTANA, DURING SUB-ZERO WEATHER

DURING the period commencing on January 25, 1936, at Bozeman, Montana, there was experienced the coldest and most extended spell of sub-zero weather ever to be recorded at the Experimental Farm. These records have been maintained for fifty-three years. This cold snap swept over practically all the northern and central United States east of the Rocky Mountains, inflicting much personal hardship on individuals and communities and disrupting all forms of transportation. Not only Bozeman but many places widely scattered over the whole country registered record lows.

Throughout the month of February, at Bozeman, the soil temperature apparatus operated by the Department of Entomology provided many interesting data, emphasizing once more what has been so often forcibly impressed on observers—the great insulating effect of a snow covering.

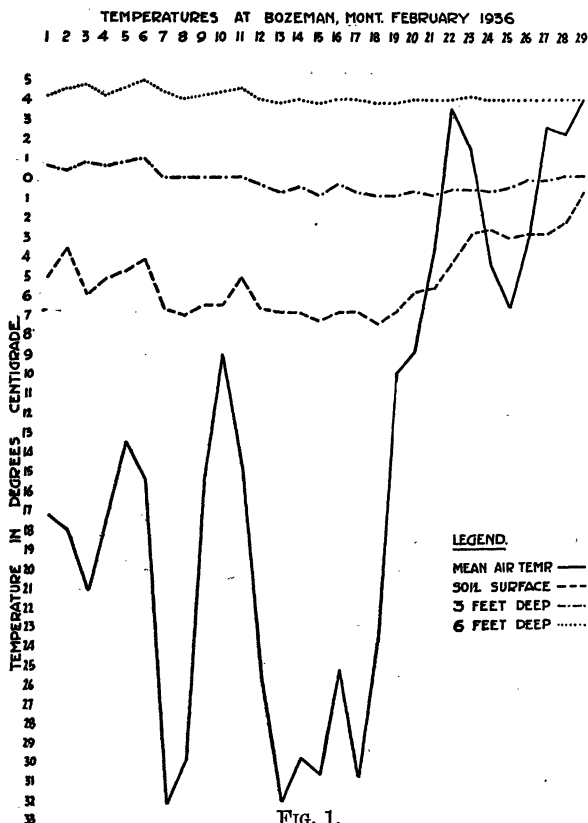


FIG. 1.

From a perusal of the graph (Fig. 1) showing conditions in soil, snow and air, it will be seen that the frost line reached three feet and stayed there for 23 days, and at four feet the temperature was only 1.0° C. above freezing. This is the first time during the six years covered by this study that the frost line has penetrated so far and for such a lengthy period. During all February the snow covering over the instruments varied in depth from 8 to 15 inches. This insulation resulted in a very small fluctuation of temperature under the snow in spite of great variations of air temperature, the minimum temperature at the soil surface being only -7° C. The minimum air temperature for the month was -41.7° C. Also between the minimum of $+1^{\circ}$ C. at four feet in depth and the soil surface there was only an 8-degree gradient, so that plant and animal life in that first four feet were not subjected to abnormally cold conditions.

It is unfortunate that similar records are not being obtained at more stations throughout the country. Were comparable data available from stations widely scattered and in greatly varying climatic belts, it might be possible to correlate the information so obtained, as regards winter soil temperature distribution, with the distribution of plant and surface-living and subterranean animal life. Certainly such information would be of marked importance in studying the winter hardiness of economic forms of plants and animals.

G. ALLEN MAIL

MONTANA STATE COLLEGE

THE DODGE, NEBRASKA, "FIREBALL"

BETWEEN 10 and 11 P. M. on the evening of June 24, 1935, farmers who live in the vicinity of the Carl Iske farm, $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Dodge, Nebraska, reported intense light entering through windows on all sides of the house, followed by a loud explosive noise. The day had been hot, with a thunder-storm a short distance to the northward, but no rainfall in that immediate vicinity.

A few days later, a hole was found in the earth in a cornfield which slopes gradually to the south, with clay subsoil. A party, headed by Police Commissioner Frank Meyers, of Omaha; Professor J. L. Cannon, of Creighton University, and Professor D. W. Crouse, of Midland College, had charge of an excavation of the hole, this work being begun on July 22.