SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE prize established by Dr. A. C. Langmuir "in recognition of the accomplishment in North America of outstanding research in pure chemistry by a man or woman under thirty-one years of age" will be presented by the American Chemical Society to Dr. E. Bright Wilson, Jr., assistant professor of chemistry at Harvard University. The presentation will be made at the Rochester meeting on September 8. Dr. E. R. Weidlein, director of the Mellon Institute of Industrial Research and president of the society, will preside.

IN recognition of his work in the control of bovine mastitis and in pathology Dr. Denny Hammond Udall, professor of veterinary medicine at Cornell University, was presented with the prize of the twelfth International Veterinary Congress at the recent meeting at Omaha, Nebr., for accomplishing "the most outstanding and noteworthy work during the year."

THE gold medal of the North Carolina Academy of Science has been awarded to Dr. John N. Couch, of the University of North Carolina, for his paper on carnivorous fungi. He has also been awarded the prize of $100 "for the most outstanding paper" presented before the Academies of Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and Georgia.

A DINNER in honor of Dr. William Freeman Snow, general director of the American Hygiene Association, will be given on October 1. Arrangements are being made by a committee of which Dr. Maurice A. Bigelow, of Teachers College, Columbia University, is chairman. Other members of the committee are: Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, president of Stanford University; Dr. Edward L. Keyes, honorary president of the American Social Hygiene Association, and Dr. Mary E. Woolley, president-emeritus of Mount Holyoke College.

THE JOHANNES SCHMIDT MEDAL has been awarded to Henry G. Maurice, secretary of fisheries of the British Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and president of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, "in recognition of his great services to international oceanographical and fisheries research."

DR. ERICH VON DRYGALSKI, professor of geography at Munich, celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his doctorate on July 6.

DR. WALDEMAR KAEMPFFERT, science editor of *The New York Times,* has been elected *president* of the National Association of Science Writers. Other new officers are: *Vice-president,* John J. O'Neil, *The New York Herald-Tribune; Secretary,* Robert D. Potter, Science Service, Washington; *Treasurer,* Stephen J. McDonough, Associated Press, Washington.

HENRI BOIS, director of economic services for the Quebec Department of Agriculture, has been elected president, and Elzear Champagne, professor at the Agricultural College of Ste. Anne de la Pocatière, vice-president, of the newly established Quebec Provincial Agronomists' Association, which held its organization meeting at the end of May. A constitution was adopted and the decision was made to work in cooperation with the Canadian Society of Technical Agriculturists.

DR. JOHN C. WEST, president of the University of North Dakota, has been made acting president of the State Agricultural College at Fargo, to succeed Dr. J. H. Shepperd, who has been named president emeritus. Dr. Herbert C. Hanson, head of the department of botany, has been appointed acting director of the Agricultural Experiment Station. According to the daily press, R. M. Dolve, dean of engineering, and six other officers of the college, have been dismissed.

DR. J. RIGNEY D'AUNOY, head of the department of pathology at the medical center of the Louisiana State University and executive adviser to the director of Charity Hospital, has been appointed dean, to succeed Dr. Arthur Vidrine, who has resigned.

DR. GEORGE MCLEAN LAWSON, recently professor of public health and bacteriology at the University of Louisville (Ky.) School of Medicine, has been appointed professor of preventive medicine and bacteriology in the department of medicine of the University of Virginia.

DR. ELMER HUTCHISSON, assistant professor of physics at the University of Pittsburgh, has been appointed acting head of the department of physics for the coming year. He takes the place of Dr. A. G. Worthing, head of the department since 1925, who has retired as head of the department but will continue as a professor.

DR. T. FREEMAN COPE, professor of mathematics at Marietta College and head of the department, has been appointed assistant professor of mathematics at the newly established Queens College at Flushing, New York. Dr. Roland M. Whittaker, assistant professor of chemistry at Brooklyn College, has been appointed assistant professor of chemistry.

DR. F. B. SMITH, research associate professor of soils at the Iowa State College, has been appointed professor of soils at the University of Florida; Dr.

M. A. Countryman, instructor in engineering drawing, has become head of the department of physics at Lewis Institute, Chicago, and Dr. O. K. Sagen, instructor in mathematics, has been appointed assistant professor of mathematics at the University of Maryland.

DR. J. H. BURN, dean of the department of pharmacology of the College of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain and professor in the University of London, has been appointed to the chair of pharmacology in the University of Oxford.

DR. STANHOPE BAYNE-JONES, professor of bacteriology and dean of the School of Medicine of Yale University, has been elected a member of the medical advisory board of the Leonard Wood Memorial.

DR. HAMILTON H. ANDERSON, assistant clinical professor of pharmacology at the University of California Medical School, San Francisco, has been appointed to the staff of the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals of the American Medical Association. Dr. Anderson will assist in the general supervision of hospitals and medical schools.

RALPH H. MCCLARREN, aeronautical engineer of the Franklin Institute, has been named assistant associate director in charge of sections covering land transportation, prime movers, building materials, railroad engineering and mechanisms.

DR. LEROY K. HENRY, formerly assistant in the section of botany, has been appointed assistant curator of botany at the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh.

DR. RALPH W. CHANEY, chairman of the department of paleontology at the University of California, has returned from China, sailing from Tangku, the port of the city of Tientsin, on July 21 after spending two weeks in the war zone. Dr. Chaney had spent seven weeks in the area around Peiping, collecting fossils of plant life from the rocks. He was on commission from the Carnegie Institution of Washington, D. C., and was working in cooperation with the Chinese National Geological Survey.

DR. D. M. DANIEL, associate entomologist at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva, has been granted six months leave of absence by Cornell University for study of certain problems in the biological control of insect pests under Professor Harry S. Smith, at the Citrus Experiment Station, Riverside, Calif.

DR. ARTHUR PAUL JACOT, of the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, is collecting material from long unburned, old growth spruce stands of the White Mountain National Forest for the elaboration of a standard census of the animals of the litter and humus layers of the spruce forests of New England. This standard is to be used as a basis for the determination of the animals concerned in the improvement of old-field, depleted, compacted forest soils.

THE geological expedition to Colorado of the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, in charge of Curator Sharat K. Roy, has returned after five weeks collecting and reconnoitering in mountainous regions. Specimens of rock illustrating important structural features of the earth—folds, faults, slickensides, joints, dikes, etc., were obtained. With these an exhibit is to be prepared graphically explaining the origin of mountains, the cause of earthquakes and various other phenomena.

THE presidential address on the occasion of the seventy-fourth British Pharmaceutical Conference, which was held in Liverpool from July 26 to 30, was delivered by T. E. Lescher. The address was entitled "Pharmacy To-day—Its Responsibility."

THE fifty-fourth annual meeting of the American Clinical and Climatological Association will be held in Baltimore from October 11 to 13, with headquarters at the Belvedere Hotel.

THE American Association for the Study of Neoplastic Diseases will hold its annual meeting in Washington, D. C., from September 9 to 11.

THE Pennsylvania Academy of Sciences held its twelfth annual summer field meet in Tioga County on August 14 and 15. The group spent Saturday afternoon and evening at Leonard Harrison State Park, the Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania, a gorge 800 feet deep in a heavily wooded country. On Sunday, Dr. E. M. Gress, state botanist, led a party on a botanical collecting trip in the gorge, while Dr. Geo. H. Ashley, state geologist, and R. W. Stone, of the State Geological Survey, led two parties interested in physiography and geology, showing especially drainage changes due to glaciation, glacial deposits and the Coudersport "ice mine." Forty persons registered.

THE College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, will receive the residuary estate, estimated at more than $200,000, of Mrs. Sara M. Frank, to form a trust to be known as the Moses and Sara Frank Memorial Fellowship, the income to be used "to aid any person or persons the faculty might select who show special aptitude for original work on diseases of the eye."

THE U. S. Senate approved on August 10 a bill to provide approximately $3,000,000 annual Federal aid to the states for conservation of wildlife. The funds would be diverted from special excise taxes now collected on sportsmen's equipment. Federal and state governments would share the cost of wildlife restoration projects, which must be maintained by the state.

IT is announced in the *Bulletin* of the Mayo Foundation that for several years Dr. W. J. Mayo has had under consideration the conversion of his residence for educational purposes. The residence and the east half of the block on which it stands will be deeded, for the Mayo Foundation, to a board of trustees, the members of which are, tentatively, Dr. D. C. Balfour (chairman), Dr. Waltman Walters and H. J. Harwick. Dr. and Mrs. Mayo will build a new and smaller house, of simple construction and proportions, on the southwest section of the block. The present residence was built and occupied by Dr. and Mrs. Mayo in 1916. It is of reinforced concrete faced with stone and is fireproof. The two lower stories and the tower contain general living rooms; the third story is occupied by an assembly room. Surrounding the residence are spacious grounds, naturally wooded. Many visiting physicians from the United States and foreign countries have been entertained there. It is not planned to make radical changes either in the house or the grounds. Dr. Mayo intends to endow the property sufficiently to prevent taxes and general maintenance becoming a burden on the Mayo Foundation. Details of the use to which the property will be put will be formulated by the trustees. Broadly, Dr. Mayo intends that his gift shall aid in the educational aims of the Mayo Foundation and of the University of Minnesota.

The Experiment Station Record reports that an experimental aviary has been built on the top of Fernow Hall, which houses the department of ornithology at Cornell University. This aviary, a metal encased structure, will have large wire cages, containing smaller shelters to protect the birds, and a hall the length of the aviary where various experiments will be carried on. A study of bird migration is planned. Birds will be confined in the aviary during periods of the year when they normally migrate to discover how long this impulse persists and how it is related to physical changes in the birds.

THE Secretary of State for Scotland announces that the conjoined offices of Astronomer Royal for Scotland and of professor of astronomy in the University of Edinburgh will become vacant on October 1, owing to the resignation of Professor R. A. Sampson. Applications for appointment, accompanied by two copies of recent testimonials, should be in the hands of the Private Secretary, Scottish Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1, not later than September 13. Particulars of the appointment may be obtained from him.

DISCUSSION

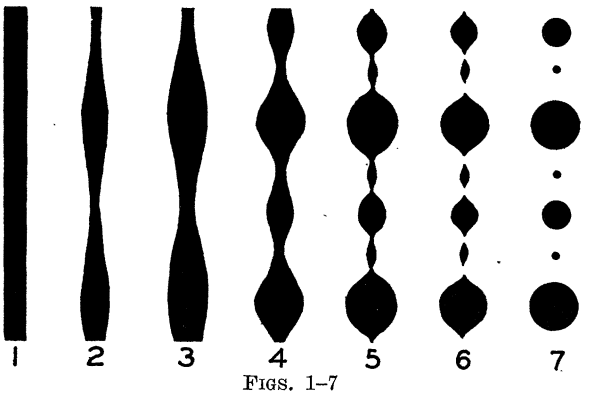
ANOTHER ANALOGUE OF PLATEAU'S SPHERULE

A RECENT note in SCIENCE[1] brings to mind another way in which liquid spherules may be formed. By the method described below, the rate of formation is easily controllable and may be made so slow that all details of the process can be watched without auxiliary apparatus.

If a filament of oil is formed in syrup, the filament will break up into a beautifully regular chain of drops at a rate depending on the viscosity of the liquids. The drops will form usually in two orders of size, and occasionally into three, the smaller drops being formed from the "tails" of the larger ones. The process for three orders is somewhat as indicated by the accompanying figures, where the successive stages are indicated by Figs. 1 to 7, respectively.

To any one wishing to observe the phenomenon, the following very simple procedure is suggested:

Fill a small (ca. 250 cc) beaker nearly full of white "crystal clear" Karo corn syrup and boil until it boils at a temperature of about 110° C. While still hot, cover with a thin layer (2 or 3 mm) of very heavy asphaltic oil (putting the oil immediately on the hot syrup prevents formation of a thick scum; if allowed to cool, the scum should be removed before covering with the oil). Let stand until cool. The filament of oil in the syrup may be formed by dropping an ordinary B-B shot (or a small steel ball bearing) on the oil. The shot will sink, carrying a long filament of adhering oil down into the syrup. This filament is unstable, apparently because of surface tension, and breaks up into drops.



FIGS. 1–7

The rate at which the filament breaks up is dependent on the viscosity of the syrup, which is controlled by the temperature to which it is boiled, and also by the temperature at the time the filament is formed. For experiments at room temperature the syrup should

[1] Charles H. Greene, SCIENCE, May 21, 1937.