

**THE STANFORD UNIVERSITY MEETING OF
THE PACIFIC DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE**

THE twenty-third annual meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will be held this year at Stanford University from June 26 to July 1. Sixteen scientific organizations on the Pacific Coast are participating actively by holding scheduled sessions throughout the week; among them are the astronomers, botanists, chemists, ecologists, economic entomologists, ichthyologists and herpetologists, geographers, meteorologists, naturalists, physicists, plant pathologists, plant physiologists, the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine and the Western Society of Soil Science. Members of associated societies not formally participating have been invited to take part by attending or presenting papers at the scheduled sessions.

The general sessions will open on Tuesday morning, June 27, with a symposium on "Radiation and Life." This will include an address by Dr. W. V. Houston, of the California Institute of Technology, on "Radiation"; "Radioactive Elements as Tracers in Metabolic Studies," by Dr. John H. Lawrence, of the University of California; "Radiation and the Hereditary Mechanism," by Dr. M. Delbruck, of the California Institute of Technology, and "Medical Applications," by Professor Robert R. Newell, of the Stanford University Medical School.

An afternoon session on "Reviews of Current Research" is next on the program. Professor J. W. McBain, of Stanford University, will speak on "Recent Advances in Colloid Chemistry." An address by Professor A. R. Davis, of the University of California, will follow on the subject of "Mineral Metabolism in Plants." Professor Henry Borsook, of the California Institute of Technology, will speak on "Biological Oxidations and Reductions," and Dr. J. W. Macfarlane, of the University of California, will discuss "Research on Personality Development."

A general reception for members and guests of the division and its associated societies will follow this meeting. There will also be three evening addresses during the week. The first, on Tuesday, June 27, will be given by Professor S. J. Holmes, president of the Pacific Division, American Association for the Advancement of Science, and will deal with "Darwinian Ethics and Its Practical Applications." On Wednesday evening Professor V. Gordon Childe, of the Uni-

versity of Edinburgh, will give an illustrated lecture on "The Neolithic Economy in Northwestern Europe," and on Thursday evening Professor J. D. Bernal, of the University of London, will speak on "The Structure of Protein Molecules."

Among the numerous symposia organized by the participating societies, mention might be made of the following: "Dams and the Problem of Migratory Fishes," "Recent Contributions of Botany and Ecology to Society," a symposium on the teaching of plant pathology, "Availability of Nutrients in Soils to Plants," "Translocation of Solutes in Plants," "Growth," "Native Plants of Western North America Offering Exceptional Material for Botanical Research," "New Ultra-high-frequency Apparatus" and "Methods and Results of X-ray Structure Determination." The last-mentioned will include J. D. Bernal, M. L. Huggins, H. Mark, O. L. Sponsler and Dorothy M. Wrinch as speakers.

The meeting of the Pacific Division will be followed by a symposium commemorating the enunciation of the cell theory (July 1 to 5), and by the Sixteenth National Colloid Symposium (July 6 to 8). Both will be held at Stanford University.

J. MURRAY LUCK,
Secretary

**THE ELECTION OF FOREIGN MEMBERS OF
THE ROYAL SOCIETY**

At a recent meeting of the Royal Society the following were elected to foreign membership in the society:

Professor Walter Bradford Cannon, professor of physiology in Harvard Medical School. Distinguished for (a) his x-ray investigations of the movements of the alimentary canal; (b) his analysis of the mechanism and conditions of excitation of the suprarenal gland and (c) his work on the chemical transmission of impulses in peripheral nerves as shown by the sympathetic system.

Professor Herbert Freundlich, University of Minnesota. Distinguished for his researches in colloid chemistry and colloid physics.

Professor George Von Hevesy, research professor in the Institute of Theoretical Physics, Carlsberg Laboratory, Copenhagen. Distinguished for (a) his work in experimental chemical physics, particularly the use, for the solution of biological and chemical problems, of radioactive and isotopic substances as indicators; (b) for his discovery of hafnium and (c) for his geochemical researches and for his work on isotopes and their separation.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

FOREIGN members of the Linnean Society of London have been elected as follows: Dr. William King Gregory, curator of comparative anatomy and ichthyology

of the American Museum of Natural History and professor of paleontology at Columbia University; Dr. Alfred Rehder, curator of the Herbarium, Arnold

Arboretum, and associate professor of dendrology at Harvard University; Dr. William Albert Setchell, emeritus professor of botany at the University of California; Professor Alfred Ernst, director of the Institute of General Botany of the University of Zurich, and Dr. William Marins Docters van Leeuwen, formerly director of the Botanic Gardens, Buitenzorg.

PROFESSOR ELIOT BLACKWELDER, of Stanford University, has been nominated by the council for president of the Geological Society of America, and Professor Douglas Johnson, of Columbia University, has been nominated first vice-president.

DR. ELMER D. MERRILL, Arnold professor of botany and administrator of botanical collections of Harvard University and director of the Arnold Arboretum, has been appointed by the organizing committee of the seventh International Botanical Congress, to be held in Stockholm in 1940, as one of the presidents of the section of taxonomy and nomenclature and as president of the subsection for nomenclature. He served in similar capacities at Cambridge in 1930 and at Amsterdam in 1935.

DR. ROBERT CUSHMAN MURPHY, of the American Museum of Natural History, has been elected an honorary member of the Royal Hungarian Institute of Ornithology.

AMONG honorary degrees to be conferred at the annual commencement exercises of Temple University on June 15 will be the doctorate of humane letters on Dr. Victor George Heiser, who retired in 1934 as associate director of the International Health Division of the Rockefeller Foundation.

THE Herty Medal for 1939 has been presented by the department of chemistry of the Georgia State College for Women at Milledgeville, Ga., to Frank K. Cameron, of the University of North Carolina, in recognition of his research on cellulose in cotton.

DR. GEORGE GRANGER BROWN, professor of chemical engineering at the University of Michigan, received on May 16, in recognition of his work on thermodynamics and distillation, the 1939 William H. Walker Medal presented at the Akron, Ohio, meeting by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. The award is made annually for "outstanding articles published by the institute during three years prior to the award."

At the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of *Biological Abstracts*, held in Washington on April 25, the following officers were elected: Dr. George W. Hunter, III, *president*; Dr. Anton J. Carlson, *vice-president*; Dr. Alden B. Dawson, *treasurer*; Dr. Conway Zirkle, *secretary*. The executive committee for the current year consists of Dr. George W. Hunter,

III, *chairman*; Colonel Arthur Parker Hitchens and Dr. Alden B. Dawson.

DR. WILLIAM W. HUTCHINSON, of Los Angeles, was named at St. Louis president-elect of the Associated Anesthetists of the United States and Canada. In elections of two associated organizations, Dr. Hugh Cunningham, of Milwaukee, was named president-elect of the Mid-western Association of Anesthetists, and Dr. R. Douglas Sanders, of Louisville, president-elect of the Southern Association of Anesthetists.

A DINNER in honor of Professor Francis Ramaley, who retires this year after forty-one years as head of the department of biology of the University of Colorado, was given on April 22. Some seventy former and present members of the staff and graduate students were present. Professor Aven Nelson spoke on his reminiscences of early botanical study in the Rocky Mountain region. Professor Ramaley was presented with a dissecting binocular microscope and a volume of congratulatory letters.

PROFESSOR W. L. BLIZZARD, since 1919 head of the department of animal husbandry of the University of Oklahoma, has been appointed dean of the School of Agriculture and director of the Experiment Station.

PROFESSOR HENRY P. RUSK, head of the department of animal husbandry since 1923 and a member of the staff for twenty-nine years, has been appointed dean of the College of Agriculture of the University of Illinois, director of the Agricultural Experiment Station and director of the Extension Service in Agriculture and Home Economics. He will succeed Dr. J. C. Blair, who will retire on September 1.

DR. J. D. COCKCROFT, lecturer in physics in the University of Cambridge and fellow of St. John's College, has been elected Jacksonian professor of natural philosophy.

DR. DOROTHY GARROD, daughter of the late Sir Archibald Garrod, Regius professor of medicine at the University of Oxford, has been elected to the Disney professorship of archeology at the University of Cambridge in succession to Dr. E. H. Minns, who retires in October. Dr. Garrod is director of studies in archeology and anthropology at Newnham College, and is known for her excavations in the Near East and at Gibraltar.

DR. JOHN H. PARKER, professor of agronomy at the Kansas State College, Manhattan, has resigned to become director of the Kansas Wheat Improvement Association, with headquarters in Manhattan. He has been succeeded at the college by L. P. Reitz, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

DR. LEONARD A. MAYNARD, professor of animal nutrition, and Dr. John K. Loosli have been placed in

charge of a five-year project on the nutrition of animals, recently inaugurated at Cornell University by the United States Biological Survey. The initial object of the project is to determine proper foods for fox and mink, as an aid to fur farmers.

DR. HUGH S. CUMMING, surgeon-general of the United States from 1920 to 1936, returned on May 24 on the liner *Manhattan*, of the United States Lines, after attending, as medical delegate, assemblies in Geneva and Paris.

DR. T. G. YUNCKER, professor of botany at DePauw University, is spending next year in the south Pacific area making collections and studying the flora of southeastern Polynesia on a Yale-Bishop Museum fellowship. He sails in July for Honolulu and later will go to the Tongan archipelago, where he plans to spend several months.

DR. FRANK E. EGLER, assistant professor of ecology and taxonomy at the New York State College of Forestry, is sailing on June 3 from New York City on the *S. S. Nerissa* for Martinique. He will spend the summer on botanical investigations in the French Antilles, with the cooperation of Dr. Henri Stehle, director of the Tivoli Experiment Station. The work will include an ecological reconnaissance of the vegetation in semi-arid regions with reference to soil, water and forage conservation. These studies are in line with the Hawaiian investigations of Dr. Egler, who was Yale University-Bishop Museum fellow in 1936-1937.

DR. A. M. CHICKERING, professor of biology and chairman of the division of science and mathematics in Albion College, Michigan, has been on leave studying his collections of Central American spiders at the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University. A few weeks also were spent in the Osborn Zoological Laboratory, Yale University, as guest of the laboratory and of Professor Alexander Petrunkevitch. On June 14, with his son as assistant, he expects to sail for work on spiders in Panama. Dr. G. W. Prescott, of Albion College, with assistants, will join him later in the summer, primarily for an investigation of the algae of the Panama Canal and associated waters.

DR. OSKAR KRAUS, director of the Brentano Institute of Prague, has been appointed Gifford lecturer in natural theology at the University of Edinburgh for the academic year 1940-41.

FORMER PRESIDENT HERBERT HOOVER, honorary member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, will give an address before the society at the Golden Gate International Exposition, on Engineers' Day, July 13. He will discuss the contributions that have been made by engineering to human welfare.

Dr. Rodolfo E. Ballester, director of the Irrigation Department of Argentina, S. A., will give the Calvin W. Rice lecture. He will speak on hydraulics and how engineers of the United States may better cooperate with those of South America. He is expected to arrive in New York on June 26.

DR. A. J. CARLSON, professor of physiology at the University of Chicago Medical School, gave an address on "Science and the Common Life" at the dedication of the new building of the May Institute for Medical Research of the Jewish Hospital in Cincinnati.

DR. LEWIS JOHN STADLER, principal geneticist of the Office of Cereal Crops and Diseases of the Bureau of Plant Industry, gave the ninth series of Frank Azor Spragg Memorial Lectures at the Michigan State College on May 16, 17, 18 and 19. These lectures were established by the Michigan State Board of Agriculture in 1930 as a memorial of the contributions to Michigan agriculture by Frank Azor Spragg, plant breeder at the Michigan Station from 1906 to 1924.

IN the symposium on "The Cell and Protoplasm" to be given at Stanford University on July 1, the program of which was printed in the issue of SCIENCE for May 19, the paper entitled "The Cell Wall and Protoplasm" is to be given by I. W. Bailey, of Harvard University, not by L. H. Bailey.

THE Royal Swedish Academy of Science is this year celebrating the two hundredth anniversary of its founding on June 2, 1739.

THE American Malacological Union will hold its ninth annual meeting in the Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology, Toronto, from June 20 to 23.

THE forty-first annual meeting of the Medical Library Association will be held on June 27, 28 and 29 at the Academy of Medicine of Northern New Jersey, Newark. The program will include addresses, discussions and demonstrations on library procedure, medical history and literature. This association consists of about two hundred and fifty of the medical libraries of the United States and Canada, together with their librarians and a group of supporting members, who are chiefly physicians interested in medical literature and libraries. The officers of the association are as follows: *President*, James F. Ballard, Boston; *Vice-president*, Dr. George R. Minot, Boston; *Secretary*, Miss Janet Doe, New York; *Treasurer*, Miss Louise D. C. King, Baltimore, and *Chairman of Executive Committee*, Miss Marjorie J. Darrach, Detroit. Every one is invited to attend who is interested in a wider knowledge of medical literature and in the development of medical libraries.

THE British Association for the Advancement of Science held the first public meeting in London of the

new division for the Social and International Relations of Science at the Royal Institution on May 25. Professor Ernest Barker, professor of political science at the University of Cambridge, and Sir Daniel Hall, formerly chief scientific adviser to the Ministry of Agriculture, were the principal speakers. Sir Richard Gregory was in the chair. The object of the meeting was to show how science and society are "out of gear," and to explain the nature of the task that the division has undertaken in trying to bring about an adjustment. Professor Barker spoke on "The Impacts of Science on Society," and Sir Daniel Hall on the application of science to agriculture. Sir Richard Gregory dealt with the work of the division. The meeting was intended for workers in every branch of science with a view to securing their interest and cooperation in the work of the division, which at present is concerned with questions of nutrition, population, social psychology, the organization of science and the international relations of science. A committee has also been appointed to report on the world sources of raw materials.

THE Department of Agriculture awarded an \$842,000 contract on May 25 for construction of an eastern regional research laboratory at Wyndmoor, Pa. The contract calls for completion in four hundred days of the entire administration unit, together with nine sections of the chemical laboratory wing, and the entire service building and power plant.

THE cornerstone of Fuld Hall of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton was laid on May 22 by Miss Lavinia Bamberger, sister of Louis Bamberger, co-founder of the institute. The building is being erected at a cost of \$500,000, on a 400-acre tract of land on the southwest outskirts of the Borough of Princeton. The hall is expected to be completed in time for the opening of the fall term. Fuld Hall, named in honor of the late Felix Fuld, is being constructed of red brick in colonial design. When completed it will contain separate studies for each faculty member and student of the institute's three units, besides administration quarters, seminar rooms, lounges and a library.

DISCUSSION

BIRTH PAINS OF THE ASSOCIATION

ONE hundred years ago, in 1839, *The Family Magazine, or Monthly Abstract of General Knowledge* published the following article on the organization of a national scientific society. This magazine was published at Boston by J. S. Redfield, first president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

I am indebted to Mr. Joseph A. Sadony, Valley of the Pines, Montague, Mich., for the reference and the following quotation. Such words from leaders among our predecessors of a century ago emphasize the enormous changes that have taken place within three generations.

F. R. MOULTON,
Permanent Secretary

NATIONAL SCIENTIFICK ASSOCIATION

When the proposition was made, in February last, to the Massachusetts Medical Society, to open a correspondence with other similar bodies, upon the expediency of organizing a national association for the advancement of the physical sciences, there were gentlemen who expressed an opinion that the movement was premature; and further, it was maintained that no very marked discoveries or brilliant achievements had resulted from such combinations of the learned in other countries. On the other hand, all important and really striking and meritorious advances in science, literature and the arts, were made, it was contended, in the quiet of the closet, by those who hardly identified themselves with the busy world. In fine, noth-

ing of importance to the promotion of science had emanated from these modern much-talked-of compacts of the old world.

With a variety of theories and individual presentiments, none of which, by others, were considered of much consequence, it is sufficient to say that the project was rather coldly received, and ultimately quashed in embryo by the committee to whom the matter was referred by consideration. Now it is morally certain that by a little exertion, a successful plan of operation might, by this time, have been devised, and a vigorous co-operation manifested in every state in the union.

The idea that we were too young, as a people, for such a vast undertaking, was preposterous in the extreme. Whoever reflects upon the character of the present age, the spirit that animates all ranks of inhabitants, the impulse given the nation by transatlantic influences, in all departments of life, can not resist the conviction that the same system of perseverance which distinguishes the efforts of civilized man in Europe, will and must be felt in America. With a vast territory, the resources of which are almost incalculable, a consolidation of interests in science, of all the available forces, from the college to the cottage, can alone develop the geological and physical constitution, capabilities and concealed wonders, of this great portion of the habitable globe.

As predicted, another effort is making to rally the learned of the United States around one common centre, to unite in an enterprise which must gratify every friend of science; and of its final success, there is scarcely a remaining doubt, notwithstanding the objections which have heretofore been urged against a scheme so praiseworthy and meritorious. A meeting was held at the hall