

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

MEMBERS of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the Associated Scientific Societies meeting this week at Dallas under the presidency of Dr. Irving Langmuir, of the General Electric Company, were addressed on Monday evening by Dr. Albert F. Blakeslee, the retiring president, whose address appears in this issue of SCIENCE. Others of the more important addresses and papers presented at the meeting will be published in ensuing weeks. Dr. F. R. Moulton, the permanent secretary, expects to contribute an account of the meeting to the issue of SCIENCE of February 6, all the space of that number being reserved for it.

PRESIDENT E. O. LOVETT, of the Rice Institute, formerly professor of mathematics and astronomy at Princeton University, has retired with the title president emeritus at the age of seventy years.

VICE-PRESIDENT WALLACE, on behalf of President Roosevelt, presented on December 17 the 1940 Collier Aviation Trophy jointly to Dr. Sanford A. Moss, engineer of the General Electric Company, and to the Army Air Corps, for "outstanding success" in developing the turbo-supercharger, an engine device which makes possible high altitude flying.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association reports that Dr. Edward H. Juers, of Red Wing, Minn., recently received the annual medal of the Southern Minnesota Medical Association for his paper on epiploitis. The medal is given to the author of the paper considered best on the program of the annual meeting. The medal for a case history presented on the annual program was awarded to Dr. Peter E. Hermanson, of Hendricks, whose report dealt with a case of pregnancy occurring outside of the uterus.

THE first Charles Chree medal and prize of the Physical Society of London has been awarded to Professor Sydney Chapman, of the Imperial College of Science and Technology.

E. A. HOLBROOK, dean of the Schools of Engineering and Mines at the University of Pittsburgh, was elected at the Pittsburgh meeting president of the National Society of Professional Engineers, succeeding John H. Beretta, of San Antonio, Texas. Other officers elected were Samuel I. Sacks, Philadelphia; Alfred E. Roche, Troy; William R. Wolfe, Muskogee, Okla., and Joseph H. Morgan, Urbana, Ill., *vice-presidents*, and Colonel Walter L. Simpson, Army Engineering Corps, *treasurer*.

THE *Bulletin* of the American Mathematical Society reports that Associate Professor R. V. Churchill, of

the University of Michigan, is on leave of absence for the first semester of 1941-42 and is visiting lecturer at the University of Wisconsin. Assistant Professor C. H. Fischer, of Wayne University, is this year visiting assistant professor of mathematics at the University of Michigan.

DR. GEORGE L. GRAHAM, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, Princeton, N. J., on December 18 addressed the Zoology-Entomology Seminar of Kansas State College on "Biological Studies with the Nematode *Strongyloides ratti*."

DR. WALTER L. PALMER, professor of medicine of the School of Medicine of the University of Chicago, delivered on December 3 the fifty-fourth Thomas Dent Mütter Lecture before the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. His subject was "The Rôle of Acid Gastric Juice in Gastric and Duodenal Ulceration."

DR. KENDALL B. CORBIN, associate professor of anatomy, histology and embryology at the College of Medicine of the University of Tennessee, has been appointed chief of the division of anatomy, histology and embryology and acting head of the department of anatomy. He succeeds the late Dr. August H. Wittenborg, who also served as professor of anatomy at the school.

DR. THOMAS D. SPEIDEL, editor of *The Journal of Dental Education* and formerly of the Iowa State University, has joined the faculty of the School of Dentistry of Indiana University.

DR. CARL A. NAU, formerly director of the Texas Division of Industrial Hygiene, has become professor of physiology and preventive medicine and head of the department at the School of Medicine of the University of Texas.

DR. GEORGE F. FORSTER, assistant chief of the Division of Laboratories in the Illinois Department of Public Health, has been appointed associate professor of bacteriology in the Loyola University School of Medicine.

DR. CHARLES RAY, JR., research fellow of the Blandy Experimental Farm, has been appointed geneticist at the Central Fibre Corporation, Pisgah Forest, N. C. Dr. Ray has been awarded the second prize by the Walker Prize Committee for his paper on "Cytological and Genetic Studies on the Flax Genus, *Linum*."

HARRY L. ERLICHER, vice-president of the General Electric Company in charge of purchasing activities, has been named a member of the Defense Industries Advisory Committee of the Copper and Zinc Indus-

tries, a division of the Office of Production Management.

DEAN HARVEY, materials engineer, Engineering Laboratories and Standards Department, Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, is serving on a part-time basis on loan from his company as consultant in the Specifications Branch of the Bureau of Industrial Conservation, his services having been requested by the director of the bureau, Lessing Rosenwald.

EMERITUS PROFESSOR RALPH STOCKMAN has been elected a vice-president and Professor E. W. H. Cruickshank and Sir J. Donald Pollock have been made members of the council of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

*The Ohio State University Monthly* reports that Dr. N. Paul Hudson, chairman of the department of bacteriology, has returned to the university after a year's leave of absence spent in London as a representative of the Rockefeller Foundation, in a collaborative scheme with the British to distribute influenza vaccine. He was associated there with the National Institute of Medical Research, Hampstead.

SEÑOR G. A. JORQUERA, professor of agricultural chemistry in the School of Chemical Engineering, University of Concepcion, Chile, is spending the academic year 1941-42 at the Oregon State College as a Phi Beta Kappa fellow. He is engaged in work leading to an advanced degree in chemistry and chemical engineering.

MAJOR THOMAS COULSON, director of public relations of the Franklin Institute, will address a public meeting of the Philadelphia Branch of the American Association of Scientific Workers on January 16 at 8:15 P.M. His subject will be "The Franklin Institute, Its Purposes, Achievements and Problems."

MATTHEW W. STIRLING, chief of the U. S. Bureau of American Ethnology at the Smithsonian Institution, delivered on November 27 before the Washington Academy of Sciences an illustrated address entitled "Treasure Trove of Mexican Archeology."

DR. WILLIAM SEIFRIZ, professor of botany at the University of Pennsylvania, lectured on December 2 before the Torrey Botanical Club at the American Museum of Natural History, New York. His subject was "Recent Advances in the Study of Protoplasm."

DR. KARL F. MEYER, of the George Williams Hooper Foundation for Medical Research, University of California, San Francisco, gave an address before the Minnesota Pathological Society on December 16. He spoke on "The Animal Kingdom, a Reservoir of Infection." The society was addressed on November

18 by Dr. Melvin H. Knisely, Chicago, on "Effects of *Plasmodium Malariae* on the Blood Vascular System."

THE twenty-fourth annual meeting of the American Society of Mammalogists will be held at the American Museum of Natural History, New York City, from Tuesday, March 31, to Saturday, April 4. Titles of papers for presentation at the meeting must be in the hands of the corresponding secretary of the society, Emmet T. Hooper, of the Museum of Zoology of the University of Michigan, before March 1. Those submitting titles should include an abstract of the paper, the time required for presentation and the projection apparatus needed. Further details regarding the meeting may be obtained from the corresponding secretary or from the local committee on arrangements: H. C. Raven, *chairman*, Edwin H. Colbert, John Eric Hill and Claude Leister, of the American Museum of Natural History, New York.

A FORUM sponsored by the New York branch of the American Association of Scientific Workers on Venereal Disease Problems in the Army and Civilian Defense Areas will be held on January 7 at 8:15 P.M. at the Men's Faculty Club, Columbia University. The speakers will be Lieutenant Colonel Edward H. Marsh, Office of the Surgeon, 2nd Corps Area, U. S. Army, and Dr. Roger E. Heering, P. A. Surgeon, U. S. Public Health Service, District No. 1. Dr. Ernst P. Boas, assistant professor of clinical medicine, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, will act as chairman.

THE American Congress on Obstetrics and Gynecology will be held in St. Louis from April 6 to 10. The committee sponsoring the congress has attempted to unite the efforts of voluntary and other agencies to carry out plans for the care of women and children. The directors believe that, notwithstanding the war situation, the congress should be held at the stated time. Inquiries may be addressed to the central office, 650 Rush St., Chicago, Ill.

DURING the first year of the war, the British Genetical Society, which has a membership of 146, held only its annual meeting. From the summer of 1941 it has resumed its normal activities. Two successful meetings have been held at the Rothamsted Experimental Station and at Oxford. On each occasion papers were read and a considerable series of exhibits were demonstrated. Although winter meetings are still impossible, it is hoped to commence a full program next year with a meeting in the early spring. The present officers of the society are: *President*, R. A. Fisher; *Vice-presidents*, C. D. Darlington, J. S. Huxley, R. N. Salaman; *Treasurer*, E. R. Saunders; *Secretaries*, K. Mather, E. B. Ford.

THE National Live Stock and Meat Board will place grants and establish fellowships through the National Research Council for the purpose of increasing the present knowledge of nutrition. The grants may be made either for fundamental or for clinical research on the nutritional properties of meat, meat products and animal fats, and the importance of these nutrients to human health and welfare. This fund will become available on July 1. Applications will be received until March 1. Application blanks may be obtained from the Division of Biology and Agriculture, the National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington, D. C. In addition to a statement of the problem and research plan or program, the committee in charge desires information regarding the method of attack proposed, the institutional support which will be given the investigation and the uses to be made of the sum requested. No part of a grant may be used by the recipient institution for administrative expenses.

THE Graduate School of the University of Illinois has established four research fellowships in the fields of medicine and dentistry in Chicago at a stipend of \$1,200 per year. Fellows are eligible for reappointment in competition with the new applicants. Candidates for these fellowships must have completed a training of not less than eight years beyond high-school graduation. Formal application blanks may be secured from the Secretary of the Committee on Graduate Work in Medicine and Dentistry, 1853 W. Polk Street, Chicago, Illinois.

THE General Education Board of New York City has granted \$53,750 to the Louisiana State University for the use of the department of forestry. Of this amount \$23,750 will be used for equipment and \$30,000 for research, the latter to be expended over a period of three years and to be paid to the university semi-annually. The grant will provide funds for completing the equipment of three utilization laboratories and it is said will give the unit "the most complete utilization equipment, both for teaching and research, of any forestry school in the South." It is planned

to study forest land tenure and the effect of such tenure on forestry practices.

PAUL KOLLSMAN, of Greenwich, Conn., the aircraft instrument inventor, has established a fund of \$65,000 to endow a library for lending aeronautical books to students of aviation.

*Nature* states that under the will of Alfred Corner, London, who died in 1934, the university has received £1,440 for the purposes of the Cambridge University Biochemical Laboratory. The full value of the bequest, of which this is an instalment, may approach £1,800.

THE Hungarian Ministry of Internal Affairs has established at Budapest a new institute for research in proper feeding. The building and equipment are modern and will accommodate two hundred country doctors, who will attend courses in the science of nutrition. The staff of the institute comprises clinicians, chemical experts, economists and financial experts.

THE Imperial Agricultural Bureaux, Aberystwyth, Wales, has decided that for the sake of increased efficiency and economy, all work connected with subscriptions, sales and distribution of the journals and other publications of the majority of the bureaux should now be centered in one office. For this purpose, a Central Sales Branch has been organized, with its offices at the Agricultural Research Building, Pen-glais, Aberystwyth. In future all correspondence dealing with sales and distribution should, with the exceptions noted below, be so addressed. Correspondence on all other matters must still be addressed to the deputy director of the bureau in question. The only publications not dealt with by the Central Sales Branch are those of the Imperial Institute of Entomology (The Assistant Director, Imperial Institute of Entomology, 41 Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7) and the Imperial Mycological Institute (Director, Imperial Mycological Institute, Ferry Lane, Kew, Surrey), and *Nutrition Abstracts and Reviews* (Secretary, Imperial Bureau of Animal Nutrition, Rowett Institute, Bucksburn, Aberdeen).

## DISCUSSION

### SYMBOLS FOR HUMAN GENES

STANDARDIZATION of symbols for human genes has desirable aspects, as Dr. Strandkov<sup>1</sup> suggests. An International Committee for the symbolizing of genes and chromosome aberrations in all genetic work met in London in August, 1939, and drew up certain rules which have been published.<sup>2</sup> The committee also had

under consideration the definition of all genetical terms, but owing to the war that work has not been completed. The Committee on Mouse Genetics Nomenclature has also published a report.<sup>3</sup> The symbols recommended in these reports are not quite the same as those which Dr. Strandkov advocates. For instance, + is used as a superscript to the symbol for the "wild" type.

<sup>1</sup> SCIENCE, 94: 366, 1941.

<sup>2</sup> *Jour. of Hered.*, 31: 27, 1940.

<sup>3</sup> *Jour. of Hered.*, 31: 505, 1940.