

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE National Academy of Sciences will meet on October 28, 29 and 30 at Philadelphia following the bicentennial celebration of the University of Pennsylvania. Sessions will be held in the Zoological Laboratory. On Monday evening there will be a public lecture in the University Museum, following a dinner given by the university for the members of the academy. On Tuesday evening there will be a reception by President and Mrs. Jewett and a subscription dinner at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel.

PROFESSOR RAYMOND PEARL, of the Johns Hopkins University, has been elected an honorary member of the Royal Society of Medicine (Section of Epidemiology and State Medicine).

At the convocation of the University of Chicago on June 11 the honorary degree of doctor of science was conferred on Dr. Ludvig Hektoen. The citation reads: "In recognition of his scholarly achievements in basic science and his distinguished service to the university and to medicine as a great teacher, editor and administrator."

At the commencement exercises of the North Carolina State College at Raleigh the honorary degree of doctor of engineering was conferred on Dr. Clement L. Garner, chief of the Division of Geodesy of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.

THE Osler Memorial Medal of the University of Oxford for 1940 has been awarded to Sir E. Farquhar Buzzard, professor of medicine in the university.

DR. ANDREY ABRAHAM POTTER, dean of the Schools of Engineering and director of the Engineering Experiment Station at Purdue University, was presented with the Lamme Medal for 1940 of the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education at the recent meeting at the University of California. Presentation of the award was made at the annual dinner by Professor Herbert B. Langille, of the university. The citation reads: "for his leadership in the advancement of the profession of engineering; for his devotion to high standards of teaching and his contributions to the development of engineering education; for his understanding of human nature and sympathetic interest in the work of his associates and students, for his sound judgment and skill as an engineer, and for his untiring efforts in developing cooperative relations between engineering colleges and industry."

THE medal of the American Laryngological, Rhinological and Otolological Society for "conspicuous public service" has been awarded to Dr. James Sonnett Greene, founder and director of the National Hospital for Speech Disorders, "for his unselfish devotion to the

alleviation of speech defects in those thus afflicted, and for the success which has crowned his life-long efforts in having established the National Hospital for Speech Disorders."

THE James Alfred Ewing Medal of the British Institution of Civil Engineers, founded in 1936 in memory of the late Sir Alfred Ewing and given "for especially meritorious contributions to the science of engineering in the field of research," has been awarded for 1939 to Professor G. I. Taylor, Yarrow research professor of the Royal Society.

DR. HERBERT A. WAGNER, president of the Consolidated Gas, Electric Light and Power Company of Baltimore, has retired from the presidency of the Maryland Academy of Sciences and is succeeded by Dr. S. Karrer, who has been director of research of the company since 1926. Dr. Wagner continues to be chairman of the board of trustees.

Museum News reports that on March 26 at the annual meeting of the South African Museums Association at Capetown, E. C. van Hoepen, of the National Museum, Bloemfontein, was elected president, and E. C. Chubb was reelected secretary and treasurer. The association voted to hold the meeting in 1941 at Johannesburg.

At the Harrison, N. Y., meeting of the American Neurological Association officers were elected as follows: Dr. H. Douglas Singer, of Chicago, president, and Dr. Gilbert Horrax and Dr. H. C. Solomon, both of Boston, vice-presidents.

At the recent annual general meeting of the British Institute of Physics the following officers were elected to take office on October 1: *President*, Professor W. L. Bragg; *Vice-president*, Dr. B. A. Keen; *Honorary Treasurer*, Major C. E. S. Phillips; *Honorary Secretary*, Professor J. A. Crowther; *Members of the Board*, Professor E. A. Owen, Dr. C. Sykes and Professor G. I. Finch (appointed by the Physical Society), and Dr. R. W. Lunt (appointed by the Faraday Society).

PROFESSOR OTTO L. KOWALKE retired on July 1 from the chairmanship of the department of chemical engineering of the University of Wisconsin. He has been chairman of the department for twenty-seven years and a member of the teaching staff for thirty-three years. He plans to devote his time to research and teaching.

PROFESSOR A. B. DAWSON, who has been director of the Biological Laboratories of Harvard University for the past five years, has been appointed chairman of the department of biology to succeed Professor F. L. Hisaw, who recently resigned.

DR. MILTON J. ROSENAU, head of the Division of Public Health of the Medical School of the University of North Carolina, the title of which has been changed to the School of Public Health, becomes first dean of the new school.

DR. BRUNO ROSSI, formerly professor of physics at the University of Padua, research associate at the University of Chicago, has been appointed associate professor of physics at Cornell University.

DR. MEREDITH P. CRAWFORD, formerly instructor in psychology at Barnard College, has been appointed assistant professor of psychology at Vanderbilt University.

DR. HOKE S. GREENE, director of graduate studies in chemistry and chemical engineering at the University of Cincinnati, has been made associate professor of chemical engineering; Harold J. Garber, who took part in the planning and construction of the new addition to the chemistry building, has been appointed assistant professor in chemical engineering.

DR. CHARLES C. DEAM, research forester in the Division of Forestry of the Conservation Department of the State of Indiana, has retired from active service. He has prepared a flora of the state for which he collected over 59,000 plants and examined in all 84,600 specimens.

AWARDS for research to members of the faculty of Wesleyan University for 1940-41 include Associate Professor Herbert E. Arnold, for a computation of statistical tables for testing the significance of experimental results; to Assistant Professor Jack Buel, for studies in the relative importance of specific response patterns and goal orientation in learning; to Professor Walter G. Cady, for studies in piezo-electricity; to Professor Burton H. Camp for a study of problems in mathematical statistics with particular reference to the theory of testing, and to Professor Frederick Sloeum, for studies in stellar parallax determinations.

THE Committee on Scientific Research of the American Medical Association has approved a grant to Dr. Oscar V. Batson, professor of anatomy in the Graduate School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania, for his quantitative studies of nystagmus.

THE John and Mary R. Markle Foundation of New York has made a grant of \$2,000 to the School of Medicine of Western Reserve University to support an investigation of intravenous bismuth injections by Drs. Torald Sollmann and Joseph Seifter, of the department of pharmacology.

Nature states that J. Davidson Pratt, general manager of the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers, has been appointed an additional deputy

director-general for chemical research, experiment and development in the British Ministry of Supply, and Sir Frank E. Smith, director of instrument production, has, in addition, been appointed controller of telecommunications equipment.

DR. HERMANN DE JONG, formerly director of the Physiological Institute of Amsterdam, is visiting the United States.

THE Geologic Division of the Tennessee Valley Authority has been moved from Knoxville to Chattanooga. Major Edwin C. Eckel, chief geologist; Berlen C. Moneymaker, assistant chief geologist, and Robert A. Laurence, geologist, and their staffs will go to Chattanooga.

A COURSE of lectures on recent advances in plant pathology is being given this summer at the Iowa State College, both by members of the faculty and by visiting lecturers. Visiting lecturers and their subjects are: Dr. William H. Stanley, associate member, the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, "Viruses," June 17 to 20; Dr. A. H. Reginald Buller, professor of botany at the University of Manitoba, "Fungi," June 24 to 27; Dr. George Keitt, professor of plant pathology at the University of Wisconsin, "Parasitism," July 1 and 2; Dr. C. M. Tucker, head of the department of botany at the University of Missouri, "Inheritance of Resistance to Disease," July 8 and 9; Dr. H. C. Murphy, pathologist, Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, "Resistance and Susceptibility in the Rusts and Smuts Parasitizing Oats," July 15. Members of the department of botany contributing to this course of lectures are: Professors I. E. Melhus, G. C. Kent and Walter Buchholtz.

THE American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists will hold its twenty-third annual meeting at the Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology, Toronto, on September 2, 3 and 4. The International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners and the American Fisheries Society will meet in Toronto during the same week, at the Royal York Hotel, the former on September 2 and 3 and the latter on September 5 and 6.

THE autumn meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers will be held at Spokane, Washington, from September 3 to 6. A group of papers, of interest to mechanical, civil, electrical and mining engineers, is to be presented in sessions sponsored by the hydraulics, wood industries, heat transfer, fuels, power and management divisions of the society. The inspection trips, stressing wood industries, power developments, mineral industries and scenic wonders, are unique and of general as well as of technical interest. The program calls for technical sessions on Tuesday,

September 3, and Thursday, September 5, leaving Wednesday and Friday open for inspection trips. The trip to Grand Coulee Dam on Wednesday will be preceded by a general interest talk on the dam at the banquet on Tuesday evening. Friday is being left open for trips to the lumber mill at Lewiston, the mines of northern Idaho, the Columbia River Basin Project, or the scenic lakes of the region.

THE tenth annual meeting of the American Malacological Union was held at the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, from June 17 to 21. The program included the presentation of a testimonial of appreciation to Norman W. Lermond, curator of the Knox Academy of Arts and Sciences, Thomaston, Maine, for his preliminary work in the organization of the society; and to Dr. Henry A. Pilsbry, curator of mollusks, Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, its first president. In honoring Dr. Pilsbry on this occasion, the union is issuing a complete bibliography of his published works. This publication will be available for students of Mollusca by the end of August. Officers were elected as follows: *President*, Dr. Harald A. Rehder, U. S. National Museum; *Vice-president*, Frank Collins Baker, University of Illinois; *Corresponding Secretary*, Norman W. Lermond, Knox Academy of Arts and Sciences, Thomaston; *Financial Secretary*, Mrs. Harold R. Robertson, Buffalo Museum of Science. John Oughton, Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology, Toronto, was elected *Councillor at Large* to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Aurele La Rocque, of the National Museum of Canada. The next meeting will be held in the Knox Academy of Arts and Sciences, Thomaston, from August 5 to 8, 1941.

THE second annual exhibition of photographs of wild life under the auspices of the New York State Nature Association will be held at the Albany Institute of History and Art from October 30 to November 10. A first prize of \$20, a second prize of \$10 and a third prize of \$5 will be awarded to the pictures which best represent the spirit and beauty of living wild birds and animals photographed in their natural surroundings. The prize-winning photographs will become the property of the New York State Nature Association.

THE United States Civil Service Commission has announced an open competitive examination to fill the

position of senior engineering aid (topographic) in the U. S. Geological Survey. The salary of the position is \$2,000 a year, less a retirement deduction of 3½ per cent. Except for the substitution of experience, applicants must have completed high-school study; and, in addition, must have had responsible civil engineering experience, partly on topographic field surveys. Certain engineering study in a college may be substituted for part of the experience. Applicants will not be given a written test, but will be rated on their qualifications, as shown in their applications, and on corroborative evidence. Applications will be rated as received at the commission's Washington office until December 31.

The Alumni Review of the University of North Carolina states that at a meeting of the trustees on June 7 a settlement proposed by its finance committee and agreed to by the executors and beneficiaries of the Flagler estate was approved. From this fund the university since 1917 has received annually the sum of \$75,000 to pay the Kenan professors. The settlement represents a generous interpretation by William R. Kenan, Jr., and his co-executor, Mr. Harris, and the chief beneficiaries of the will. The Kenan Fund was established in 1917 as a memorial to William R. Kenan, father of Mrs. Bingham, and her two uncles, Thomas S. Kenan and James Graham Kenan, all graduates of the university. The will provided that the university should be paid \$75,000 annually for twenty-one years, at the end of which period it should be paid an amount sufficient "at the rate of interest then current in North Carolina" to earn \$75,000 annually thereafter. Legal advisers to the executors suggested for transfer to the university securities valued at \$1,100,000 and yielding the amount of the annual income desired. Mr. Kenan, his co-executor, and Mrs. Graham Kenan and Mrs. Jessie Kenan Wise recognized, however, that funds reinvested in long-term securities by the university might not earn so high a yield. Accordingly, they agreed to a settlement of \$1,875,000 which in effect represented an additional gift by the estate, of which they are the chief beneficiaries, of \$775,000. The university in appreciation of their action added to the settlement sum an accumulated Kenan Fund reserve of \$182,000 together with \$43,000 from a pre-consolidation escheats fund to make the endowment of the Kenan Fund \$2,100,000.

DISCUSSION

THE NON-SPECIFICITY OF AMINO ACID CONFIGURATION IN MALIGNANT TISSUE HYDROLYSATES

THE development and application of the Krebs

d-amino acid oxidase to the determination of total *d*-amino acid, described by us in these columns earlier this year,¹ provided a unique opportunity to subject

¹ F. Lipmann, O. K. Behrens, E. A. Kabat and D. Burk, *SCIENCE*, 91: 21, 1940.