

tive project with the State Department, was well advanced, with two volumes already in type and the third near completion. Half the authors represented in this unique work are anthropologists of the other American republics. Dr. Julian H. Steward, editor of the handbook, is also director of the Institute of Social Anthropology, established for training in anthropological teaching and research. This work is a part of the program of the Interdepartmental Committee for Cooperation with the American Republics.

New accessions to the collections of the National Museum numbered 239,640 for the year. The number of visitors, 1,532,765, of whom approximately 40 per

cent. were men and women in uniform, showed an increase over the previous year.

At the Freer Gallery of Art, much of the time of the staff was occupied in examining and translating Japanese documents for the war agencies, and in compiling a glossary of geographical and topographical terms for war purposes.

The three field observing stations of the Astrophysical Observatory were kept in operation, in spite of manpower difficulties. It is considered particularly important to maintain a continuous record of the solar constant of radiation so that there may be no break in these observations.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

AMONG New Year Honors conferred by the King of England are: *The Order of Merit* on Dr. Alfred North Whitehead, F.R.S., from 1942 to 1937, when he retired with the title emeritus, professor of philosophy at Harvard University; the title of *Baronet* on Sir Alfred Webb Johnson, president of the Royal College of Surgeons; of *Knight Bachelor* on Dr. Edward Battersby Bailey, F.R.S., director of the Geological Survey of Great Britain, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research; on James Chadwick, F.R.S., professor of physics at the University of Liverpool, for services to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research; on Professor Edmund Taylor Whittaker, F.R.S., professor of mathematics at the University of Edinburgh, lately president of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and on Charles William Blyth Normand, Meteorological Department of India, lately director-general of the observatories of India.

DR. ALEXANDER WETMORE, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, has been elected a fellow of the California Academy of Sciences.

BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES S. SIMMONS, U.S.A., chief of the Preventive Medicine Service, was chosen at the Saint Louis meeting president elect of the American Society of Tropical Medicine.

OFFICERS of the Association for Research in Nervous and Mental Disease, elected for the coming year at the annual meeting held in New York on December 16, are: *President*, William G. Lennox; *Vice-presidents*, H. Houston Merritt and Wilder Penfield, and *Secretary-Treasurer*, Thomas E. Bamford, Jr. It was voted to center the program for the meeting a year hence on the subject of epilepsy and convulsive disorders.

THE following officers of the New York City Branch of the Society of American Bacteriologists have been elected for 1945: *President*, Dr. Gustav I. Steffen,

Bureau of Laboratories, Department of Health, New York City; *Vice-president*, Dr. Ivan C. Hall, New York Medical College; *Secretary-Treasurer*, Dr. John E. Blair, Hospital for Joint Diseases; *Councilor* to the Society of American Bacteriologists, Mrs. Mary B. Horton, Sheffield Farms Company, Inc.

DR. CYRIL D. DARLINGTON, director of the John Innes Horticultural Institution, has been elected president of the British Genetical Society.

DR. A. E. JOHNS, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, has been elected president of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. He succeeds Dr. A. Vibert Douglas, dean of women at Queen's University, Kingston, who has retired after serving for two years. H. Boyd Bryden, Victoria, B. C., and Dr. J. W. Campbell, University of Alberta, Edmonton, have been elected vice-presidents. The Honorable George A. Drew, Premier and Minister of Education of the Province of Ontario, is honorary president. At the annual at-home of the society held at the University of Toronto on January 19, when Dr. Johns was inducted as president, Dr. Douglas gave an address on "Astronomy, Physics and Philosophy."

THE University of Oxford has conferred the title of professor on Dr. Ida Mann for as long as she remains Margaret Ogilvie's reader in ophthalmology and has provided a salary of £2,000 a year on condition that she give up private practice for profit. The university has collected £100,000 of the £250,000 required for research into fundamental problems affecting vision, with particular reference to biochemical problems.

DR. ISAIAH BOWMAN, president of the Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed a special adviser to the Secretary of State, Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., to act as consultant on matters of foreign policy.

DR. LAWRENCE W. SMITH, of the School of Medicine of Temple University, Philadelphia, has been acting as consultant on epidemic diseases to the Secretary of War.

DR. ROY K. MARSHALL has been appointed assistant director of the Franklin Institute in charge of astronomy, photography and seismology, and director of the Fels Planetarium of the institute, of which he has hitherto been assistant director. He succeeds Wagner Schlesinger, who will become director of the Adler Planetarium, Chicago.

T. L. YUAN, executive secretary of the Library Association of China, who has been sent to this country to develop cultural relations between the universities of the two nations, has announced the election of Professor Charles H. Brown, librarian of Iowa State College, as an honorary member of that association and chairman of the Committee on the Orient of the American Library Association.

DR. KENNETH G. KOHLSTAEDT has been appointed head of the Lilly Laboratory for Clinical Research at Indianapolis. He will continue the work in cardiovascular disease which has been underway for several years. Among those associated with him will be Dr. R. A. Shipley, of the School of Medicine of Western Reserve University.

DR. A. HALDANE GEE has been appointed director of the Development and Pilot Laboratories of William R. Warner and Company, Inc., to conduct the pilot plant operations necessary for smooth transition of new products from research to full production. Dr. Robert T. Conner, formerly senior research chemist in charge of control at the Central Research Laboratories of General Foods Corporation, has been appointed technical director. He will be responsible for the control of quality, correctness of formulae and label statements of all products manufactured by the firm and its subsidiaries.

DR. ENRIQUE KOPPISCH, professor of pathology and head of the department at the School of Tropical Medicine of the University of Puerto Rico, has leave of absence to enable him to act as consultant in the Army Medical Museum in Washington.

DR. GEORGE W. JEFFERS, professor of biology at the State Teachers College, Farmville, Va., will conduct for a year a survey of the fisheries resources of Chesapeake Bay. The study is financed by the General Education Board of the Rockefeller Foundation, and was initiated by the Chesapeake Bay Fisheries Commission, made up of representatives from Maryland and Virginia.

DR. ALDEN H. MILLER, associate professor of zoology at the University of California at Berkeley, will

spend two months in Colombia, S. A., to obtain specimens of land birds and small mammals for the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, of which he is the director.

THE Commonwealth Fund of New York City has made a grant of \$32,600 to Dr. Enrique E. Ecker, professor of immunology at the Institute of Pathology of Western Reserve University, to continue his work for two more years on the "chemical factors involved in resistance to disease." This grant will enable him to add a physical chemist to his staff and to expand his work on protein fractions of the blood serum that have an important function in the defense of the body against infectious diseases.

THE twenty-first Ludvig Hektoen Lecture of the Frank Billings Foundation will be delivered on March 23 at the Palmer House, Chicago, by Dr. Joseph W. Beard, assistant professor of surgery at the School of Medicine of Duke University. The title of the lecture will be "The Ultracentrifugal, Chemical and Electron Micrographic Characters of Purified Animal Viruses."

PROFESSOR G. W. BEADLE, professor of biology at Stanford University, will deliver during January, February and March a Sigma Xi lecture at twenty-six colleges and universities. In addition he will speak before the St. Louis Symposium and will deliver the Harvey Lecture of the New York Academy of Medicine.

IN order "to cooperate to the fullest possible extent with the request of the Office of Defense Transportation and in the interest of the nation's war effort," the American Medical Association has cancelled its annual meeting, which was to have been held in Philadelphia from June 18 to 22.

*Nature* reports that the Division for Social and International Relations of Science of the British Association recently arranged a conference at the Royal Institution on "The Place of Science in Industry." It was opened by Sir Richard Gregory, president of the association. There were four sessions at which the chair was taken, respectively, by Ernest Bevin, Lord McGowan, Sir John Greenly and Lord Woolton. The subjects of the sessions were what industry owes to science, fundamental research in relation to industry, industrial research and development, and the future—what science might accomplish.

APPLICATIONS to the Committee for Research in Problems of Sex of the National Research Council for financial aid during the fiscal year beginning on July 1, in support of work on fundamental problems of sex and reproduction, should be received before April 1. They may be addressed to the chairman, Dr. Robert M. Yerkes, Yale School of Medicine, New

Haven 11, Conn. Although hormonal investigations continue to command the interest and support of the committee, preference, in accordance with current policy, will ordinarily be given to proposals for the investigation of neurological, psychobiological and behavioral problems of sex and reproduction.

THE Merit System Council of the State of West Virginia (212 Atlas Building, Charleston 1, W. Va.) announces unassembled examinations for higher positions in the West Virginia State Health Department. These include the position of director of communicable diseases with a salary of from \$4,800 to \$6,000, and of field clinician (tuberculosis), with a salary of from \$3,960 to \$5,160. There will be no state residence requirements for these examinations, but preference in making appointments may be given to West Virginia residents. Applications may be filed at any time at the office of the merit system supervisor, from whom further information can be obtained. New registers will be established as soon as a sufficient number of applications have been received to furnish adequate competition.

THE Medical School of the University of Minnesota will erect at a cost of two million dollars a twelve-story building as a memorial to the late Drs. Charles H. and William J. Mayo. The building will be situ-

ated at the center of the University Hospital Quadrangle and will form with the present buildings one medical center. These buildings include the existing Student Health Service, the obstetric unit and outpatient clinics, the William Henry Eustis Children's Hospital, the Elliot Memorial Hospital, the George Chase Christian Memorial Cancer Institute, the Todd Memorial Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, a future hospital addition and a proposed building for the School of Public Health. All floors of the building from the basement to the fifth floor will connect with the present hospital buildings. A Mayo Memorial Fund has been established to which may be credited private and public donations and appropriations. Headquarters for the fund are at 1126 Northwestern Bank Building.

YALE UNIVERSITY has received a grant from the American Optical Company in support of research on ocular behavior in the general program of the Clinic of Child Development in the School of Medicine. These studies are part of a systematic investigation of the ontogenetic development of behavior in infants and young children. They are being conducted under the direction of Dr. Arnold Gesell in close association with the guidance nursery and the diagnostic service of the clinic.

## DISCUSSION

### THE AGE OF THE PUNJAB SALT SERIES

No geologist whose vision extends farther than his local horizon can but be interested in the classical sections and fossils of the Salt Range in northwestern India, nor need be reminded of their importance. And similarly there has been no question of Indian geology that has been more debated or that has been more baffling, especially in recent years, than the geological age of the Saline Series of the Punjab.

I have just received a paper,<sup>1</sup> published last September by a distinguished Indian paleobotanist that seems to afford rather convincing evidence on this subject, and since this paper is likely to be missed by numerous geologists, especially in the present abnormal times, it seems desirable to call especial attention to it.

The Saline Series lies beneath unmistakable Paleozoic, and the classic and not often questioned interpretation was that the Salt beds were of Cambrian or pre-Cambrian age, as set forth in Blanford's "Manual of the Geology of India," published in 1878, thus constituting the "oldest known salt beds" (Kayser, p. 76).

Koken and Noetling (1902-03) appear to have been the first to question this, and subsequently several

others have taken up the Koken and Noetling views, explaining the observed stratigraphic succession as due to the Paleozoic having been overthrust on the Eocene by the so-called Nummulitic deformation.

It is no part of my purpose to give a detailed or documented account, and those interested can find suitable references in the published "Records of the Geological Survey of India." Professor Sahni's material consists of microscopic fragments, mostly vegetable but also including some insect remains. The former comprise such things as shreds of Conifer tracheids, plant hairs, tiny shreds of leaf cuticles, multiseriate pitted wood cells, etc. If this material was actually *in situ* there seems to be no question as to its post-Paleozoic age, although in all fairness it should be said that Sahni exhibits the proper scientific caution and is not in the least categorical, nor is it my purpose to do more than call attention to the first-hand work on the subject.

EDWARD W. BERRY

THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

### THE PEACH MOSAIC DISEASE<sup>1</sup>

FIELD experiments in 1942 and 1943 in the Western Slope region of Colorado produced evidence that the

<sup>1</sup> Scientific Series Paper No. 186, Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station, Fort Collins, Colo.

<sup>1</sup> B. Sahni, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. India*, 14: 49-66, 1944.