NEWS and Notes

Theodor von Kármán, director of the Guggenheim Aeronautics Laboratory at the California Institute of Technology, has been appointed an honorary professor of mechanical engineering at Columbia University in recognition of his achievements in the field of aerodynamics.

I. M. Levitt has been named associate director of electrical communications of the museum of Franklin Institute. Dr. Levitt will continue as assistant director of the Fels Planetarium of the Institute.

Kenneth S. Pitzer, professor of chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley, has been appointed to the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission as director of the Division of Research, effective January 1. While serving in this capacity, Dr. Pitzer will be on leave of absence from the University. He will direct the Commission's research program in the physical sciences and supervise the administration of the isotope production and distribution program. The position has been vacant since the resignation of James B. Fisk last August.

Torsti P. Salo, research associate in the Department of Biology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has joined the staff of the University of Tennessee as associate professor. He will be concerned with the development of the field of biochemistry.

Robert J. Goodman, former research geographer at Northwestern University and geographic adviser for several governmental agencies, has been appointed to the staff of the Wayne University Geography Department.

Olof H. Selling, Swedish paleobotanist, has left for a 9-month tour of study and research in Australia and New Zealand to secure data on problems concerning the vegetation geography of this zone. He will represent Sweden at the 7th Pacific Science Congress in New Zealand, where he will speak on fossil vegetation in Antarctica and his work in the Hawaiian Islands.

Edward A. Gall has been appointed Mary N. Emery professor of pathology and head of the Department of Pathology in the College of Medicine, University of Cincinnati, and director of that Department at Cincinnati General Hospital.

Carl F. Kayan, authority on thermodynamics, has been appointed head of the Mechanical Engineering Department, School of Engineering, Columbia University. Prof. Kayan succeeds **Theodore Baumeister,** who resigned as department head last July but continues as a faculty member.

Lewis Haas, Nathan O. Kaplan, Arthur A. Rodriquez, and **Audrey Wilson** were recently appointed to the faculty of the University of Illinois College of Medicine. Dr. Haas, assistant professor of radiology, formerly served as head of the X-ray Department, Koranyi City Hospital, Budapest, as well as associate professor of roentgenology at the Medical School of the State University in Budapest. Dr. Kaplan, named assistant professor in the Department of Biological Chemistry, is now connected with the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston. He will assume his new duties January 1. Dr. Rodriquez, an Illinois faculty member since 1947, will be concerned with physical medicine. Dr. Wilson has rejoined the faculty as an assistant professor of radiology following a year of residence in Phoenix, Arizona.

M. J. D. White, of University College, London, has recently been appointed professor of zoology at the University of Texas. He has been engaged in conducting a series of seminars on endopolyploid conditions in cells at the University's Medical Branch, Galveston.

Alton Ochsner, William Henderson professor of surgery at Tulane University, will present the 16th E. Starr Judd Lecture on Tuesday evening, January 18, in the auditorium of the Museum of Natural History at the University of Minnesota Medical School. His subject is "The Treatment of Postphlebitic Sequelae by Vasodilatation and Other Measures."

A. V. Grosse, former director of research for the Houdry Process Corporation, was recently elected president of the Research Institute of Temple University to succeed **David N. Hausman,** who has become president of the Houdry Process Corporation. The Institute plans to devote primary effort to fundamental research in chemistry and physics under the sponsorship of industry, governmental and other interested agencies.

Robert H. K. Foster was named professor of pharmacology and director of the Department at St. Louis University School of Medicine during July of this year, replacing **John Auer,** who died April 30, 1948.

Perry Daniel Strausbaugh, head of the Department of Biology, West Virginia University, retired at the end of August. Dr. and Mrs. Strausbaugh are now residing at 6 South Lawsona Boulevard, Orlando, Florida.

Keith J. Perkins has resigned as director of Child Study in the Akron, Ohio, Public Schools to accept an appointment as scientist (R) in the Commissioned Officer Corps, U. S. Public Health Service. Dr. Perkins has been assigned to duty with the Community Services Branch, Division of Mental Hygiene, as chief clinical psychologist and acting director, Phoenix Mental Health Center, Phoenix, Arizona, a PHS field-study project opened recently.

Visitors to U. S.

G. W. Leeper and **J. S. Rogers,** both of the University of Melbourne, have recently arrived in this country. Dr. Leeper, who is an associate professor of agricultural chemistry in the School of Agriculture, will spend the next few months in study of the latest developments in the treatment of soil. Mr. Rogers, of the Department of Physics at the Mildura Branch, will return to Australia in February.

D. R. Masson has arrived in Washington, D. C., to take over his duties as head of the South African Scientific Liaison Office, succeeding **E. P. Phillips,** who will return to South Africa in January. Mr. Masson's special interests lie in the field of chemical engineering.

H. W. Wollenweber, known to many U. S. scientists for his work on diseases and the taxonomy of fungi at the Biologische Reichsanstalt, Berlin-Dahlem, Germany, has arrived for an indefinite stay in this country. He is now visiting his daughter at 802 Philadelphia Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland.

Grants and Awards

Allan P. Colburn, assistant to the president and adviser on research at the University of Delaware, was recently awarded the first Professional Progress Award in Chemical Engineering at the annual session of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. Established by the Celanese Corporation of America, the award, carrying a $1,000 stipend, is to be conferred annually on a person in the chemical engineering field who has not yet reached his 45th birthday and will be granted for "a theoretical discovery or development of a new principle in the field of chemical engineering; a development of a new process or product; an invention or development of new equipment; or distinguished services rendered in the field or profession of chemical engineering." Prior to the appointment to his present position, Dr. Colburn had served as professor of chemical engineering at Delaware for 9 years.

William Frederick Durand, professor emeritus of mechanical engineering at Stanford University, has been named as the first recipient of the Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy. He was cited for significant public service of enduring value to aviation in the United States. Dr. Durand left retirement during the war to head the Government's research and development program on jet-propelled aircraft.

The Council of the Royal Society of New South Wales awarded the Medal of the Society to D. W. L. Waterhouse, of the University of Sydney. The award was made in part in recognition of his services to the Society and his contributions to the field of agricultural science, particularly in regard to research on cereals.

Basil M. Bensin, agronomist with the Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Alaska, was the recent recipient of one of the Fairbanks, Alaska, *Jessen's Weekly* First Annual Awards for Distinguished Service to Alaska. Dr. Bensin was cited for his work in building a scientific and practical agricultural economy in northern Alaska.

The second Francis Amory prize of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a septennial award of $21,000 for outstanding work in the alleviation or cure of urological disorders, first made in 1940, will be equally divided among the following: Charles B. Huggins, of the University of Chicago; S. A. Waksman, of the New Jersey State Agricultural Experiment Station; G. A. Papanicolaou, of Cornell Medical College; A. B. Gutman, of Presbyterian Hospital, New York City; W. J. Koff, of Holland; and G. F. Marian, of Scotland.

The Council of the Royal Society has announced the award of two Royal Medals for the current year to Harold Jeffreys, for his distinguished work in geophysics and important contributions to the astronomy of the solar system, and to James Gray, for distinguished researches in cytology, ciliary movement, and particularly his anatomical and experimental studies of animal posture and locomotion. Other awards announced at the same time are: the Copley Medal, to A. V. Hill, for work on myothermal problems and biophysical phenomena in nerve and other tissues; the Rumford Medal, to F. E. Simon, for contributions to the attainment of low temperatures and the study of the properties of substances at temperatures near absolute zero; the Davy Medal, to E. L. Hirst, for work in the determination of the structure of sugars, starches, plant gums, and especially of vitamin C; the Darwin Medal, to R. A. Fisher, for contributions to the theory of natural selection, the concept of its gene complex, and the evolution of dominance; and the Hughes Medal, to Sir Robert Watson-Watt, for work in atmospheric physics and in the development of radar.

Phil S. Shurrager, head of the Department of Psychology, Illinois Institute of Technology, has received a $6,000 grant from the U. S. Public Health Service to continue research on learning in the central nervous system. Assisted by his wife, Harriett C. Shurrager, also of the Illinois Tech psychology staff, Dr. Shurrager will make further investigations of the nature of learning in a single cell, relating this smallest element to total learned behavior.

Fellowships

Applications for the 1949 Westinghouse fellowship in power systems engineering at the Illinois Institute of Technology are now being accepted. An award of $1,500 and free tuition for three semesters of intensive training leading to a Master of Science degree in electrical engineering will be made to the successful applicant. The term of the fellowship begins September 13, 1949. Candidates must have a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from an accredited engineering college. The award will be based on personal qualifications, interest, and scholarship. Further information and application blanks may be obtained from Dean W. A. Lewis, Graduate School, Illinois Institute of Technology, Technology Center, Chicago 16.

The Department of Chemistry, Illinois Institute of Technology, has announced the availability of graduate teaching and research assistantships for the February 1949 semester. Half-time assistants, with a teaching load of 12 hours a week, will receive $1,314, while third-time assistants, with a teaching load of 8 hours, will receive $876. Research assistants will be required to devote 21 hours to their assigned problem and the remainder of their time to graduate work. Applicants should write to Martin Kilpatrick, Head, Department of Chemistry, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago 16.

The University of Illinois Graduate College has announced the availability of 10 research fellowships to be awarded for one year in the fields of medicine, dentistry, and pharmacy. Medical and dental graduates appointed will receive a stipend of $1,800 and pharmacy graduates, $1,200. Registration in the Graduate College for credit toward M.S. or Ph.D. degrees is required. Appointees are exempt from tuition fees. Appointments will

be announced March 1, 1949, for the fellowship year beginning July 1 or September 1, 1949. Further information and application blanks may be obtained from the Secretary of the Graduate Committee, 1853 West Polk Street, Chicago 12.

Colleges and Universities

Establishment of marine biological laboratories in connection with two U. S. universities has recently been announced. One, to be operated jointly by the University of Hawaii and the University of California, is the Hawaii Marine Laboratory on Coconut Island, in Kaneohe Bay just off the northeast shore of Oahu, the facilities of which were recently leased by the former University from the Moku-O-Loe Corporation. A gift from Edwin W. Pauley, a regent of the University of California, and from one of the co-owners of Coconut Island will be used to recondition the buildings and provide additional facilities. The other is the re-establishment of the Narragansett Marine Biological Laboratory, at Fort Kearney, Saunderstown, Rhode Island, by the Rhode Island State College, which has been recently reopened under the directorship of Charles J. Fish, who held the same post before it was closed in 1942. The Laboratory will benefit from close association with the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, which has agreed to lend equipment, to open its facilities to graduate students at Rhode Island, and to furnish teaching personnel for specific lectures.

Construction of a Geophysical Institute at the University of Alaska will begin early in 1949, according to present plans. The U. S. Government will provide funds for the structures, and the University will maintain the structures and, in coordination with the president of the National Academy of Sciences, provide scientific direction and the basic staff. The unit of the University assigned to this work will be called the Geophysical Observatory. While specialized projects in arctic research had been in progress since 1929, the more integrated program, upon which the new work will be based, was begun in 1941, under a joint arrangement with the Carnegie Institution of Washington. Under this program special studies were devoted to the ionosphere, long-distance radio-wave propagation, measurement of zenith auroral intensity, the earth's magnetic field, and seismology. During the war, through the Office of Scientific Research and Development, this program was broadened still further. Following the war, the administration of the University decided to offer the U. S. Government a site on the campus for erection of a permanent laboratory and to create a unit within the University to be devoted to geophysical research. Located at 65° N latitude and 148° W longitude, the University will provide favorable conditions for research of this kind in that it is nearly in the center of maximum auroral activity and in a region of great magnetic and atmospheric disturbances, its temperatures range from 90° to −70° F, and its climate is semiarid with clear weather predominating throughout the year.

Research contracts are now in force with several government agencies and private institutions, and proposals now under consideration may bring the annual budget to nearly $500,000 within the year.

A plan is being inaugurated for exchange of graduate students and staff members with those in other institutions of higher learning.

The science building and equipment of Black Mountain College, North Carolina, have been totally destroyed by fire. Any donations of physics or chemistry equipment or supplies would be extremely welcome.

Meetings and Elections

The American Statistical Association will hold its annual meeting December 27–29 in Cleveland, Ohio. One of the many problems up for discussion is weaknesses in sampling methods. One program will be devoted to a paper on "Why the Election Polls Were Wrong," by Philip Hauser, of the University of Chicago, and Morris H. Hansen, statistical assistant to the director, U. S. Bureau of the Census. Rensis Likert, director of the Survey Research Center, University of Michigan, Frederick F. Stephan, director of the Social Science Research Council's Study of Sampling, and a representative of the Gallup Poll will participate in the discussion of the topic. The statistics of the Kinsey Report will be discussed by W. Allen Wallis, of the University of Chicago, and Lowell J. Reed, of Johns Hopkins University. Other discussions of special interest will be "Basic Features of a National System of Statistical Intelligence," "Statistical Problems of Medical Diagnosis," "Union Records as Statistical Sources," "Agricultural Statistics Needed by Farmers," and "Statistical Aids to Management." Several of the sessions wil be held jointly with the American Economic Association, the American Marketing Association, and other organizations meeting in Cleveland at the same time.

The Division of High-Polymer Physics of the American Physical Society will meet at Columbia University, New York City, January 27–29. More than 30 papers on the physics of natural and synthetic rubbers and plastic and filamentous materials will comprise the program.

The Crystallographic Society of America will hold its fourth annual spring meeting at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, April 7–9. Closing date for titles of papers for presentation is January 15 and for abstracts, March 1. These should be sent to Howard T. Evans, Jr., Laboratory for Insulation Research, M.I.T., Cambridge 39, Massachusetts. At least one session will be devoted to a symposium on some special topic of general crystallographic interest. Reservations for rooms and meals during the meeting may be made with the Michigan Union.

The 59,000 members of the American Chemical Society have chosen Ernest H. Volwiler as president-elect. Dr. Volwiler, who will head the Society in 1950, is executive vice-president of Abbott Laboratories, North Chicago, Illinois, and a leader in the field of medicinal chemistry. He has for many years been active in the affairs of both the Chicago Section and the ACS itself.

The Society's president during 1949 will be Linus Pauling, chairman of

the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, California Institute of Technology, who succeeds Charles Allen Thomas, executive vice-president of the Monsanto Chemical Company, St. Louis.

Two new members of the Board of Directors also were chosen in the recent national ballot. They are Ralph W. Bost, head of the Department of Chemistry, University of North Carolina, representing the Fourth District, and Henry Eyring, dean of the Graduate School and professor of chemistry, University of Utah, representing the Sixth District.

Deaths

Edward R. Stitt, Rear Adm. (USN, ret.), 81, author and former Navy surgeon general, died November 13 at the Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland. At one time Adm. Stitt had served also as professor of tropical medicine at George Washington and Georgetown Universities and as associate professor of medical zoology at the University of the Philippines. In 1941 he became consultant on tropical medicine to the Secretary of War. He was awarded the Richard Pearson Strong Medal in 1945 for outstanding service in the field of tropical medicine.

John D. Lyttle, 58, nationally known pediatrician, died November 26 in the Hospital of the Good Samaritan, Los Angeles, California. Formerly associated with many New York hospitals, Dr. Lyttle had more recently served as medical director of the Children's Hospital, Los Angeles, and as head of the Pediatrics Department, University of Southern California Medical School.

Birdsey Renshaw, 37, associate professor of physiology at the University of Oregon Medical School, died of poliomyelitis November 23 in Portland.

George H. Ramsey, 57, epidemiologist and former Health Commissioner of Westchester County, New York, died in a sanatorium at Saranac Lake November 30. Responsible for a number of advances in the control of communicable diseases while with the N. Y. State Department of Health from 1933 to 1938, Dr. Ramsey at one time served as president of the American Epidemiology Society and as chairman of the Epidemiology Section, American Public Health Association.

On the 45th anniversary of the first human flight, made by Wilbur and Orville Wright on December 17, 1903, at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, the historic airplane was formally given into the custody of the Smithsonian Institution, in accordance with the wishes of the late Orville Wright. After the ceremonies were opened by Alexander Wetmore, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, a message from President Truman was read by Col. Robert B. Landry, Air Force aide to the President, and Sir Oliver Franks, the British Ambassador, spoke on "Britain and the Wright Brothers." The plane has been displayed on a loan basis in the Science Museum, South Kensington, London, since 1928, and was only recently brought to the United States. It will eventually be transferred to the National Air Museum.

The new clipper *America,* just delivered by Boeing to Pan American Airways and shown on this week's cover together with a photo of the Wright brothers' original 745-pound biplane, serves to point up the four and a half decades of progress in the field of aviation. The two-story, 75-passenger, 340-m.p.h., 14,000-horsepower liner with a range of 4,200 miles and a payload of 142,500 pounds is here compared with the 1-passenger, single-engine, 12-horsepower machine which had a top range of 24½ miles and cost less than $1,000—a sum which included the Wright brothers' train fare to North Carolina!

Publication of *Cancer Research,* the official organ of the American Association for Cancer Research, has been transferred from the Ann Arbor Press to the University of Chicago Press. The monthly journal will continue to publish results of original cancer research and general reviews. Paul E. Steiner, professor of pathology at the University of Chicago, will be the new editor. He will be assisted by W. U. Gardner, of Yale University, Balduin Lucke, of the University of Pennsylvania, Harold Rusch, of the University of Wisconsin, and an advisory staff of 26. Co-sponsors of the journal with the Association are the Anna Fuller Fund, cancer research division of the Donner Foundation, Inc., the Jane Coffin Childs Memorial Fund for Medical Research, and the Elsa U. Pardee Foundation.

The National Registry of Rare Chemicals, 35 West 33rd Street, Chicago 16, Illinois, has submitted the following list of wanted chemicals: homomyristicylamine, homopiperonylamine, 1,2,3-triazine, 1,2,4-triazine, 1,2,5-triazine, pentazine, 1,2,4,5-tetrazine, spinulosin, fumigatin, glucoheptose, glucooctose, gluconononose, stachyose, phosphorous oxychloride difluoride, 3-nitro-1-butanol, mesobilirubinogen, stannous fluoride, fluorogermane, germanium dichloride, and *l*-camphoric acid.

Queen Maud Land in Antarctica is the destination of a combined British-Norwegian-Swedish expedition leaving at the end of next year for a three-year study of the geology, climate, and meteorology of the region. The expedition was originally planned by Hans W. Ahlman, of Stockholm, and will be directed by H. U. Sverdrup, director of the Norwegian Arctic Research Institute. They will leave aboard the first ship of the expedition, scheduled to arrive in Antarctica by the end of 1949, and return in March 1950, leaving a dozen British, Norwegian, and Swedish scientists to conduct studies until 1952. The equipment includes a helicopter, for mapping purposes and for possible use should heavy ice prevent ships from reaching the coastline, and two "Weasels," track-propelled vehicles designed during the war for cross-country transportation.

The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, has arranged several special programs for the Christmas season. One of these, "Star of Bethlehem," will be presented through January 2 by the Fels Planetarium of the Institute. In the museum two new exhibits are now on display, one on atomic energy and the other of prints from the 2nd International Photography-in-Science Salon, an annual competition sponsored by the *Scientific Monthly* and the Smithsonian Institution. The

Little Theatre of the museum is now showing "The ABC of Internal Combustion," a film produced by General Motors Corporation, and "Naval Photography in Science," by the Navy Department. All of the programs will be presented each day with the exception of Monday.

A seminar on the Virus Diseases of Man and Animals is being sponsored by the Graduate School of the Department of Agriculture during the forthcoming spring semester, beginning the week of February 7. In this seminar, which will be under the leadership of Karl Habel, chief of the Neurotropic Virus Unit of the National Institutes of Health, attention will be given to the more recent advances in animal and plant virus studies and techniques, including fundamental considerations and practical application in the research and clinical fields. Dr. Habel will be assisted by a number of specialists in the field. Further information may be obtained from the Graduate School, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

Publication of a new semiannual popular journal called *Frontiers of Plant Science* has been announced by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. Intended primarily to acquaint farmers and gardeners of Connecticut with the latest research developments of the Station, the 8-page journal will consist of short, popular, illustrated articles by staff members. The journal, to be issued each spring and fall, will be edited by Amanda Quackenbush, Experiment Station editor.

The lead article in the first issue describes the Station's 30 years of work with hybrid corn, tracing the pioneer research of Donald F. Jones and discussing the Station's present-day work with field and sweet corn. Other articles include: "Should We Stop Cultivating?" by C. L. W. Swanson; "New Tools for Lawn Insect Control," by John C. Schread; and "Blame for Baffling Tobacco Disease Laid to Nematodes," by P. J. Anderson. Any resident of Connecticut may receive copies of *Frontiers of Plant Science* upon application to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, Box 1106, New Haven 4, Connecticut.

An advice service to industry on research uses of new radioactive materials produced at Britain's Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell was established by Director John D. Cockcroft with the bringing into operation of the second atomic pile there. A. W. Haslett, editor of *Science Today*, writes: "It is expected that the new pile, with a rated power output of 6,000 kilowatts, will produce all the radioactive materials needed by Britain's research workers whether for medical or industrial purposes, and it is hoped to extend supplies also to members of the British Commonwealth and other overseas countries. The most important progress in the research use of such materials has so far been for medical purposes. The new advice service is to ensure that lack of knowledge shall be no bar to their effective use." The purposes of the service are: (1) to inform individual industrial firms of the type of uses to which the radioactive materials can be put; (2) to explain the technical methods of measurement which are necessary and the difficulties which may arise in practice; (3) to dispatch research teams to firms to assist in carrying out whatever experiments may be necessary. "The object of Britain's Harwell arrangements," Mr. Haslett concludes, "is to save time by bringing the [tracer] method to industry."

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has reported that experiments with certain low-level radioactive materials conducted during the 1948 crop year in 14 states and with 18 crops have thus far not shown any beneficial effect upon either crop growth or quality. The comprehensive tests, undertaken in March of this year at the request of, and with funds provided by, the AEC, were the first to be made under a proposed two-year study to be conducted by the USDA and cooperating agricultural experiment stations.

A special list of recent scientific and technical publications of British government agencies, just compiled by the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce, is now available to the public without charge. The Office states that although the data are not always directly applicable to American manufacture and research, they are often of value because of the unique approach taken abroad to certain technical problems which also confront American industry. Copies may be obtained through the Reference Service of OTS, Washington 25, D. C.

Make Plans for—

Association of American Geographers, December 27–30, Union Building, University of Wisconsin, Madison.

American Anthropological Association, American Folklore Society, and **Society for Applied Anthropology,** December 28–30, Royal Ontario Museum of Archaeology and University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada.

American Astronomical Society, 80th meeting, December 28–31, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.

Mathematical societies, Ohio State University, Columbus: American Mathematical Society, December 28–30; National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, December 29–30; Mathematical Association of America, December 31.

Recently Received:

Dow Diamond. Published monthly by the Dow Chemical Company, Midland, Michigan, and distributed without charge.

The Natural History Bulletin. Issued monthly (October–June) by the Natural History Museum, Balboa Park, San Diego, California.

Industrial Bulletin of Arthur D. Little, Inc., November 1948.

Methods used to control pollination of pines in the Sierra Nevada of California, by W. C. Cumming and F. I. Righter. (Circ. No. 792, U. S. Department of Agriculture.) Washington, D. C.: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1948. $.10.

Technical Data Digest. Issued semimonthly by the Central Air Documents Office (Navy—Air Force). Inquiries may be addressed to Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, Attn: Air Documents Division, MCIDXS5.

Airborne Instruments Laboratory, Inc., 160 Old Country Road, Mineola, New York. Illustrated booklet describing history, staff, work, and policies of the Laboratory.