grandson, Perry Belmont, and will be placed in the projected new naval museum. It is the work of Erastus D. Palmer, of Albany.

THE *Bulletin* of the University of Maryland School of Medicine dedicated its July issue to the memory of Dr. C. Hampson Jones, late professor of hygiene and public health at the school and commissioner of health of Baltimore.

IT is planned to establish a memorial library of medicine in Tokyo in memory of the late Baron Kitasato. Count Kiyoura has been elected chairman of the committee appointed to carry out the plan.

THE London County Council has affixed a glazed-ware tablet on No. 3, Manchester Square, W., to commemorate the residence there of the eminent neurologist, John Hughlings Jackson.

THE Leiden branch of the Royal Horticultural Society of the Netherlands, in order to commemorate the founding of the acclimatization garden for Japanese plants "Nippon," by Jhr. Dr. Ph. F. von Siebold, held an exhibition from May 4 to 8, in the City Auditorium of Leiden, of living Japanese plants, shrubs and trees. Many of these are descendants of plants imported by von Siebold. Belgian and Dutch horticulturists collaborated to make this collection as complete as possible. At various other institutes of the University of Leiden, smaller exhibits were held of the ethnographical, zoological and botanical material gathered by von Siebold. Biographical materials were shown at the University Print Collection. In the University Gardens, which still contain more than forty trees and shrubs of von Siebold, a bronze statue, by the sculptor O. Wenckebach, was unveiled by his grandson and by the grandson of his head-gardener.

# SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

## THE PARLIAMENTARY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE BRITISH SCIENCE GUILD

THE London *Times* reports that the council of the British Science Guild plans to develop its proposals for the fostering of the scientific attitude in public affairs. Some months ago, representatives of scientific institutions and societies attended a conference, which decided to form an organization entitled to speak for science as a whole, and to act as an advisory and consultative body to members of both Houses of Parliament who are interested not only in the relation of science to industry, but in the application of the scientific spirit to all national, imperial and international affairs.

The committee already exists in embryo. The societies which it represents include the guild itself, the Institutions of Civil, Mechanical, Electrical and Heating and Ventilating Engineers, the Institute of Physics, the Institution of Naval Architects and the Royal Institute of British Architects.

The movement was originated in the lifetime of the last Parliament by Major A. G. Church, the organizing secretary of the guild, and the invitation which brought the scientific institutions together was signed by Sir Samuel Hoare, now Secretary of State for India, in his capacity as the guild's president. Major Church recently reported that he had received invaluable help in the early stages of the movement from Mr. Ormsby-Gore, now first commissioner of works, and had been much indebted for support outside Parliament to Sir Richard Gregory, the editor of *Nature*, who is the chairman of the guild's council of management.

A draft constitution for the new body had been drawn up with a program of work. The fulfilment of that program would depend on the financial support which it received. It was of the greatest importance that the body should be independent of the government, so that it should have full liberty of criticism. There was some danger that it might be mistakenly regarded as a government body if, as had been suggested, it received the title of the National Science Advisory Council. As the Parliamentary and Public Affairs Committee of the British Science Guild, the name and constitution of the organization would be more accurately suited to its function.

One of the chief duties of the new body will be to hold a watching brief, on behalf not merely of the scientific community but also of the nation, whenever governmental and other institutions discuss subjects which affect the national interests. To add impetus to its task, the British Science Guild has committed itself to the production of an ambitious volume, designed to help the British people, including its statesmen, politicians, administrators, financiers and industrialists, to realize the value of the contributions which science has already made to the nation's progress, and the potentialities of science in the evolution of a better order of society.

"We shall be as much concerned with the education of the scientific community as with that of the body politic," Major Church said. "Governments will ignore scientific workers as long as they themselves remain indifferent to the affairs of state—more indifferent, it appears, than any other section of the community. Yet statecraft is now mainly a question of making humanity fit for science, or at least of

modifying the political and economic systems of the world to enable its inhabitants to enjoy the fruits of scientific endeavor."

## THE POLAR YEAR

A DISPATCH from the United Press, dated from Paris on October 2, reports that the first news has been received from the French "Polar Year" scientific mission of fifteen men stationed at Paul Doumer, Rosenvinges, on Scoresby Sound, Greenland.

The expedition will remain at the station until the ice breaks up in August, when Dr. Charcot expects to lead an expedition of two ships which will bring the party out. The government has agreed to leave the camp standing after that as a base for further missions.

The mission reported that an unusually severe winter began in September, two weeks ahead of time. Gales are blowing over Greenland and the temperature is below zero both day and night. In the camp, hastily built after landing on July 27, the men are living as comfortably as possible. They listen in, during their leisure time, to American and European radio broadcasts.

The station was completely installed by August 10 and methodic scientific observations were started on September 1. These observations include precise measurements of magnetic and electric fields, the conductibility and ionization of the atmosphere, aerological soundings, the study of atmospheric and oceanic phenomena, hydrographic and atmospheric currents and biology and geology in general.

The observations are expected to result in a great advance in knowledge of the source of North Atlantic storms, and are being made preliminary to the establishment of a string of meteorological stations which will ultimately furnish transatlantic airmen with precise information and storm warnings.

The mission reported that the sound was open to ships for less than thirteen days this year, and that soon after the polar exploration ship of Dr. Charcot and the French naval ice-crusher *Pollux* left, having landed the mission's 300 tons of equipment, the sound froze over again.

The expedition is under the command of Naval Lieutenant Habert and includes three officers, eight sailors, a doctor and two representatives of the Ministry of Public Instruction.

## EUROPEAN TRIP OF ENTOMOLOGISTS

A FIFTEEN weeks' trip of unusual interest ended on September 26, when the S. S. *Minnetonka* docked at New York. Planned primarily for American entomologists wishing to attend the Fifth International Congress of Entomology in Paris during July, it afforded exceptional opportunities for scientific collecting and for sightseeing, both before and after the congress. The itinerary was planned by a joint committee of the Entomological Society of America and the American Association of Economic Entomologists, of which Dr. O. A. Johannsen, of Cornell University, was chairman, and by Dr. J. Chester Bradley, of the same institution, who acted as personal conductor of Group A. Those starting early in June were able to visit northern Germany, Denmark, Sweden and Norway before the arrival in France of Group B, led by Dr. P. W. Claassen, of Ithaca, New York. Together the groups proceeded through the Netherlands and Belgium, reaching Paris in time for the meetings of the Centennial of the French Entomological Society, and remaining through the session of the congress which immediately followed. After leaving Paris an auto trip was made through the Pyrenees mountains and across southern France to the foot of Mont Blanc, and still later Group A traveled through Italy, the Tyrol and Germany. Of especial interest to members of the party were the Agricultural Experiment Station and Museum of Folk History at Lyngby; the botanical gardens at Lund and Uppsala; the summer home of Linnaeus at Hammarby; Lake Tornetrask, near Abisko, where considerable collecting was done; the land of the midnight sun, including a cruise along the Norwegian coast from Narvik to the North Cape; the zoological gardens at Copenhagen, Hamburg, Dresden and Berlin; the islands of Volendam and Marken in the Zuider Zee; the prehistoric cave of Nieaux in the foothills of the Pyrenees, where engravings and paintings of bison, wild boar and goats were seen; the medieval walled towns of Foix, Carcassone and Avignon; the home of Jean Henri Fabre at Serignan; the source of the Rhone River at Gletsch; the journey by train and teleferique to the summit of the Zugspitze at Eibsee; the ruins of the ancient Greek temples at Paestum and the ascent of Vesuvius to the rim of its newest crater. Before sailing from Southampton members of the party visited the Rothamsted Experimental Station at Harpenden, the Zoological Museum at Tring and Oxford University.

## ENTOMOLOGICAL WORK OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT RIVERSIDE AND LOS ANGELES

THE first meeting of the year of the Southern California Entomological Club was held at Riverside on September 16. Following the reading of papers an inspection was made of the new entomology building (briefly described in SCIENCE, Vol. 76, p. 290) and the new insectary which was completed last year.

This insectary is unique in that it consists of twenty