

sylvania State College, and Dr. Kenneth S. Pitzer and Donald W. Scott, of the University of California.

Several sessions in physical chemistry will be held, discussions ranging all the way from theoretical papers on atomic and molecular structures to applications to biology and pharmacology. Research reports from various fields in inorganic chemistry will be presented at other sessions.

Dr. Harold J. Barrett, of the Electrochemical Division of E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company, will speak on "Unique Chemicals Derived from Salt" at a dinner meeting of the division.

Numerous members of the division are intimately associated with the war effort in special government research work and in the manufacturing problems of essential industries.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE American Laryngological Association has conferred its Newcomb Award on Dr. Francis R. Packard, formerly professor of otology of the Postgraduate School of the University of Pennsylvania, in recognition of "his scientific attainment in rhinology and laryngology and as a mark of esteem and appreciation for services to the association."

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY conferred the honorary degree of doctor of science on Dr. Robert P. Fischelis, secretary and chief chemist of the Board of Pharmacy of the State of New Jersey and chief of the Medical and Health Supply Section, Office of Civilian Supply, War Production Board, at the annual commencement of the College of Pharmacy, for "notable contributions which have greatly strengthened the essential service which the science of pharmacy renders to the health of America."

THE degree of doctor of science has been conferred by the University of Wales on Dr. C. R. Austin, professor of metallurgy at the Pennsylvania State College, in recognition of "his outstanding work in metallurgy."

THE July number of the *Archives of Pathology* is dedicated to Dr. Eugene L. Opie, emeritus professor of pathology at Cornell University Medical College, by his former associates on the occasion of his retirement. Dr. Peyton Rous contributes the opening article and the number includes contributions from a number of distinguished investigators.

COLLEAGUES of Dr. Caleb W. G. Rohrer, Baltimore, chief of the Pasteur Division of the Maryland State Department of Health, on June 1 presented to him a silver vase to mark his completion of forty years' service with the department. Dr. Charles H. Halliday, Baltimore, a former student of Dr. Rohrer's and assistant director of the department, gave the presentation address.

VICE-PRESIDENT HENRY A. WALLACE has been elected an honorary member of the National Association of Science Writers, in recognition of "his interest in the popularization of science and his research contributions in the field of genetics."

OFFICERS for the coming year have been elected by the Smith Chapter of the Society of the Sigma Xi as follows: *President*, Dr. Elizabeth Sanders Hobbs, zoology; *President-elect*, Dr. Arthur Taber Jones, physics; *Secretary*, Miss Helen Stobbe, geology, and *Treasurer*, Dr. Elinor VanDorn Smith, bacteriology.

DR. J. W. H. EYRE, emeritus professor of bacteriology of the University of London, has been elected president of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene in succession to the late Sir Thomas Oliver.

DR. WILLIAM PRATT GRAHAM, since 1937 chancellor of Syracuse University, previously professor of electrical engineering and dean of the College of Applied Science, will be succeeded as chancellor by Dr. William Pearson Tolley, since 1931 president of Allegheny College.

DR. HARRY R. WELLMAN, professor of agricultural economics at the University of California at Berkeley, has been appointed director of the Giannini Foundation.

DR. LOUIS E. HAWKINS has been appointed vice-director of the Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station to succeed Dr. Lippert S. Ellis. Dr. Hawkins has been agricultural commissioner of the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce for the past seven years, and was previously a member of the department of animal husbandry at the Oklahoma station.

DR. CHARLES L. FLUKE, professor of entomology at the University of Wisconsin, has been named chairman of the department of economic entomology. He succeeds H. F. Wilson, who has served as department chairman since 1915.

THE following promotions have been made in the department of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Chicago: Dr. M. Edward Davis and Dr. William J. Dieckmann, associate professors, have been promoted to professorships and the latter has been made chairman of the department. Dr. H. Close Hesselstine, assistant professor, has become an associate professor.

Current Science, Bangalore, India, reports that Dr. N. Kesava Panikkar, Empire Overseas Research

Scholar of the Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851, has been appointed professor of zoology in the Maharaja's College of Science, Trivandrum. Dr. Panikkar is a graduate of Madras University and a member of the staff of the Madras Christian College. He was awarded the Exhibition Scholarship in 1938 for research in marine biology. While in England he was engaged in the study of the mechanism of physiological adaptation in animals. Information has been received that the Royal Society has provided a special grant for his researches at Travancore.

DR. A. J. HEINICKE, head of the department of pomology of Cornell University and of the Experiment Station, has been appointed director of the New York State Station at Geneva, N. Y., to succeed Director P. J. Parrott, who will retire on September 1.

DR. W. S. GORDON has been appointed director of the field station of the British Agricultural Research Council at Compton, near Newberry, Berkshire, in succession to the late G. W. Dunkin. Dr. Gordon has been senior bacteriologist on the staff of the Animal Diseases Research Association at Moredun Institute, Gilmerton, Midlothian, since 1930.

ACCORDING to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association, Dr. David D. Rutstein, chief of the cardiac bureau of the New York State Department of Health, Albany, has been appointed a member of the staff of the Medical Division, Office of Civilian Defense, Washington, D. C., as medical gas officer to organize instruction for physicians of the Eastern States in the medical aspects of chemical warfare.

DR. HASKELL B. CURRY, professor of mathematics at the Pennsylvania State College, has leave of absence to enable him to serve as associate mathematician at the Frankford Arsenal for the duration of the war.

DR. JAMES M. CORK, professor of physics at the University of Michigan, has leave of absence for the summer to assist in adapting the cyclotron at the California Institute of Technology to war purposes.

DR. ANTON J. CARLSON, Frank P. Hixon distinguished service professor of physiology emeritus of the University of Chicago, gave a Mayo Foundation Lecture at Rochester, Minn., on July 2. The title of his lecture was "The Newer Knowledge of Nutrition—How Much of It Is Knowledge?"

DR. ALEXANDER SILVERMAN, head of the department of chemistry in the University of Pittsburgh, addressed the New England Chemistry Teachers Association at Durham, N. H., on August 14. He spoke on "Glass and the War."

DUE to wartime difficulties in arranging for the transportation of delegates, the first Inter-American

Congress of Philosophy has been postponed. The forty-second annual meeting of the Eastern Division will therefore be held at Yale University from December 28 to 30.

THE fiftieth anniversary meeting of the American Psychological Association, scheduled for Boston and Cambridge for the first week in September, has been cancelled in cooperation with the request from the Office of Defense Transportation. A "skeleton" meeting will be held at the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York City at 1:30 P.M. on September 3. The meeting will be attended by members of council, chairmen of committees and such members as are resident in the New York area. The program of scientific papers has been cancelled and the business meeting will be devoted to routine matters and to the problem of the utilization of psychologists in the war effort.

OWING to war emergency work, it has been decided by the executive committee of the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists that the annual meeting, planned for October 27, 28 and 29, will not be held.

THE twenty-seventh annual meeting of the Optical Society of America will be held at the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York City on October 30 and 31. Plans for a meeting of the society last February were cancelled because of the war emergency. This action was criticized by those who believe that a meeting of the Optical Society provides an opportunity, outside the scheduled program, for discussions and conferences that can otherwise be arranged only with considerable difficulty. It has been argued that the holding of regular meetings actually minimizes the amount of necessary travel. This belief seems to be sufficiently general to insure a well-attended meeting in October, especially at so central a point as New York City. The date of this meeting has been selected to coincide with meetings of the American Mathematical Society and the Society of Rheology, and to follow immediately after the meetings of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers. A symposium on "Optical Instruments" has been arranged for Friday morning and a symposium of invited papers on "Mathematics in the Field of Optics" in the afternoon. A joint luncheon with the American Mathematical Society and the Society of Rheology will be given on that day and the annual dinner will take place in the evening.

Chemical and Engineering News states that the Illinois Mineral Industries Conference, which planned to meet in Urbana, Ill., on October 30 and 31, has been cancelled, according to an announcement by M. M. Leighton, chief of the Illinois State Geological Survey. The sponsoring groups—the Illinois Mineral Industries Committee, the Engineering Experiment

Station of the University of Illinois and the State Geological Survey—have agreed to lend their combined support to the Regional Conference of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers which meets in St. Louis on October 1 and 2. The St. Louis meeting will stress problems of the mineral industries of the Mississippi Valley area, with particular reference to war needs, and the purpose of the Illinois conference, as originally planned, will be adequately met.

THE Biological Laboratory at Cold Spring Harbor, N. Y., recently acquired, as the gift of Mrs. Henry W. de Forest, two tracts of land of about fifteen acres adjacent to the laboratory property. One tract contains a building suitable for living quarters; the other includes the long stretch of beach known locally as the "Sand Spit," which has been used extensively as a collecting ground.

THE Faculty of Medical Science (pre-clinical studies), King's College, London, will return to London in September. The faculties of arts, natural science, engineering and theology will remain in Bristol.

ACCORDING to *Nature*, the following telegram was received by the Linnean Society of London from the Moscow Naturalists' Society on July 11: "Linnean Society, London. Council of Moscow Naturalists of which Charles Darwin was honorary member has been instructed by its members assembled at meeting in commemoration of centenary of appearance of his *Origin of Species* to convey their ardent greetings to Linnean Society. In midst this great ordeal which has fallen to lot of democratic countries and of science Moscow Naturalists' Society oldest scientific society in Soviet Union pays reverent tribute to memory great scientist and humanist and firmly believes in early

victory of our countries over Hitler tyranny." Academician Alexander Fersman, Professor Serge Ogneff, Professor Vera Varsanofieva (vice-presidents), Professor Serge Lipshitz (Secretary). The following telegram was sent by the Linnean Society of London in reply on July 16: "Moscow Naturalists' Society, Moscow. The Linnean Society of London heartily reciprocates your friendly greetings and joins in tribute to memory of Charles Darwin most illustrious member on our roll. The magnificent resistance of the Russian people to Nazi aggression has aroused deepest admiration in our country. We share your confidence in early victory of the United Nations and are with you to the end." E. S. Russell (President).

THE report of the council of the Ray Society states, according to *Nature*, that, with the consent of the members, the annual general meeting has again not been held, and the present officers and council will continue to act for the current year. The accounts show that the reduction in the amount received from subscriptions has again been less than was anticipated and the sales of the society's publications have been well maintained. A volume on "The Larvae of Decapod Crustacea," by Dr. Robert Gurney, will shortly be issued to subscribers for 1941. A work on the British Mysidae (Opossum shrimps) by Professor W. M. Tattersall is in preparation and is intended to form the issue for 1942. Owing to shortage of materials, the publications will, for the present, be issued in paper covers, but it is hoped later to supply covers for binding uniform with the volumes already published. The council reminds members that, under present conditions, considerable delay in the publication of the annual volumes can not be avoided. It is mentioned that at least one author has lost, by enemy action, all the notes and manuscripts prepared for a work to be offered to the society.

DISCUSSION

THE BLOOD PRESSURE IN THE UMBILICAL VEIN OF THE FOETAL SHEEP

ALL those interested in the subject must have admired the demonstration which has been given by Whitehead¹ of the divergent courses taken by the streams of venous blood entering the foetal heart. There is one point, however, in Whitehead's paper which demands a word of comment, *i.e.*, his suggestion that a high venous pressure is a necessary condition.

It may be helpful to state the venous pressures which have been actually registered in the umbilical vein by us in a research which was interrupted by the onset of war:

¹ *Anat. Rec.*, 82: 277.

Foetal age in days ...	56	71	89	111	113	118	120	138	141
Pressure in umbilical vein mm Hg.	13	15	11	10	6	11	8	17	10

These values are much lower than those in the pioneer work of Cohnstein and Luntz² obtained by methods which involve great interference with umbilical vessels. Our methods involved no more than insertion of a fine hypodermic needle and no constriction of the vessels.

The above figures do not represent the last word, as there is considerable variation among them, the reason for which is the subject of investigation. The immediate point is, however, that none of the figures is above 18 mm Hg. or below 6.

² *Pflüger's Archiv.*, 34: 173.