

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE American Philosophical Society will hold a general meeting in the hall of the society, Independence Square, Philadelphia, on April 22, 23 and 24. There will be five sessions for the reading of scientific papers at which the presiding officers are: President Roland S. Morris and the three vice-presidents; Drs. Edwin G. Conklin, Henry H. Donaldson and Robert A. Millikan. The Penrose Memorial Lecture on Friday evening will be given by Dr. Irving Langmuir, associate director of the Research Laboratory of the General Electric Company, who will speak on "The Surfaces of Solids and Liquids."

THE Franklin Institute of Philadelphia has awarded Franklin medals to Dr. Robert A. Millikan, director of the Norman Bridge Laboratory of Physics of the California Institute of Technology, and to Dr. Peter J. W. Debye, director of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute of Physics in Berlin. The medals, with certificates, will be presented on the Medal Day of the institute, which has been set for May 19.

PRESENTATION of the Desmond Fitzgerald Medal of the Boston Society of Civil Engineers to Professor Albert Haertlein, of the Harvard Graduate School of Engineering, was made at the annual dinner on March 17.

D. S. JACOBUS, advisory engineer to the Babcock and Wilcox Company, New York City, has been awarded the Morehead Medal of the International Acetylene Association.

DR. MILO HELLMAN, professor of dentistry at Columbia University and research associate in physical anthropology at the American Museum of Natural History, on March 15 was honored with a citation for "diligence, experience and skill, observational precision and breadth of understanding" by the Associated Foundations in the laboratory of anatomy of Western Reserve University. The citation was signed by Dr. T. Wingate Todd, for the anatomical laboratory; Dr. Wilton M. Krogman, for the anthropological division, and Dr. B. Holly Broadbent, for the Bolton Fund.

AT the annual convocation of McGill University the doctorate of laws will be conferred on Sir Josiah Stamp, the economist. Sir Josiah was last year president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

DR. HORACE W. STUNKARD, professor of biology at New York University, formerly corresponding secretary of the New York Academy of Sciences, has been elected to succeed the late Dr. George H. Sherwood as president of the academy.

DR. KARL S. LASHLEY, of Harvard University, was

elected president of the Eastern Branch of the American Psychological Association at the spring meeting held at Vassar College on April 3. He succeeds Dr. Samuel W. Fernberger, of the University of Pennsylvania.

CHARLES M. ROGERS was elected president of the Astronomical Society of New Orleans at the annual meeting on March 31. He succeeds Dr. J. Adair Lyon.

AT the University of Cincinnati the following officers of Sigma Xi for the years 1937-38 and 1939 have been elected: *President*, Dr. R. C. Gowdy, professor of physics; *Vice-president*, Dr. H. W. Robinson, assistant professor of biochemistry, and *Secretary-Treasurer*, Dr. S. B. Arenson, associate professor of chemistry.

DR. EDITH MARION PATCH, since 1904 entomologist at the Maine Experiment Station at Orono, will retire in June.

DR. LOWELL J. REED, since 1925 professor of biostatistics at the Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed dean of the School of Hygiene and Public Health, succeeding Dr. Allen W. Freeman, who has been connected with the school since 1921 and who has been dean since 1934.

DR. ANTONIO G. SISON, professor of medicine, College of Medicine, University of the Philippines, Manila, has been appointed dean of the college to succeed Dr. Fernando Calderon, who retired in October.

DR. C. F. ROOS, professor of economics at Colorado College and research director of the Cowles Commission for Research in Economics, has resigned to accept a position as director of research with the Mercer Allied Corporation.

DR. DONALD B. GOULD, who for six years has had charge of the department of geology and geography at Cornell College, Mount Vernon, Iowa, has been appointed to a professorship at Colorado College.

AT Princeton University, Professor William T. Thom, Jr., has been appointed to the Blair chair in geology, succeeding the late Professor Alexander H. Phillips; Associate Professor Elmer G. Butler, present chairman of the department of biology, has been named to the Class of 1877 professorship of biology, and Professor Alan W. C. Menzies has been promoted to the Russell Wellman Moore professorship of chemistry. Other promotions to professorships include Associate Professor Clodius H. Willis, of the School of Engineering, and Associate Professor N. Howell Furman, of the department of chemistry; to associate professorships Assistant Professors Gaylord P. Harnwell, of the department of physics, and Richard H. Wilhelm and John C. Whitwell, of the department of en-

gineering. Harry H. Hess, of the department of geology, has been promoted to an assistant professorship.

MEMBERS have been elected to the board of trustees of the Rockefeller Foundation as follows: President Harold Willis Dodds, of Princeton University; Dr. Douglas Southall Freeman, of Richmond, Va., president of the board of trustees of the University of Richmond and visiting professor of journalism at Columbia University; Dr. Herbert Spencer Gasser, director of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, and Dr. Alfred Newton Richards, professor of pharmacology at the University of Pennsylvania.

DEAN W. F. RUDD, of the Medical College of Virginia, has been placed in charge of a study of certain problems in connection with reorganization plans contemplated in the School of Pharmacy at Columbia University to be put into effect upon the retirement of the dean at the end of the present session. He plans to spend alternate weeks in New York City. Associated with him as advisers will be Dr. W. G. Crockett, president of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, and Dr. Ernest Little, of Rutgers University, chairman of the executive committee of the association.

THE Committee on Scientific Research of the American Medical Association announces the award of a grant to Dr. CoTui, of the Laboratory of Experimental Surgery of the New York University College of Medicine, for the study of the relation between pyrogen and the Shartzman phenomenon.

THE J. T. Baker Chemical Company Analytical Research Fellowship, Eastern Division, has been awarded for the academic year 1937-38 to Robert C. Newton, for the past two years research assistant in chemistry at Princeton University. Mr. Newton will work under the direction of Professor N. H. Furman.

PROFESSOR WILL E. EDINGTON, of DePauw University, president of the Indiana Academy of Science, has appointed the following committee to cooperate with the American Association for the Advancement of Science at its winter meeting in Indianapolis: Amos W. Butler, Indianapolis, one of the founders of the academy, *chairman*; Frank B. Wade, Shortridge High School, Indianapolis, *vice-chairman*; T. E. Mason, J. J. Davis, A. A. Potter, H. R. Kraybill, T. M. Bushnell, Purdue University; R. R. Ramsey, S. S. Visher, F. Payne, C. A. Malott, Indiana University; W. M. Blanchard, Fowler D. Brooks, DePauw University; H. G. Nester, Butler University; M. S. Markle, Earlham University; S. E. Perkins, III, Indianapolis, and M. W. Lyon, Jr., South Bend.

THE thirteenth William Thompson Sedgwick Memorial Lecture of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology will be delivered on April 23 by Selskar Michael

Gunn, vice-president of the Rockefeller Foundation and director of public health work of the foundation in the Far East. The subject of the lecture will be "Public Health in China."

THE second Hughlings Jackson Lecture of the Montreal Neurological Institute was given on April 14 by Dr. Karl S. Lashley, professor of psychology at Harvard University. He spoke on "Factors Limiting Improvement after Central Nervous Injuries."

DEAN E. P. LYON, emeritus of the Medical School of the University of Minnesota, gave an illustrated address before the Sigma Xi Club of the University of Florida on March 31. His subject was "The Medical Sciences and Education in the Soviet Union."

DR. HERBERT M. EVANS, professor of anatomy and Morris Hertzstein professor of biology at the University of California Medical School, will address the Minnesota Pathological Society on April 20, on vitamins. He will discuss the same subject the following evening under the Clarence Martin Jackson Lecture-ship sponsored by the Phi Beta Pi medical fraternity.

DR. NIELS BOHR, Hitchcock professor this year at the University of California, Berkeley, spoke on March 19 on "Transmutations of Atomic Nuclei," under the joint auspices of the California Chapter of the Society of Sigma Xi and the department of physics of the University at Los Angeles.

THE reorganized Minnesota Academy of Science will hold its fifth annual meeting at University Farm, University of Minnesota, on April 17. During the past year the academy has instituted the Junior Academy plan for the secondary schools of the state. Section programs have been arranged for the one-day session. These include the biological, physical and science education groups. Speakers and topics on the general program include from the University of Minnesota: "A Word of Welcome," Dr. Walter C. Coffey, dean of the department of agriculture; "Drought, Dust Storms and Desolation," Professor D. H. Davis; "Some Recent Advances in Clinical Physiology," Dr. Irvine McQuarrie, and "The Fate of the Indigenous," Dr. A. N. Wilcox. A public lecture has been planned for the evening session. The speaker will be Dr. H. K. Hayes, chief of the Division of Agronomy and Plant Genetics. Dr. Hayes returned recently from a year in China, where he directed the agronomic research of the country. He will speak on "Some Observations on Life in China."

THE American Association of Museums will meet in New Orleans on May 3, 4 and 5. Two afternoons and two evenings will be given to the sessions of the sections; one afternoon will be free, and the last evening will be devoted to the annual dinner. The programs

of the sections are being organized by the following chairmen: Meyric R. Rogers, St. Louis, Art; Hardinge Scholle, New York, History; Katherine Coffey, Newark, Instructors; Ned Burns, Washington, National and State Parks; Sarah Newmeyer, New York, Public Relations and Radio; H. L. Story, Boston, Registrars; Robert Glenk, New Orleans, Science; Charles R. Tootaker, Philadelphia, Technical, and John W. McCabe, Cleveland, Superintendents.

A UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE open competitive examination has been announced for psychologist (Public Relations), at a salary of \$3,800 a year in the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Applications must be on file not later than May 3. The work of the position is "Under general supervision, to apply the principles and techniques of psychology in a program for securing intelligent public cooperation in the protection of forest areas from fire; to determine the origin of man-caused fires; to determine current attitudes in forest areas toward fire prevention and toward the policies and practices of the Forest Service; to develop various methods of securing more effective public responsiveness to protection measures, and to evaluate the effectiveness of such methods; to make trips to field units; to supply technical psychological advice as consulting expert, and to perform other work of a related nature as assigned." Competitors will not be required to report for examination at any place, but will be rated on education and experience and on a thesis or discussion to be filed with application. The necessary application forms may be obtained from any first-class post office or from the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C.

THE Council on Physical Therapy of the American Medical Association has announced in its report of the annual meeting that grants of limited sums, to aid in research, are available to those who have problems of merit in the field of physical therapy. Application should be made to the secretary of the Council on Physical Therapy, The American Medical Association, 535 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill.

DENISON UNIVERSITY at Granville, Ohio, is cele-

brating on April 16 the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Denison Scientific Association. A correspondent writes: "It is not often that a school serving no more than 850 students at the most, and definitely labeling itself a College of Liberal Arts, has been able to maintain such a vigorous interest for so long a period. A good share of the credit for this record must go to *The Journal of the Scientific Laboratories* and to the sponsors and editors of the same, who have built up, over a period of fifty-two years, a journal which goes to the far corners of the earth and brings in, in return, a wealth of scientific material and contact not often met in similar institutions." The celebration consists of bringing back to the campus alumni who have attained prominence in various scientific fields. Dr. Carey G. Croneis, professor of paleontology at the University of Chicago, is to speak on "Science and the College."

WITH a view to the encouragement of postgraduate training in scientific research, chiefly in the graduate schools of Canadian universities, the National Research Council of Canada has awarded 47 scholarships for the year 1937-38. These include three fellowships at \$700 each, 12 studentships at \$600, and 27 bursaries at \$500, all of which will be held in departments of science at the universities. Five other scholarships, tenable in the National Research Laboratories at Ottawa, will enable the holders, all of whom have already done postgraduate research at the universities, to gain experience in the field of industrial research before engaging in commercial work. Classified according to the departments of science in which the scholarship holders will work, the awards show that chemistry in its various branches heads the list with 25, physics comes next with 12, followed by 4 in biology, 2 in genetics, and one each in botany, geology, mathematics and mechanical engineering. Applications were received from graduates of 18 Canadian universities, and awards have been made which will enable the holders to work in the graduate schools of eight different universities in Canada, namely: Dalhousie, Laval, McGill, Montreal, Queen's, Toronto, Western Ontario and Saskatchewan.

## DISCUSSION

### COBALT—AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT

SOME months ago Dr. H. G. Denham, chairman of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research of New Zealand, visited Minnesota and among other things told of the amazing success which they have had in curing "bushsickness" in domestic animals in New Zealand by the addition of traces of cobalt salts to the diet of the animals. Dr. Denham stated that

alfalfa might grow luxuriantly in a cobalt deficient area, but the animals suffered severe deficiency symptoms if fed only on the forage of that area. He stated that certain "iron" salts cured the disease, whereas "iron" salts from other sources failed to cure and that the same was true for "copper" salts, and in each instance the cure had been traced to small amounts of cobalt in those salts which produced the cures.