

This exchange of visits was welcomed by the Royal Society, which, since its foundation in 1662, has always sought to maintain, irrespective of race or politics, the liveliest interest in the work of men of science throughout the world. Consequently, arrangements were made for two fellows of the society, Professor F. G. Donnan, emeritus professor of chemistry in the University of London, and Professor A. J. Clark, professor of materia medica in the University of Edinburgh, to visit Germany in March; at the express wish of the Kaiser Wilhelm Gesellschaft for a lecture on a non-scientific subject, Professor Dover Wilson, the eminent Shakespearean scholar, was invited by the Royal Society to visit Berlin to lecture. The visits, which took place in March and April, were highly successful. The visitors were most hospitably entertained by their German colleagues and were afforded facilities for visiting laboratories and research institutes.

The Royal Society is entertaining during this month four German men of science. They are Freiherr von Verschuer, of the University of Frankfurt-on-Main; Professor R. Kuhn, of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institut für Medizinische Forschung, Heidelberg; Professor F. Wever, of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institut für Eisenforschung Forschung, Düsseldorf, and Professor Otto Hahn, of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institut für Chemie, Berlin-Dahlem. Freiherr von Verschuer and Professor Kuhn delivered lectures before the Royal Society on June 8 and 9, respectively; Professor Wever spoke on June 22 on metallurgical research, and Professor Hahn spoke at the Royal Institution on June 23 on the fission of uranium nuclei by neutrons.—*Nature*.

SURVEY OF THE GEOLOGY OF THE CENTRAL ANDES IN PERU

DR. J. V. HARRISON, university demonstrator and lecturer in the department of geology at the University of Oxford, who is leading an expedition to Peru, is reported by a correspondent of the London *Times* to have sailed from Liverpool on June 17, to study and map the geology of a part of the Central Andes of Peru in the region between Canta, Huauco and Huancayo. Dr. Harrison, who was in the same part of Peru in 1925, is accompanied by J. D. Weir, of University College, London, and Saskatoon University, who is a Rhodes scholar and a Burdett-Coutts scholar and who is working in the department of geology; C. H. Kearny, of the Queen's College, who is a Rhodes scholar from Princeton, and M. H. Donald, of Mealsgate, Cumberland, who has previously collected for the British Museum.

The expedition will collect fossils and specimens of rocks from the region for the British Museum (Natural History). Its plans have been approved by the Royal Geographical Society. The area to be mapped is part of an equilateral triangle, the apices of which

are Tarma, Cerro de Pasco and Canta, with the center of the triangle roughly 80 miles northeast of Lima.

How much will be achieved depends entirely upon the weather, which in August and September can not be relied on. The altitudes range from 15,000 feet to 18,000 feet, and the region is subject to violent storms during the break-up of the settled July (winter) weather. Much of the time will be spent under canvas, and the expedition will rely on mule transport, with native muleteers.

Mr. Weir was with survey parties of the Canadian Geological Survey in two successive summers before he went to Oxford, and he has this year been awarded a third part of the Daniel Pidgeon Fund by the Geological Society. The first recipient of this award, in 1908, was the present professor of geology at Oxford, Professor James A. Douglas, who himself did much of his early field work in Peru and is an authority on the geology of that country.

Mr. Kearny, who collected archeological material in northwestern Mexico for a year before going to Oxford, will join the party at Lima. The expedition will return in October.

THE MAGELLANIC EXPEDITION OF THE FIELD MUSEUM

THE "Magellanic Expedition" of Field Museum of Natural History, sponsored by Stanley Field, president of the museum, which will largely retrace in the farthest reaches of South America the steps of the early Spanish explorer for which it is named, planned to sail from New York for Lima, Peru, during the first week in July. Those sailing include Karl P. Schmidt, curator of amphibians and reptiles, his son, John Schmidt, field assistant, and Colin C. Sanborn, curator of mammals. They will be joined, probably in September, by Dr. Wilfred H. Osgood, chief of the department of zoology.

The expedition will attempt to complete the fragmentary knowledge of the fauna of the southern half of South America. All classes of animals will be sought—mammals, birds, reptiles, fishes, insects, marine invertebrates, etc. It is planned to explore the shores of the Straits of Magellan and the Island of Tierra del Fuego to the extreme southern tip of the continent.

Upon arrival in Lima, Mr. Schmidt and his companions will cross southern Peru by rail to Arequipa and Lake Titicaca, where collecting will begin. Crossing the lake by steamer, collections will be made in Bolivia. Further penetration into the interior of South America will be made variously by airplane, rail, boat, pack animals and afoot. After the arrival of Dr. Osgood the expedition will proceed through Chile down to the southernmost tip of the continent. It is in the region of the Straits of Magellan and Tierra