

sible, to three or four employers having vacancies on their staffs for which the applicant appears qualified. Every effort is made to refer the summary to more than one employer in order to increase the chances of the applicant's securing a position. If the employer, after examination of the summaries referred to him, is interested in any of the applicants, he proceeds to get in touch with them directly. All negotiations from that point on, such as personal interview, salary, etc., are carried on between the employer and the applicant. The Roster only asks that a report be furnished of the outcome of the negotiations.

These procedures based upon experience to date are said to be working quite satisfactorily. An increasing number of cards is now being received as the rate of demobilization advances. As more and more employers learn of the Roster, the number of job orders being received is also increasing. It is hoped that this service will be of real value in assisting former servicemen to become reestablished in civilian life.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

DR. MARSTON T. BOGERT, president of the International Union of Chemistry, has transmitted to *SCIENCE* the following communications:

From Professor Dr. E. Briner, president of the Federation of Swiss Chemical Societies, School of Chemistry, Geneva, August 12, 1945.

Permit me first of all to express to you the great satisfaction I have experienced from receiving your letter of July 18th, for it is a manifestation of the resumption of the activities of the International Union of Chemistry. It reached me after some delay for it was transmitted to me at a mountain resort where I was taking a little rest after a strenuous year, because of the large number of our students. Our country has become, in effect, a land of refuge for a crowd of students who have fled the Nazi terror reigning in Germany and in the countries occupied by the Germans.

As to the International Union of Chemistry, I have been particularly happy to be of some assistance to it during these difficult years, in obtaining a liaison between the great International Chemistry Commissions. I remain naturally at its disposal whenever I can be of service to it in one way or another.

For some weeks we have had the pleasure of receiving numbers of American soldiers who have come to pass a short leave in Switzerland. We believe that they will be very happy in visiting the many beautiful places in our country. Further, for the winter semester, courses are being organized especially for American military students. They will come to spend a few months in the Swiss universities and this will prevent them from losing some of their contacts with science. At the Geneva School of Chemistry, which is the building housing the

lecture halls and the laboratories of chemistry for our Faculty of Sciences, we are preparing to reserve for them the best accommodations possible.

(Signed) E. BRINER

From Professor Dr. Octave Dony-Henault, vice-president, International Union of Chemistry, 50, Rue de L'Ermitage, Brussels, Belgium. August 6, 1945.

As to Belgium, this is our present situation. As I stated to you in another letter some ten months ago we have lost, unfortunately, two of the deans of Belgian chemistry, Frederic Swartz and Leon Crismer, who both perished as a result of sickness. Frederic Swartz¹ was the president of the National Belgian Committee of Chemistry, of which our colleague, Professor Jean Timmermans, is still the secretary. The latter has just returned from England where he was throughout the war and we have just elected him a corresponding member of the Royal Academy of Belgium.

At a quite recent session we had occasion to discuss among the chemists the question which you have presented to us and I have communicated your letter to Messieurs Timmerman, Bruylants and Wuyts. It was agreed to take up the question at a special reunion of the National Committee, in order to replace the members who have disappeared and to decide how we will be able to resume our activities. Another chemist of the University of Louvain, Professor Mund, has likewise been elected to the academy and the result will be that it will be very easy for us at our monthly meetings to get together in the Class of Sciences. In any event, Mr. Timmermans, as secretary, will not fail to get in touch with you.

(Signed) OCTAVE DONY-HENAUULT

Professor P. Boysen Jensen, of the University of Copenhagen, under date of September 3, wrote to Dr. Richard H. Goodwin, of Connecticut College, as follows:

Your letter was the first one to reach me from the U.S.A. and England after so many years. . . . Yes, it has been five hard years, but we are still alive, my daughter and I. Maybe you remember the Garderkaserner that is situated east of the Botanisk Have (the University Botanical Garden); it was occupied by the Germans, so the plant physiology laboratory and Professor Boysen Jensen's house were in the fire line. Especially April was filled with anxiety. We did not know if our country and Copenhagen would be burned, as so many other countries and cities. We are happy that it is over now.

If you worked in the laboratory to-day you would find it in about the same state as when you left it in 1938. We have got some more apparatus and we have continued our scientific work as well as possible.

During the war we have heard almost nothing about the plant physiological activities in the U.S.A. and

¹ Brother-in-law of the late Dr. Leo Hendrik Baekeland.

England. Sweden has now and then lent us some journals—that is all. We are therefore anxious to know what has happened and to renew our exchanges with our American friends.

Dr. Walter Landauer, of the University of Connecticut, writes:

Professor Silvio Ranzi (Istituto di Zoologia e Anatomia Comparata, Università di Milano, Via Celoria 10, Milano, Italy), after having fled to Naples during the German occupation, has now returned to his position in Milan. Inasmuch as no American journals are as yet reaching Italy, Professor Ranzi is very anxious to receive reprints from American colleagues.

Dr. Donald P. Costello, of the University of North Carolina, writes:

Dr. Boris Ephrussi, of the marine laboratory at Roscoff, has been appointed head of a new department of genetics at the University of Paris, beginning on October 1. Plans are being formulated for developing genetic research in France, despite the fact that conditions there are still very unsettled and difficult.

An Associated Press dispatch reports that research equipment for the department of medicine of Charles University, Prague, which was almost completely removed during the German occupation, will be restored by the Rockefeller Foundation.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE medal of the Typhus Commission has been awarded to Dr. Francis G. Blake, dean of the Yale University School of Medicine, and to Dr. Kenneth F. Maxcy, professor of epidemiology at the School of Hygiene and Public Health of the Johns Hopkins University. The decorations were presented by Major General Norman T. Kirk, Army Surgeon General, in 1943, at the request of General of the Army Douglas MacArthur, for investigations on scrub typhus in the South Pacific.

THE Distinguished Service Medal has been awarded to Commodore William S. Parsons, who represented the Navy in the development of the atomic bomb. Distinguished Civilian Service Awards have been conferred upon Dr. Ross Gunn and Dr. Philip H. Abelson, of the U. S. Naval Research Laboratory, in recognition of their scientific contributions to the splitting of the atom. The awards were presented by Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal.

THE Paris Academy of Medicine held a plenary session on September 4, at which Sir Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of penicillin, was made an honorary member.

At the presentation on October 26 to Dr. Donald Babson Keyes of the Honor Scroll of the American Institute of Chemists, Dr. H. R. Kraybill, director of research of the American Meat Institute and chairman of the Chicago section of the Institute of Chemists, will preside and will present the award. Dr. Gustav Egloff, Universal Oil Products Company, president of the Institute of Chemists, will speak on "Keyes the Man." Dr. Albert L. Elder, director of research of the Corn Products Refining Company, will speak on "Keyes and His Achievements," and Lawrence Brown, assistant director and reconversion officer of the Chemicals Bureau of the War Production Board, on "Keyes and Chemicals During World War II."

DR. E. MONROE BAILEY, chief of the department of analytical chemistry of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station at New Haven for twenty-eight years, will retire on October 1. Dr. Bailey had charge of all feed and fertilizer inspection and analyses for the State, and analytical work in connection with the enforcement of State food, drug and cosmetic laws.

PROFESSOR ROGER ADAMS, head of the department of chemistry of the University of Illinois, who has been on leave of absence since 1942 as a member of the National Defense Research Committee and chairman of one of its divisions, has been given a further year's leave of absence by the University Board of Trustees. Professor William C. Rose will continue as acting head of the department of chemistry. Though Professor Adams has been on leave, he has continued to supervise the training of graduate students in research and has been directing scientific investigations of his own.

DR. WILLIAM H. SEBRELL, of the U. S. Public Health Service, acting in the capacity of nutrition consultant to the Surgeon General, has returned from a three months tour of duty in the European Theater of Operations where he acted as nutrition consultant to Major Stayer. During this period Dr. Sebrell directed the activities of the five nutrition survey teams operating in that area.

ACADEMICIAN VLADIMIR LEONTIEVICH KOMAROV, president of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR since 1936, has resigned on account of ill health. He is succeeded by Professor Sergei Ivanovich Vavilov, a well-known physicist. He is a brother of the plant geneticist Nikolai Ivanovich Vavilov, a former president of the Lenin Academy of the Agricultural Sciences.

PROFESSOR RAYMOND E. KIRK, head of the department of chemistry and dean of the Graduate School of the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, has been