

NEWS

and Notes

AAAS Publications

The AAAS Executive Committee has given serious and extended consideration to filling the editorial positions left vacant on *Science*, following the death of Dr. W. L. Valentine in April 1947, and on *The Scientific Monthly*, following the resignation of Dr. F. L. Campbell this past spring. It has been a difficult problem to make suitable appointments for these important positions under present conditions of manpower shortage and the prevailing high salaries.

At the July meeting of the Executive Committee, it was unanimously voted to appoint an Editorial Board of 5 members for the AAAS publications to serve for one year, together with a Chairman who would act also as Editor-in-Chief.

The Editorial Board as now organized to cover the various scientific fields consists of Arthur C. Bevan, of the Illinois State Geological Survey Division, Edward U. Condon, of the National Bureau of Standards, H. Bentley Glass, of Johns Hopkins University, Malcolm H. Soule, of the University of Michigan, and Everett S. Wallis, of Princeton University, with George A. Baitzell, of Yale University, as Chairman. Yale University has granted temporary half-time leave of absence to Dr. Baitzell to permit him to render this service to the Association.—EDMUND W. SINNOTT, *President, AAAS*.

About People

William L. Everitt, head of the Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Illinois, since 1944, will succeed Melvin L. Enger as dean of the College of Engineering and director of the Engineering Experiment

Station upon the latter's retirement on September 1, 1949.

Rev. Eugene A. Gisel is the new head of the Department of Chemistry at Fordham University. During the recent war Father Gisel, who had been teaching chemistry at the Jesuit College in Manila, was taken prisoner by the Japanese. Upon his return to this country he became head of the Chemistry Department at St. Peter's College, Jersey City.

Anton J. Carlson, professor emeritus of physiology, University of Chicago, will deliver the second annual Margaret Barclay Wilson Memorial Lecture in the North Lounge of Hunter College, 695 Park Avenue, New York City, at 4:15 P.M. on October 19. Dr. Carlson will speak on "Diet and the Span of Life."

Joseph P. Maxfield, after a 31-year association with the Bell Telephone Laboratories, has been appointed superintending scientist of the U. S. Navy Electronics Laboratory, San Diego, California. Mr. Maxfield will be in charge of the Laboratory's scientific and technical research in the fields of radio, radar, and sonar.

A. McGehee Harvey, professor of medicine at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, will deliver the annual lecture before the Institute of Medicine of Chicago and the Chicago Society of Internal Medicine on October 22 at the Palmer House. Dr. Harvey will speak on "Some Physiological Experiments of Nature in the Field of Neuromuscular Function; Potassium Deficiency, Potassium Intoxication, Myasthenia Gravis."

William John Miller, professor of geology at the University of California, Los Angeles, since 1924, retired from active teaching on June 30 of this year, thus completing a distinguished career of 47 years as a teacher of geology. Prof. Miller is the author of numerous publications, principally in the field of petrology, and of widely used textbooks in elementary geology.

Bennett Sallman, formerly of the Department of Bacteriology, Ohio State University, has been appointed an instructor in the Department of

Bacteriology, Hahnemann Medical College of Philadelphia.

John A. Fleming, of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, has been elected Honorary Fellow of the Geophysical Observatory, University of Alaska, according to word received from S. L. Seaton, Observatory director. Dr. Fleming was cited for his work in the field of terrestrial magnetism and allied investigations in earth physics and for his furtherance of international scientific relations.

Visitors to U. S.

M. Georges Aubert, distinguished soil scientist of the French Ministry of Colonies, is now visiting his colleagues in the United States. He has already completed a considerable tour of this country, after which he consulted with soil scientists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Washington. Before returning to France about November 15 he will lecture at several American universities.

Alex R. Todd, professor of chemistry at Cambridge University, is to be the Nieuwland Lecturer in Chemistry at the University of Notre Dame this fall. Prof. Todd's lectures, on "Vitamins, Coenzymes, and Nucleotides," "The Structure and Synthesis of Nucleotides," and "Phosphorylation and Synthesis of Nucleotides," will be given in the Biology Auditorium at 8:00 P.M. on October 22, 25, and 27.

Karl M. Silberschmidt, chief of the Section of Plant Physiology, Instituto Biológico, São Paulo, Brazil, recently arrived in the United States. During his four-month visit, Dr. Silberschmidt will visit the USDA and other institutions where studies of virus diseases of plants and the physiology of grafted plants are being made.

Max von Laue, director of the Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of Berlin, was awarded the honorary D.Sc. degree at recent University of Chicago convocation ceremonies. The former Nobel Prize winner, cited as "physicist and resolute champion of freedom," was

honored for his discovery and interpretation of the diffraction of X-rays by crystals.

Sir Lawrence Bragg, Cavendish professor of physics at Cambridge University, England, will give a series of 5 lectures at the Mellon Institute, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh. The lecture topics will include: "Research Program of the Cavendish Laboratory," November 17; "The Laws of Plastic Flow," November 18; "The X-Ray Structure of Proteins and Other Organic Molecules," November 19; "The Physics of Metals," November 22; and "Recent Developments in the X-Ray Study of Minerals," November 23. Hosts for the various lectures, in addition to the University of Pittsburgh, will include the Pittsburgh Section of the ACS, the X-Ray Society of America, the American Society for Metals, the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, and the American Ceramic Society.

Prior to his visit to Pittsburgh, Sir Lawrence, who will be accompanied by Lady Bragg, will receive the Roebeling Medal of the Mineralogical Society of America. The presentation will take place during the Society's 29th annual meeting, November 11-13, at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York City.

Rudolf Florin, professor of botany and director of Hortus Bergianus, Stockholm, Sweden, has been announced as the holder of the John M. Prather Lectureship in Biology for 1948 by the Department of Biology, Harvard University. Dr. Florin began his series of 7 lectures for those interested in the technical aspects of plant evolution on October 11. Future lectures (October 18, 21, 25, 28, and November 1) will be given at 5:00 P.M. in the Biological Laboratories, 16 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge. A lecture of general interest to the public, "Evolution in Cordaites and Conifers," will be presented on Friday, November 5, at 5:00 P.M. at the Institute of Geographical Exploration, 2 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge.

On September 27-28 Dr. Florin lectured at the University of Illinois, under the auspices of the Department of Botany, on "Paleozoic Cordaites

and Conifers" and "Upper Permian and Mesozoic Conifers and Taxads."

Friedrich R. Baltzer, director of the Zoological Institute at Bern University, Switzerland, is a visiting professor in the Department of Zoology at the State University of Iowa for the current academic year. Prof. Baltzer is assuming the duties of **Emil Witschi**, who is on leave of absence for a year and, under a Rockefeller traveling fellowship, is working at the University of Tuebingen in the French Zone of Germany.

Awards

Franklin Medals, highest honors of the Franklin Institute, will be awarded on October 20 to Wendell M. Stanley and Theodore von Karman. Dr. Stanley, head of the Departments of Biochemistry on the Berkeley campus and in the Medical School of the University of California in San Francisco and also director of the University's Virus Laboratory, is cited for "his discovery that a virus can be a nucleoprotein rather than a living organism, thereby establishing a significant turning point in virus research; and also his development of an effective centrifuge-type influenza vaccine by means of which the intensity of future influenza epidemics may be greatly lessened." Dr. von Karman, chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the U. S. Air Forces and director of the Guggenheim Aeronautics Laboratory, receives the medal "in recognition of his outstanding engineering and mathematical achievements, particularly those relating to the development of advanced aerodynamic conceptions which have directly influenced the progress of aeronautical design, and for his unusual leadership whereby some measure of his own genius is constantly instilled in those who work with him."

Winners of the Franklin Medal in previous years have included Thomas Edison, Guglielmo Marconi, Neils Bohr, Orville Wright, Albert Einstein, Harlow Shapley, Enrico Fermi, and Sir Robert Robinson.

Colleges and Universities

A conference on statistics applied to research in the social, plant, and

animal sciences, held at Auburn, Alabama, September 7-9, was attended by 92 applied scientists and statisticians from 14 states and the District of Columbia. The conference was sponsored by Alabama Polytechnic Institute in cooperation with Iowa State College, the University of North Carolina, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and southeastern Agricultural Experiment Stations. Financial assistance in the form of a grant-in-aid was received from the General Education Board.

Lectures on techniques and designs involved in the application of statistical techniques to research problems in the above-mentioned sciences were followed by brief research reports illustrating the use of the statistical techniques in actual experimental situations. One session was allocated to a discussion of the organization and promotion of statistical activities at colleges and universities, with special reference to regional cooperation in the Southeast.

The lectures in full, accompanied by abstracts of the brief research reports, will be made available in the near future by the Statistical Laboratory of Alabama Polytechnic Institute.

Cornell University's program in cultural anthropology, inaugurated a year ago, is soon to be expanded according to Leonard S. Cottrell, Jr., head of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. The 5-year program, which is designed to survey the impact created by the introduction of Western agricultural, industrial, and scientific methods to primitive societies, has been made possible by a grant of \$180,000 from the Carnegie Corporation. During the next four years the program will be divided into two phases—teaching and research. Special research personnel will be trained to study the results of social changes on foreign cultures, and the University will offer new courses, based on the results of field investigations, to foreign and American students planning on overseas careers in the missionary, agricultural, and industrial fields.

Areas currently being investigated include the Far East, India, Latin

America, and the southwestern United States. Joining in the research phase of the program are R. Lauriston Sharp and Alexander H. Leighton, Cornell professors, and three new faculty members—Allan Holmberg, authority on Latin-American cultures who was formerly associated with the Smithsonian Institution and who has recently been working in Peru and the Amazon Basin; Morris E. Opler, formerly of Harvard, whose specialty is Amerindian and Asiatic cultures; and John Adair, formerly of the University of New Mexico, who is an expert on the technologies and handicrafts of the American Indian.

Supplementary courses are also being offered by various other departments in the University.

The University of California at Los Angeles is conducting a special course, set up by the State Department, for a group of 9 foreign students (7 from the Philippines, 1 from Brazil, and 1 from Peru) to advance the study of meteorology in Western Hemisphere countries and the Pacific and to further the "good neighbor" policy. The program, administered by the U. S. Weather Bureau, is under the direction of Jacob Bjerknes, professor of meteorology, and Morris Neiburger, associate professor of meteorology, is acting as counselor.

Two new courses in the soil mechanics field are being offered by UCLA, according to L. M. K. Boelter, dean of the College of Engineering. Both courses deal with the principles and structural applications of soil mechanics. The new program is under the direction of C. Martin Duke, assistant professor of engineering, D. P. Krynine, visiting professor, and George Tauxe, lecturer. Prof. Krynine, author of several textbooks on soil mechanics, has just returned from Rotterdam, Holland, where he attended the 2nd International Congress on Soil Mechanics.

Ohio State University, which was 75 years old on September 17, inaugurated a series of anniversary events by a University-wide program, October 14-15. Five years after it was christened the "Ohio Agricultural and Mechanical College" it became Ohio State University. On the day of

its opening in 1873 the entire student body consisted of 15 men and 2 women, and the only college building was what is now University Hall. The University began its 76th year of instruction last month with some 23,000 students, 70 permanent modern buildings, 1,400 acres of campus and farm, and a 400-acre airport. Throughout the 1948-49 academic year the University, in a variety of ways, will celebrate its phenomenal growth.

Industrial Laboratories

Six nuclear physics charts have been prepared by the School Service of the Westinghouse Electric Corporation, Pittsburgh 30, Pennsylvania, for use in school and college classrooms. Depicting the important areas of nuclear physics, the charts, measuring 25" x 36", are printed in two colors on heavy stock. The complete set of charts, accompanied by a 32-page book of supplementary information, is priced at \$1.00. The first Westinghouse chart portrays 10 basic particles important in nuclear physics; the second explains how nuclei are put together and depicts some 635 isotopes and 75 isomers. Natural and man-made nuclear reactions are shown in the third chart, while the fourth portrays 11 types of apparatus for detecting and inducing nuclear reactions. The fifth chart shows 5 areas for the useful application of atomic energy, while the sixth covers the major theoretical, experimental, and engineering achievements in nuclear physics.

Meetings and Elections

A Conference on Electronic Instrumentation in Nucleonics and Medicine will be held in New York City November 29-December 1, under the joint sponsorship of the Institute of Radio Engineers and the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. Purpose of the conference will be to show the unique problems involved in the utilization of atomic energy and the need for cooperation and understanding between the electronics engineer, the physical scientist, and the medical doctor.

At the Conference the Atomic Energy Commission will present the first comprehensive display of radiation de-

tection instruments essential to the industrial, medical, and biological applications of nuclear energy. The AEC exhibit will include 22 types of basic instruments for radiation detection, together with demonstrations of other instrument techniques.

The California Mosquito Control Association will hold its annual conference jointly with the American Mosquito Control Association at Berkeley and Oakland, California, February 6-9, 1949. The program will cover national, international, and local California problems affecting mosquito control agencies. Following the conference, a field trip will be held (February 10-15) to observe the work and problems of a number of California Mosquito Abatement Districts. Individuals interested in the program are invited to attend. Further information may be obtained by writing to the California Mosquito Control Association, P. O. Box 649, Berkeley 1, California.

The 5th International Congress for Comparative Pathology will be held at Istanbul, May 17-20, 1949, and will be under the chairmanship of Akil Moukhtar Ozden. Papers on problems of medical, veterinary, or plant pathology sciences may be submitted to: Dr. Louis Grollet, Secrétaire Général, Comité International Permanent des Congrès de Pathologie Comparée, 7 rue Gustave Nadaud, Paris, 16e, France.

The Ecological Society of America, at its annual meeting at College Park, Maryland, on September 11, elected the following officers for 1949: president, Z. P. Metcalf, North Carolina State College; vice-president, Charles E. Olmsted, University of Chicago; secretary, William A. Castle, Mary Washington College of the University of Virginia, Fredericksburg; and treasurer, Henry J. Oosting, Duke University.

The Botanical Society of America, Inc., elected the following officers for 1949 at its meetings in Washington, D.C., September 12: president, Dean Ivey F. Lewis, Miller School of Biology, University of Virginia; vice-president, Katherine Esau, University of California; and member of the Edi-

torial Board, Gilbert M. Smith, Stanford University, California. John S. Karling, Purdue University, Turman G. Yunker, DePauw University, and Ronald Bamford, University of Maryland, continue as secretary, treasurer, and business manager, respectively.

Honorary membership in the American Institute of Chemists will be conferred on Charles Lathrop Parsons at a meeting on October 20 sponsored jointly by the New York Chapter of AIC, the New York Section of ACS, and the American Section of the Society of Chemical Industry. Dr. Parsons is honored for his many and outstanding contributions to the profession of chemist. The dinner meeting will be held in the Downtown Athletic Club, 18 West Street, New York City, at 7:00 P.M. Reservations should be sent in advance to: Dr. Maurice J. Kelley, Nopeco Chemical Company, Harrison, New Jersey. Speakers will include Walter J. Murphy, editor of *Chemical and Engineering News*; Donald B. Keyes, of the Heyden Chemical Corporation; and Lawrence H. Flett, Martin Meyer, Clifford F. Rassweiler, and Archie J. Weith, officials of the sponsoring bodies.

Deaths

Samuel E. Sheppard, 66, retired research scientist of the Eastman Kodak Company, died September 29 at his home in Rochester, New York.

Ruth Wheeler, 71, professor emeritus of physiology and nutrition at Vassar College, died September 29 in the Vassar Brothers' Hospital, Poughkeepsie, New York, after a long illness.

Louis F. Ruschhaupt, 69, associate professor emeritus of clinical medicine at Marquette University and staff physician at the County General and Deaconess Hospitals, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, died September 30 after a long illness.

William Roth Work, 67, assistant director of the College of Engineering and Science, Carnegie Institute of Technology, died October 3 in Mercy

Hospital, Pittsburgh. He had been associated with the Institute since 1905.

Victor C. Myers, 65, director of the Department of Biochemistry in the School of Medicine at Western Reserve University, died in New York City October 7 while attending the graduate fortnight of the New York Academy of Medicine.

Josephine Owen Cattell, 83, widow of J. McKeen Cattell, died October 10 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Cattell assisted her husband in the almost 50 years during which he edited *Science*. Following his death in January 1944, she continued, with her son Jaques, to edit the journal until the editorial offices were moved to Washington, D. C., in 1946.

The change in chairmanship of the Research and Development Board, announced last week by President Truman, becomes effective today (October 15). Vannevar Bush, who headed the joint Army-Navy Research and Development Board and, upon unification of the services, the present Board, has resigned and will continue his association with the Carnegie Institution of Washington, which he has headed since 1939. His successor to the post is Karl T. Compton, president of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who has frequently been called upon to assist the Government on various projects. Among the many governmental tasks which he undertook were the headship of the Office of Field Service of the Office of Scientific Research and Development and the chairmanship of the President's Advisory Commission on Universal Training. He therefore assumes his new duties with a most fitting background for this key civilian position in the National Military Establishment. Upon Dr. Compton's resignation, James R. Killian, Jr., vice-president of MIT since 1945, was elected to the presidency. He is 44 years old, a graduate of MIT, and brings to his new position a wide range of educational and administrative experience.

The American Sociological Society has designated Yale University as the headquarters for its official publication, *The American Sociological Review*. The journal, now in its 13th year, will be under the editorial supervision of Maurice R. Davie, William Graham Sumner professor of sociology at Yale. Prof. Davie will be aided by a group of assistant editors chosen from various institutions. The managing editor is Ernest R. Mowrer, of Northwestern University.

Research Corporation has announced that the services of its present Chicago sales office at 122 South Michigan Avenue will be expanded to facilitate grants-in-aid for the advancement of science in midwestern educational and scientific institutions. Walter E. Thwaite, Jr., formerly an electrical engineer with the Consolidated Edison Company, who joined the staff of the New York headquarters earlier this year, will be in charge of the new phases of operation.

This unusual nonprofit commercial and educational enterprise, was organized in 1912 by Dr. Frederick Gardner Cottrell, a scientist and successful inventor. Endowed by his gifts of valuable patent rights on the Cottrell Process of Electrical Precipitation, it had as its objective the further advancement of science and technology. Dr. Cottrell's plan was to use the proceeds of applied research as grants-in-aid to colleges, universities, and scientific institutions to support research in the physical sciences, mathematics, and engineering.

As the corporation grew, its income was derived largely from the manufacture and sale to industry of the equipment which removed the materials suspended in gases, and this continues today as a major source of its earnings. As time went on, other public-spirited inventors and institutions assigned their inventions to the corporation. Research Corporation now holds inventions or patent rights in 23 commercial fields ranging from aeronautics to vitamins.

The earnings from electrical precipitation and patent management have been distributed by Research

Corporation in various ways for the advancement of science. Its largest present program is the Frederick Gardner Cottrell Postwar Program, for which a fund of \$2,500,000 was set aside for distribution in the 5-year period from 1946 to 1951. Under this program grants-in-aid to support research are made to educational and scientific organizations after approval has been given by an advisory committee of outstanding scientists. Preference is given to young applicants and to those with good war records. Positive aid is provided by the Corporation's grants of funds which will allow young scientists to pursue their desired research, thus attracting them to go into, or to return to, teaching and laboratory jobs in the academic institutions.

Another phase of the Corporation's work is the program supported by the Williams-Waterman Fund, derived from royalties from the patents for the synthesis of vitamin B₁₂ which Dr. Robert R. Williams and his associates assigned to the Corporation several years ago. Grants in this case are made for support of research in combatting dietary deficiency diseases.

Support is also occasionally given to institutions or individuals in special cases for research which does not fit either of the above programs.

Through the Corporation's Patent Management Department, patent problems are handled for several colleges, universities, and scientific organizations. Certain inventions made by staff members of these institutions are, by agreement, assigned to the Corporation, which then, at its own expense, attempts to secure patents. When patents are obtained, the Corporation then attempts to get them into commercial use. Income from royalties from these is divided between the inventor, his institution, and Research Corporation in accordance with the agreements between them.

At present some 200 Research Corporation grants amounting to about \$900,000 are active in the United States. Fifty-nine of these are placed in the 11 western states, with a value somewhat in excess of \$250,000; 82 are placed in the midwestern states, with a value of approximately \$335,000.

Through its three offices (New York, Chicago, Los Angeles) the Corporation now hopes to maintain closer relations with scientific and educational institutions throughout the country.

Limited quantities of hydrogen-3 and helium-3, two important new research materials, have been added to the list of isotopes being distributed by the Atomic Energy Commission to scientists and research institutions throughout the country. Hydrogen-3, or tritium, is a radioactive gas with a half-life of about 12 years. As the only radioisotope of hydrogen, it should prove of special value as a "tracer" in medical, biological, and chemical research.

Helium-3, a stable isotope, is only one-millionth as abundant in nature as ordinary helium, which is used in balloons and dirigibles. Now available for laboratory study, it may provide valuable clues to the still largely unknown properties of the helium nucleus. Inquiries regarding the two newly-available materials should be addressed to the Isotopes Division, Atomic Energy Commission, P. O. Box E, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

The Atomic Energy Commission has also reported that Chile recently became the 22nd foreign nation to qualify to receive radioisotopes for various research projects.

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society has announced the appointment of Cornelius H. Traeger as its medical director. His appointment was made possible by a recent grant of \$50,000 from the Milbank Memorial Fund. Dr. Traeger is attending physician and co-chief of the Arthritis Clinic at the Hospital for Special Surgery and consulting attending physician in internal medicine and chief of the Arthritis Clinic at Roosevelt Hospital, New York City.

Formed about two years ago to stimulate interest and finance research in multiple sclerosis and its many allied neurological diseases, the Society to date has financed 7 research projects. Among these are two multiple sclerosis research clinics in Boston, Massachusetts, and Albany, New York. It is planned to finance other worthwhile research projects when adequate funds are available.

Dr. Traeger, as medical director, will administer and coordinate medical research in this field.

The National Registry of Rare Chemicals, 35 West 33rd Street, Chicago 16, Illinois, is currently interested in obtaining the following "wanted" chemicals: lecithin phosphatase, *p*-tolylphosphorous dichloride, pyrosulfuryl chloride, 2-fluoroethanol, copper hydride, pelargonin chloride, *l*-borneol, mesobilirubinogen, clupanodonic acid, altrose, tagatose, isofenchyl alcohol, myrtenol, sabinol, verbenol, thujyl alcohol, bufotenidin, 5-(hydroxymethyl)-2-furaldehyde, hyodesoxycholic acid, phosphopyruvic acid, and coproporphyrin.

The 35th edition of "The Naturalists' Directory" has recently been published. This publication contains not only the names, addresses, and special subjects of study of both professional and amateur naturalists of North and South America and some foreign countries but also a list of scientific periodicals and Natural History Museums. Copies may be obtained from the Cassino Press, Salem, Massachusetts. The price is \$3.00.

Make Plans for—

American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists, 27th national convention, October 21-23, Sheraton Bon Air Hotel, Augusta, Georgia.

Symposium on Ultrasonics and Macromolecules, October 23, Institute of Polymer Research, Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn.

National Metal Congress of American society for Metals, October 25-29, Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Gas Discharge Conference, October 27-29, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York.

American Mathematical Society, October 30, New York City.

National Committee for Mental Hygiene, 39th annual meeting, November 3-4, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York City.