

of analytical and microchemistry, cellulose, colloid, industrial and engineering, medicinal, organic, paint, varnish and plastics, physical and inorganic, and water, sewage and sanitation chemistry and in the history of chemistry.

The chemists will hold a banquet on April 9 at the Hotel Jefferson, which has been designated as headquarters for the meeting. Divisional sessions will take place in the Municipal Auditorium, where registration will open on Sunday afternoon, April 6. The council, composed of representatives of the ninety-three local sections throughout the country as well as of the national officers, directors, editors of publications, past presidents and divisional chairmen, will convene on Monday morning. An elaborate social program is planned and numerous trips of inspection will be made to the industries of the St. Louis area.

SYMPOSIUM AT UNION COLLEGE

A SYMPOSIUM devoted to the general subject "Science Views Man" in which some of the leading scientific men of the country will take part and to which members of colleges, universities and industrial research laboratories in the New England and Middle Eastern Atlantic States have been invited, will take place at Union College on March 21 and 22. Dr. Edward Ellery, professor emeritus of chemistry and national president of the Society of the Sigma Xi, states that the object of the symposium is "to present man as science views him, in contra-distinction to the moral and religious point of view."

Dr. A. J. Carlson, Hixon professor of physiology at the University of Chicago; Dr. Bronislaw Malinowski, professor of anthropology at Yale University; Dr. Willis R. Whitney, organizer of the Research Laboratory of the General Electric Company and now vice-president in charge of research; Dr. Kirtley F. Mather, professor of geology at Harvard University, and Dr. Harlow Shapley, Paine professor of astronomy and director of the Harvard Astronomical Observatory, will be among the speakers.

According to the official announcement "they will trace the impact of several sciences upon man's present apprehension of himself and his powers, rather than the ways in which science has merely implemented man." A number of well-known scientific men have been invited to discuss these addresses, and it is expected that about two hundred and fifty registered members of the conference will take part.

The general public will be invited to attend and hear the program, part of which will be broadcast. The symposium is being preceded by six radio colloquies, by members of the faculty of Union College, one each Saturday afternoon. These include a round table discussion held by the department of mathematics on February 8, and by the department of physics on

February 15. On succeeding Saturdays round table discussions will be conducted in chemistry, geology, psychology and biology.

NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ELECTRIC- TRICAL ENGINEERS

THE National Nominating Committee of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, consisting of members from various parts of the country, has nominated the following candidates for the offices becoming vacant August 1. These official candidates, together with any independent nominees that may be proposed later in the manner specified by the Constitution and By-laws, will be voted upon by the membership at the coming election this spring.

For President: DAVID C. PRINCE, manager, Commercial Engineering Department, General Electric Company, Schenectady.

For Vice-Presidents: (Middle Eastern District) N. S. HIBSHMAN, associate professor of electrical engineering, Lehigh University.

(Southern District) J. ELMER HOUSLEY, superintendent of power, Aluminum Company of America, Alcoa, Tenn.

(North Central District) ARTHUR L. JONES, commercial vice-president and district manager, General Electric Company, Denver.

(Pacific District) WALTER C. SMITH, engineer of Pacific District, General Electric Company, San Francisco.

(Canada District) C. A. PRICE, chief engineer, Canadian Westinghouse Company, Ltd., Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

For Directors: LESTER R. GAMBLE, electrical engineer, Washington Water Power Company, Spokane; T. G. LECLAIR, supervising development engineer, Commonwealth Edison Company, Chicago; FRED R. MAXWELL, Jr., professor of electrical engineering, University of Alabama.

For National Treasurer: W. I. SLICHTER, professor and head of Department of Electrical Engineering, Columbia University.

APPOINTMENT OF DR. JAMES BRYANT CONANT AS HEAD OF SCIENTIFIC MISSION

DR. JAMES BRYANT CONANT, president of Harvard University, formerly Sheldon Emory professor of organic chemistry, has been appointed by President Roosevelt head of a mission charged with reporting directly to Washington "recent scientific information of importance to national defense." Dr. Conant sailed on February 15 for Lisbon on the American Export liner *Excalibur*. He was accompanied by Frederick L. Hovde, since 1936 assistant to the president of the University of Rochester, previously assistant professor of chemistry at the University of Minnesota, and by Carroll L. Wilson, special liaison officer of the National Defense Research Committee, previously assistant to Dr. Karl T. Compton, president of the Mas-

sachusetts Institute of Technology. Dr. Conant will remain in England for about a month and Mr. Hovde will stay there as permanent secretary.

The White House statement said that "first-hand observation of recent English scientific research and experience is important for the prosecution of America's program of research on problems of national defense.

"As such collaboration proceeds, other American scientists will be sent from time to time to study different phases of British scientific research of interest to the United States and exchange information through the medium of the National Defense Research Committee.

"It is the duty of the National Defense Research Committee to 'correlate and support scientific research on the mechanics and devices of warfare.' Dr. Conant's mission is essential to that function."

Besides Dr. Conant, other technical members of the committee are Dr. Vannevar Bush, head of the Carnegie Institution of Washington and of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, who is chairman; Dr. Richard C. Tolman, California Institute of Technology; Dr. Karl T. Compton, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Conway P. Coe, United States Commissioner of Patents; Dr. Lyman J. Briggs, director of the National Bureau of Standards, and Dr. F. B. Jewett, president of the National Academy of Sciences.

RECENT DEATHS

DR. FRANK CRAIG JORDAN, professor of astronomy and director of the Allegheny Observatory, Pittsburgh, and Mrs. Jordan, died in a fire that occurred in their

home at Pittsburgh on February 15. Dr. Jordan was seventy-five years old.

DR. WILLIAM WEBBER FORD, professor emeritus of bacteriology at the Johns Hopkins University, died on February 10 at the age of sixty-nine years.

SAMUEL HENSHAW, director emeritus of the Harvard Museum and of the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology, died on February 5 at the age of eighty-nine years. He retired in 1927 after serving as director of the Harvard Museum since 1918 and of the Museum of Comparative Zoology since 1912.

DR. DE LISLE STEWART, lecturer in astronomy at the University of Cincinnati, president of the Cincinnati Astronomical Society, died on February 8 in his seventy-first year.

DR. WENDELL T. BUSH, professor emeritus of philosophy at Columbia University, who was connected with the university from 1905 until his retirement in 1938, died on February 12 at the age of seventy-four years.

DEATHS in England include: Dr. William Bulloch, professor emeritus of bacteriology at the University of London, a fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine, on February 11, in his seventy-third year; Frank Thomas Paul, professor emeritus of surgery at the University of Liverpool, on January 17, at the age of eighty-nine years; Dr. Miles Walker, for twenty years professor of electrical engineering on the faculty of technology of the University of Manchester, on January 22, at the age of seventy-three years, and Dr. D. Robertson, since 1902 professor of electrical engineering at the University of Bristol, on January 8, at the age of sixty-five years.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

AT the Founders Day exercises of Temple University, Philadelphia, on February 14, an honorary degree was conferred on Dr. Henry A. Pilsbry, special curator of the department of Mollusca of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences.

DR. ALDEN H. MILLER, who was recently appointed to succeed the late Dr. Joseph Grinnell as director of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology of the University of California at Berkeley, has been elected a corresponding member of the Zoological Society of London.

DR. PAUL DYER MERICA, assistant to the president of the International Nickel Company, received at the British Embassy, on February 10, a platinum medal awarded by the Council of the Institute of Metals of Great Britain in recognition of "distinguished services to nonferrous metallurgy." Dr. Merica originated the "precipitation theory" of hardening, developed in connection with research on aluminum alloys.

THE Marconi Memorial Medals of the Veteran Wireless Association were awarded at the sixteenth annual dinner in New York on February 10 to Major General J. O. Mauborgne, chief signal officer of the United States Army, and Admiral Leigh Noyes, director of naval communications. A plaque was presented to James L. Fly, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, and Marconi Memorial Scrolls of Honor were awarded Richard Nebell, radio aid to the signal officer of the Second Corps Area, and David Karp, for meritorious service in the world war. G. H. Clark, former president of the association, received the Marconi Medal of History.

THE Association of American Geographers at its annual meeting, which was held at the State University of Louisiana, elected Dr. Griffith Taylor, of the University of Toronto, *president*; and Dr. Forrest Shreve, of the Desert Laboratory, Tucson, Ariz., *vice-president*.