

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE American Chemical Society, meeting at Pittsburgh, paid tribute on September 10 to Dr. Charles Edward Munroe, emeritus professor of chemistry in the George Washington University. The resolution passed reads in part as follows: "The society extends to Charles E. Munroe, our only living charter member, after sixty years of loyal service to the society, its sincere best wishes and felicitations."

PROFESSOR HENRY NORRIS RUSSELL, of Princeton University, will deliver the Josiah Willard Gibbs lecture before the American Physical Society and associated societies during the meeting to be held in New York City on October 29, 30 and 31.

THE Frederick Newton Gisborne Starr Medal was presented at the annual meeting of the Canadian Medical Association to Sir Frederick Banting and Dr. Charles H. Best, of the faculty of medicine of the University of Toronto, and to Dr. James B. Collip, of the faculty of medicine of McGill University, for pre-eminent services to the cause of medicine in Canada. The Starr medal was established in 1935 by the widow of the late Dr. Starr, who was for several years general secretary of the association and president in 1927.

THE Royal College of Physicians has awarded the Weber-Parkes Medal and Prize to Sir St. Clair Thomson for his work on tuberculosis of the larynx. The Moxon Gold Medal was awarded to Dr. Edward Melanby for his work on the problems of nutrition.

THE doctorate *honoris causa* of the faculty of philosophy of the University of Graz has been conferred on Dr. Max Planck, professor of physics in the University of Berlin and president of the Kaiser Wilhelm Society for the Advancement of Science.

PROFESSOR PAUL UHLENHUTH, director of the Institute of Hygiene at Freiburg i.B., has been made a foreign member of the Royal Academy of Sciences of Stockholm in recognition of his contributions to hygiene and bacteriology.

THE German Ornithological Society at its fifty-fourth congress, held at Bonn last July, elected Dr. Robert Cushman Murphy, of the American Museum of Natural History, to corresponding fellowship.

Nature states that on the occasion of the recent celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the German Statistical Society the following were nominated honorary members: Professor Sigmund Schott, director of the Mannheim Statistical Office; Dr. Friedrich Prinzing, of Ulm; Dr. Kovacs, president of the Hungarian Central Statistical Office, Budapest, and Dr. Savorgnan, president of the Italian Central Statistical Office, Rome.

DR. CHARLES G. DUNCOMBE, assistant professor at the Ohio State University, has resigned to become chairman of the department of chemical engineering at the University of Detroit.

THE department of geology of Western Reserve University, following the sudden death on July 3 of Professor Jesse E. Hyde, will become the department of geology and geography. Dr. C. Langdon White, formerly professor of geography of the School of Education, who was made professor of geography at Adelbert and Mather Colleges in June, will be acting head of the new department. Robert E. Bates, of Columbia University, and Henry F. Donner, fellow at the University of Michigan, have been appointed instructors in geology.

DR. HUGH STUART CAMERON, of Cornell University, has joined the staff of the division of veterinary science of the College of Agriculture of the University of California at Davis. He succeeds Dr. J. A. Howarth, who was killed this spring in an automobile accident.

AT the University of California, Dr. Clarence H. Cleminshaw, formerly research assistant at the Flower Observatory of the University of Pennsylvania, has been appointed assistant professor of astronomy; Franklin O. Rose, of Modesto Junior College, has been appointed assistant professor of general engineering.

DR. EDWARD W. KOCH, professor of pharmacology and dean of the University of Buffalo School of Medicine, has been made dean also of the Dental School. Dr. Elmer Heath, assistant professor of medicine, has been made assistant dean of the Medical School, and Dr. Russell W. Groh, professor of operative dentistry, has been appointed assistant dean of the Dental School.

DR. HORACE M. KORNS has been promoted to be professor of the theory and practice of medicine at the College of Medicine of the State University of Iowa, and Dr. Waid W. Tuttle has become associate professor of physiology.

DR. HERBERT O. CALVERY, now senior pharmacologist, will become chief of the division of pharmacology of the Food and Drug Administration on October 1 when the present head of that division, Dr. Erwin E. Nelson, returns to the University of Michigan. Dr. Nelson joined the Food and Drug Administration in January, 1935, with leave of absence from the university, to organize and develop a division of pharmacology. At the time of his furlough from the university, he was serving as associate pro-

fessor of pharmacology in the Medical School; he has now been appointed professor of pharmacology.

BERLEY WINTON has been made principal poultry husbandman to direct poultry investigations in the Division of Animal Husbandry of the Bureau of Animal Industry. Mr. Winton succeeds Dr. M. A. Jull, who recently resigned to become head of the poultry department of the University of Maryland.

DR. HARALD ULRIK SVERDRUP, research associate of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, has taken up his work as director of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography of the University of California.

JOHN FRAZER has been appointed secretary of the committee on science and the arts of the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, succeeding the late George A. Hoadley.

M. GASTON GRENET, meteorologist at the Observatory and Institute of Geophysics at Puy de Dôme and since 1931 acting director, has become director of the observatory.

DR. C. L. CAMP, director of the Museum of Paleontology of the University of California, has returned to the university after a year's leave of absence, during which he made a study of museums in London, Berlin, Paris and elsewhere.

AN expedition of the American Museum of Natural History, conducted by William M. Newsom, accompanied by Earl F. Watson, vice-president of the American Surety Company, sailed from New York on September 6 for Anticosti Island in the Gulf of St. Lawrence to study the deer on the island and to make a collection of the large and small mammals to be found there. They expect to complete the work by October 15.

DR. RUDOLPH VON IHERING, in charge of all fisheries work in Brazil, recently spent several days in the Washington office of the Bureau of Fisheries conferring with the commissioner and other officers of the bureau. After leaving Washington he planned to attend the meeting of the American Fisheries Society at Grand Rapids and later to work at the American Museum of Natural History in New York as well as at several of the larger eastern universities. Dr. Stillman Wright, formerly with the Bureau of Fisheries but now associated with Dr. von Ihering at the Biological Institute, São Paulo, Brazil, is also on leave in this country at the present time.

DR. CARL E. LADD, dean of the New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University, delivered on September 1 a lecture before the fourth International Conference of Agricultural Economists in session at St. Andrews, Scotland.

THE Harveian Oration of the Royal College of Physicians will be delivered on October 19 by Sir Walter Langdon Brown. Dr. Arthur Hurst has been appointed Harveian orator for 1937 and Dr. E. A. Cockayne, Bradshaw orator for 1937.

THE Secretary of State for Scotland announces that the office of Regius professor of natural history in the University of Aberdeen will become vacant on November 15 because of the resignation of Professor James Ritchie, who has been appointed to the chair of natural history in the University of Edinburgh. It is proposed to take steps with a view to filling the vacancy in Aberdeen, but it is not expected that the new professor will be required to take up duty before January, 1937. Applications for the chair, accompanied by two copies of recent testimonials, should be addressed to the Private Secretary, Scottish Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1, and should reach him not later than October 31.

By the will of the late Dr. James M. Anders, a bequest of \$50,000 is made to the University of Pennsylvania for the endowment fund of the Medico-Chirurgical College and Hospital, Graduate School of Medicine, and \$20,000 and \$15,000, respectively, are bequeathed to the Perkiomen School for Boys at Pennsburg, and Ursinus College, at Collegeville. The residuary estate is to be held in trust and on the death of Mrs. Anders \$50,000 is to go to the University of Pennsylvania, to establish the "James M. Anders Foundation" in the Graduate School of Medicine, and \$15,000 and \$10,000 additional each is to be paid to the Perkiomen School and Ursinus College.

THE program of afternoon lectures given at the New York Botanical Garden on Saturday afternoons at 3:30 P.M. during September, October and November is as follows: September 12: "Autumn Wild Flowers," Dr. John Hendley Barnhart, bibliographer and administrative assistant; September 19: "Foods of China," Dr. W. M. Porterfield; September 26: "Next year's Garden," T. H. Everett, horticulturist; October 3: "Bulbs to Plant for Spring Bloom," Mrs. Wheeler H. Peckham, honorary curator, Iris and Narcissus collections; October 10: "Trees by the Roadside," Dr. H. Beaman Douglass, physician; October 17: "Autumn Coloration," Dr. A. B. Stout, director of the laboratories; October 24: "House Plants," Dr. Forman T. McLean, supervisor of public education; October 31: "Over the Andes and down the Amazon," Dr. Albert C. Smith, associate curator; November 7: "Economic Philippine Plants," Theodore Muller; November 14: "Ornamental Winter Fruits," E. J. Alexander, assistant curator and curator of the local herbarium; November 21: "Building the New Garden," A. C. Pfander, assistant superintendent; November

28: "Travels through the Mountains of Colorado, Wyoming and South Dakota," Dr. Fred J. Seaver, curator.

WE learn from the *Journal* of the American Medical Association that the University of California and Stanford University have organized a Western School of Public Health to assist health departments of western states in the training of public health personnel. Social security funds are used to finance the school and the education of certain public health workers. Health officers, public health nurses, sanitary inspectors, public health statistical technicians and public health laboratory technicians in the ten western states are eligible on recommendation of their health officers for attendance at these courses, which will be given during the summer months. The object is to train those who are already employed in health departments, provided they are considered worthy of receiving additional education. Applicants for the regular work, which may lead to a degree in public health, will be asked to meet definite matriculation requirements and must be within certain specified age limits.

Current Science states that the National Institute of Sciences of Calcutta, India, will issue each year a publication under the title "Indian Science Abstracts," the sub-title being "An Annotated Bibliography of Science in India." This publication, the first part of which appeared recently, plans to include abstracts of all scientific papers published in India, as also of papers published abroad on work done in India or based on Indian material.

ACCORDING to an Associated Press dispatch from Moscow, a new program of education in the medical sciences was announced on September 9 by the Soviet government. Measures were outlined to increase the number and to improve the training of doctors, nurses, dentists and druggists. A decree by the Communist Executive Committee provided for establishment of many new schools, including junior medical schools with three-year courses and an enrolment of 447,700 students; midwifery schools with two-year courses and capacity for 13,300 students, and nursing courses for 95,000.

THE London *Times* states that many species of bacteria and microfungi have been added to the National Collection of Type Cultures of microorganisms during the past five years, and the fourth edition of the catalogue, issued by the Medical Research Council, is enlarged to 143 pages. The extensive collection at the Forest Products Research Laboratory, Princes Risborough, of wood-destroying fungi and fungi causing discoloration in timber has been made available, as have also various filterable viruses maintained in a number of medical and research institutions. A valuable collection of yeasts and other micro-organisms of importance in the fermentation industries has been presented by the executrix of the late A. Chaston Chapman. The nomenclature of that important group of food-poisoning organisms known as *Salmonella* occupies nine and one half pages in the catalogue. Attention is directed by the council to the continued need for the deposition of newly described species and also for fresh examples of types at present in the collection.

Nature states that thanks to the generosity of Sir MacPherson Robertson, a new building has been completed in Melbourne for the housing of the National Herbarium collections, and the transfer of material is in progress. The building is a block, approximately 100 ft. by 80 ft., containing two floors. On the upper floor provision is made for the collections (numbering some 1,500,000 sheets) and for a library of more than 10,000 volumes. On the lower floor are a museum of economic botany, a laboratory, a lecture hall and the administrative offices. The construction is fire-proof throughout; all cabinets are of steel and the main door is guarded by fire-proof devices operating automatically when the temperature reaches a certain point. The collection was commenced about 1856 by the late Baron von Mueller, and it is intended to preserve the existing division into two sections (i) Australian and (ii) extra-Australian. The former is very complete and contains a number of type specimens. The room allotted to it is 60 ft. by 35 ft., allowing for 30 per cent. expansion, or 55 per cent. if further cabinets be installed. The extra-Australian section, which is already extensive and is continually growing by exchanges, will be housed in a room 80 ft. by 35 ft.

DISCUSSION

FROM THE CORRESPONDENCE OF OLIVER WOLCOTT GIBBS

THREE volumes of manuscript letters to and from Oliver Wolcott Gibbs (1822-1908) in the new library of the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia form a delightful and informative chapter in the long history of American science. Gibbs was in Cambridge from

1863 until he retired to Newport in 1887 to continue research. He is part of Harvard's scientific life. He was president of the National Academy from 1895 to 1900, president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1897, and served on the Rumford committee of the American Academy from 1864 to 1894. His researches centered on work with