

SUMMARY

Since the majority of patients with rheumatoid arthritis show a slower fall in the blood sugar level after the intravenous injection of glucose than do the normal controls, the alteration cannot be explained on the basis of gastrointestinal dysfunction.

Differences in the renal threshold of glucose do not explain the altered glucose tolerance, since approximately the same amount of glucose is lost in the urine in both groups.

Blood samples taken at 3 and 5 minutes following the injection of the glucose showed the height of the blood sugar level to be approximately the same in the patients with rheumatoid arthritis and in normals. The slower fall in the blood sugar level of the former is therefore not a simple function of a greater rise following the intravenous administration of the glucose.

Although the patients with severe poliomyelitis had as much or more atrophy than the rheumatoid arthritic patients, there was no delay in rate of fall of the

blood sugar level after the intravenous administration of glucose.

In view of the fact that the hepatic homeostatic control regulates the blood sugar level, faulty utilization of glucose by extrahepatic tissues cannot be considered the primary factor responsible for the alteration of the glucose tolerance.

The altered glucose tolerance in rheumatoid arthritis is explainable on the basis of an altered threshold of the hepatic homeostatic control of the blood sugar. Additional studies must be done to determine whether this derangement emanates directly from extrahepatic influences.

References

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News and Notes

About People

George A. Ellinger and *Harold E. Cleaves* have been appointed chiefs of the Optical Metallurgy Section and the Chemical Metallurgy Section, respectively, at the National Bureau of Standards.

Justin M. Andrews was recently commissioned as senior scientist (R) with the U. S. Public Health Service. He has assumed the position as deputy officer in charge of the Communicable Disease Center, Atlanta, Georgia. During the war, Dr. Andrews served as a colonel in the Sanitary Corps, AUS.

Carl A. Kuether, Western Reserve University, has recently been made professor of biochemistry at the new School of Medicine, University of Washington, Seattle.

Norman Kharasch, formerly of Northwestern University, has been appointed assistant professor of chemistry at the University of Southern California.

E. M. Gilbert, professor of botany at the University of Wisconsin, has retired after 36 years of service.

Julius A. Brown, director of the observatory at the American University at Beirut, Syria, from 1909 to 1945, has been named visiting lecturer in physics and astronomy at Colgate University.

Russell B. Stevens, recently on the staff of the Biology Department, University of Louisville, has become associate professor of botany, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, Alabama.

Chalmer L. Cooper, formerly geologist with the Illinois State Geological Survey, has been appointed senior geologist with the U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C., where he is working in the office of the director, coordinating activities of the various branches in the preparation of Survey reports for publication.

George M. Reed, since 1921 curator of plant pathology at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, became curator emeritus on 1 October.

Roy O. Greep, Harvard School of Dental Medicine, Boston, has been appointed associate professor of dental science. The appointment became effective on 15 July.

Paul B. Beeson and *Albert Haymen*, Emory University, have received a grant of \$12,500 from the U. S. Public Health Service for fundamental research in the mechanics and effects of fever.

Stanley A. Cain, professor of botany, University of Tennessee, will join the staff of Cranbrook Institute of Science, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, on 15 October.

Stanley R. Ames, formerly associated with the Department of Biochemistry, University of Wisconsin, has joined the staff of the Biochemistry Department, Research Laboratories, Distillation Products, Inc., Rochester, New York, as an enzymologist.

Evarts A. Graham, head of the Department of Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, will represent surgery at the centennial of the use of ether as an anesthetic by Morton, to be celebrated at Massachusetts General Hospital and the Harvard Medical School on 14-16 October. Among the speakers will be: Raymond Fosdick, president of the Rockefeller Foundation; Henry K. Beecher, professor of anesthesia at Harvard; and Karl T. Compton, president of Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Owen B. Weeks, former research associate at the Franz Theodore Stone Laboratory, Put-in-Bay, Ohio, has been appointed associate professor of bacteriology at North Dakota Agricultural College, Fargo, North Dakota.

John Deal, associate professor of entomology at Pennsylvania State College, has recently been appointed adviser to the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Republic of China. Dr. Deal has already arrived in Nanking.

Elso S. Barghoorn, formerly assistant professor of biology at Amherst College, and field service consultant with the OSRD during the war, has been appointed assistant professor of botany at Harvard University.

Theodore A. Werkenthin, principal materials engineer (civilian) in charge of the Rubber and Plastics Section, Bureau of Ships, Navy Department, has received the Meritorious Civilian Service Award for his World War II work in connection with research and technological problems in the fields of natural rubber, synthetic rubber, and plastic elastomers.

John B. Washko, associate professor and associate agronomist at the University of Tennessee, has been appointed to a similar position at Pennsylvania State College.

M. Rocha e Silva, director of the Pharmacological Laboratory, Instituto Biologico of São Paulo, Brazil, has been visiting Chicago medical institutions on his way to the University of London, where he will spend a year as a British Council Fellow.

Frederick Betz, Jr., formerly of the U. S. Geological Survey, has been appointed assistant professor of geology at Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

W. F. Hewitt, Jr., has resigned as chairman of the

Department of Physiology, College of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons, Los Angeles, and has joined the staff of the Research Department of Smith, Kline & French Laboratories, Philadelphia.

Gordon B. Mainland, assistant professor of biology, Illinois Institute of Technology, became visiting assistant professor of zoology at the University of Hawaii beginning on 1 September.

Arthur W. Melton has been appointed professor of psychology at The Ohio State University. Dr. Melton, formerly head of the Department of Psychology at the University of Missouri, served during the war as chief of the Department of Psychology, School of Aviation Medicine, Randolph Field, Texas.

Edward P. Claus has returned to the School of Pharmacy, University of Pittsburgh, as professor of pharmacognosy. During the past year he has been associated with the College of Pharmacy and the Allergy Unit, College of Medicine, University of Illinois.

E. V. Cowdry, head of the Department of Anatomy, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, has been appointed a member of the Board of Directors of the American Cancer Society, the American Association of Cancer Research, and the National Cancer Foundation.

L. W. R. Jackson has been appointed professor of silviculture in the George Peabody School of Forestry, University of Georgia. Dr. Jackson, whose appointment became effective on 1 September, will teach the undergraduate and graduate courses in silviculture and direct graduate work in forestry. His own research will be devoted to a study of the forest floor and particularly of mycorrhizae.

Clarence F. Hiskey, former laboratory director for the 43rd Army Chemical Laboratory Company in Hawaii, has joined the staff of the Department of Chemistry, Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn. He will teach courses in analytical chemistry and develop a program of fundamental research in this field.

Fred F. Flanders, chief chemist in charge of the Massachusetts Purchasing Bureau Laboratory, retired in September after serving in the Laboratory for 24 years.

George H. Schneller recently joined the Research Laboratories of The Wm. S. Merrell Company as chief of the Pharmaceutical Division.

M. L. Thompson has joined the staff of the Department of Geology, University of Wisconsin. Prof. Thompson was formerly on the staff of the Department of Geology, University of Kansas, was a member of the staff of the Kansas Geological Survey, and has

been a consultant for oil companies operating in the Gulf Coastal Plain and Rocky Mountain states. In addition to instructing in petroleum geology he will be in charge of instruction in invertebrate paleontology and micropaleontology.

Frank M. Semans, consulting entomologist and formerly head of the Biology Department, Youngstown College, has been appointed associate professor of biology at Hiram College, Hiram, Ohio.

Wojciech Swietoslowski, consulting fellow at the Mellon Institute, gave a farewell lecture at the Stephen Foster Memorial, Pittsburgh, on 9 October. His subject was "Phase Rule and Gravity." Dr. Swietoslowski, who had been Minister of Education in the Polish Cabinet before the invasion of Poland, came to the United States in 1939 to become a visiting professor of chemistry at the University of Pittsburgh. He will return to Poland on 24 October, as he considers it the duty of Polish scientists to replace those lost in the war.

K. K. Kimura has been named Roche Fellow in Pharmacology and Therapeutics at the University of Illinois College of Medicine for the academic year 1946-47. This fellowship has been endowed for a two-year period by the Roche Anniversary Foundation, Nutley, New Jersey, to provide better and more extensive graduate training in pharmacology.

Dorothy Wolff, Lempert Institute of Otolaryngology, New York City, was the guest lecturer of the otorhinolaryngologists of three countries in South America during the month of August. She lectured in Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Santiago, and Valparaiso on the histopathology of the ear.

M. E. Fine, *F. J. Schnettler*, and *P. P. R. Debye* have become members of the technical staff of the Chemical Laboratories, Bell Telephone Laboratories, Murray Hill, New Jersey. Dr. Fine and Mr. Schnettler were formerly with the Manhattan District Project at Los Alamos, New Mexico.

Announcements

The old house in Craven Street, London, which was the home of Benjamin Franklin between 1757 and 1775 has been occupied by the British Society for International Understanding. Through official cooperation, the Society is now engaged in restoring the house as nearly as possible to its original condition. It suffered some superficial damage during the war but the basic structure and panelling remain intact.

The Society is making an appeal for funds to complete restoration of the house and will accept gifts or loans of suitable furniture and pictures as well as contributions. Of special interest to the Society, and to United States readers, is the need for prints or

engravings of Benjamin Franklin or of Philadelphia of colonial times which the owners might care to lend or donate. Donors are requested to correspond with either Lord Clarendon, Treasurer, or Mr. G. M. Young, Chairman, British Society for International Understanding, 36 Craven Street, London, W.C. 2.

The sixth annual search for science talent among a million high school seniors of the United States began the last week in September, according to Watson Davis, director of Science Clubs of America, which conducts the competition. Announcements of the sixth contest with entry blanks and full information are being sent to principals of 27,000 public, private, and denominational secondary schools.

It is expected that 3,500 students will complete the qualifying requirements. From these, 40 finalists will be selected. Next March these young scientists will attend a five-day Science Talent Institute in Washington, D. C., and compete for top honors in the Search. Two four-year Westinghouse Science Grand Scholarships of \$2,400 each will be awarded to the outstanding boy and girl, and eight four-year Westinghouse Science Scholarships of \$400 each will be awarded during the Institute after final tests and interviews by the Board of Judges. An additional \$3,000 in scholarships may be granted at the discretion of the Judges.

Since the Search was inaugurated in 1942, 15,000 high school seniors, about one-fourth of them girls, have completed entry requirements. Fifteen hundred have been given recognition as "potential scientists," with the top 200 of them, 147 boys and 53 girls, being awarded \$55,000 in scholarships from the Westinghouse Foundation, sponsor of the Talent Search. Of these, 106 are currently enrolled in 57 colleges and universities, many of them already on a graduate level. The scholarships of the 73 in military service are being held for them pending their discharge.

A special fall exhibit of common local weeds is on display until 31 October in the auditorium of the Chicago Academy of Sciences in Lincoln Park. The exhibit, which consists of about 200 of the most common local weeds, grouped by families, was selected and arranged by Anna Pederson Kummer from her unusually complete and attractive collection of mounted weed specimens. Mrs. Kummer is honorary curator of botany at the Academy and a teacher of botany at Waller High School.

The appointment of 111 civilian medical consultants has increased the number serving under the Secretary of War through The Surgeon General to 200, according to a recent announcement by the War Department. Of the 111 new appointments, 62 are surgeons, 29 are physicians, and 20 are neuropsychiatrists.

The Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania opened its 97th session on 11 September at the Mary Dern Goodrich Auditorium at the College. Louise Pearce, associate member of the Rockefeller Foundation and president of the College, made the principal address on this occasion. There are 47 students in the new first-year class, and the total enrollment for the current college session is 152.

The Pacific Science Conference, called by the National Research Council from 6-8 June in Washington, was attended by 91 American scientists. Six came from Honolulu, 12 from the West Coast, and the entire group represented over 50 different universities, museums, and research institutions in various parts of the country. The Conference was also attended by some 75 liaison members who were appointed representatives from government departments and agencies concerned with Pacific matters. There were also official representatives from certain other American research councils.

During the opening session of the three-day Conference the official representatives of the State, War, Navy, Interior, Agriculture, and Commerce Departments and other government agencies stated their interest in the Pacific and the extent of their probable participation in future scientific activities in that area.

The conference then was divided into six divisional groups to discuss proposals in the following fields: the anthropological sciences, the earth sciences, oceanography and meteorology, the plant sciences, public health and medicine, and the zoological sciences. As a result of these divisional meetings specific recommendations were made for a program of future research.

At one session of the entire Conference general recommendations with regard to such matters as the establishment of scientific field stations at strategic points, the use of specially equipped vessels in oceanographic research, the declassification of scientific wartime reports, and the study of hidden natural resources of the sea, especially fish, were unanimously adopted. There were also recommendations pertaining to international cooperation, including such subjects as collaboration with the United Nations, the preparation of regional floras, the rehabilitation of war-devastated scientific libraries and collections, and the establishment of scientific research stations in such places as the Galapagos Islands, New Caledonia, Hollandia, and the Philippines.

The Conference also specifically recommended to the Research Council the establishment of a Pacific Science Board to advise and assist all American scientists interested in the Pacific.

The closing session of the Conference consisted of a round-table discussion of the implementation of some of the recommendations of the Conference. Liaison members from government agencies, foundation representatives, and various scientists made suggestions as to ways and means of actualizing the proposals in the official recommendations. Throughout the Conference there was a general sense of the importance of the Pacific and the future role to be played by American science in that area.

A complete report of the statements by the chairman of the National Research Council and government liaison representatives at the opening session, as well as the discussion at the closing or implementation session, and the complete and final recommendations of the Conference to the National Research Council are contained in the *Proceedings of the Pacific Science Conference* (Bull. 114, 1946. Pp. 79. \$50), which may be obtained from the Publications Office, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington 25, D. C.—*Harold J. Coolidge* (Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University).

The Sixth International Congress for Applied Mechanics met at the Sorbonne in Paris, France, on 22-29 September, immediately following the International Technical Congress on 16-21 September. Clarence E. Davies, secretary of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, arranged for American participation in both meetings. About 25 papers were presented by Americans, many of the authors attending in person.

The American committee, under the chairmanship of Dr. Davis, included: Thomas B. Drew, Columbia University (chemical engineers); Everett S. Lee, General Electric Company (electrical engineers); Vern O. Knudson, University of California (physicists); J. L. Synge, The Ohio State University (mathematics society); F. B. Farquharson, University of Washington (civil engineers); H. Poritsky, General Electric Company, and J. P. den Hartog, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (mechanical engineers); Elmer A. Sperry, Jr., Sperry Products, Inc. (aeronautical sciences); H. C. Dickenson, National Bureau of Standards, and Stephen J. Zand, Sperry Gyroscope (automotive engineers).

The Association of American State Geologists celebrated its 40th anniversary with a conference and field session held in the Black Hills of South Dakota during the last week in August. Arthur Bevan, of Virginia, was appointed chairman of the committee for the occasion, and Edgar P. Rothrock, South Dakota, and Horace D. Thomas, Wyoming, had general charge, planning the itineraries and lecturing on geology. Four days were spent in intensive field trips

covering the major geological features of the region in two states. Some 20 states were represented, while guests included members of the geologists' families and staffs, together with invited lecturers.

The production of electrical power from nuclear energy may become an important factor in the operation of public utilities, Harry A. Winne, vice-president of General Electric Company, Schenectady, reported to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers at the luncheon session of its fall meeting in Boston on 3 October. However, such industrial use of nuclear energy will come gradually, possibly in 20 or 30 years, and will "supplement and complement our present power sources, not replace them," he said.

Speaking on "Power—Where Do We Go From Here?" Mr. Winne stated that other possibilities for the utilities industry will be even higher steam pressures and temperatures than those now in use; further developments in the mercury vapor process; and the use of the stationary gas turbine. Reviewing the tremendous advances made in the generation of power from fuel, particularly that for public utilities, he traced the increased efficiency and decreased coal consumption through the use of higher steam pressures and temperatures. "We are urging our metallurgists to find materials suitable for continuous operation at 1,200° F. and higher; we are asking our designers to produce machines to operate at these temperatures and still have the almost perfect reliability demanded by all utilities."

"Nuclear energy is essentially a source of heat," he said. "We can foresee no way of converting it directly into usable electrical power in significant quantities. So, we may look for the atomic power plant of the future to consist of the nuclear reactor, or so-called "pile," in which heat will be generated by fission and transferred through suitable means, probably with an intermediate transfer, to some more or less conventional power-generating unit, such as a steam turbine, a gas turbine, or a unit utilizing the vapor of mercury or some other substance. As many of you know, such a plant is already being engineered at Clinton Laboratories, Oak Ridge, Tennessee (see *Science*, 1946, 103, 532). But this is simply a pilot plant, a developmental installation, really practically a laboratory experiment. Many, many technical problems remain to be solved, but I feel sure they can be, and will be solved.

"Personally, I believe that in the course of time, production of electrical power from atomic energy will become an important factor. But in my estimation that time is considerably more than 10 years away—quite possibly two or three decades. And the introduction of atomic power into our economy will, I be-

lieve, be very gradual and not at all upsetting to our present utility industry. I look for atomic energy to supplement and complement our present power sources—not to replace them."

The College of Engineering, University of Denver, has announced the following appointments to its staff: John W. Greene, formerly at the Mellon Institute and at Kansas State College, head of the Department of Chemical Engineering; James R. Macdonald, formerly of the University of West Virginia, associate professor in the same Department; Martin P. Capp, formerly at the Colorado School of Mines, head of the Department of Civil Engineering; Benjamin A. Fisher, formerly at Oklahoma A and M College, professor of electrical engineering; and Frederic S. Fry, formerly with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and the Bureau of Reclamation, assistant professor of mechanical engineering.

A broadened agricultural research program has been authorized under the Flannagan-Hope Act, signed on 14 August by the President, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture. A total of \$9,500,000 has been authorized to be appropriated in the 1947 fiscal year for agricultural research and marketing services with special emphasis on utilization of farm products, and the marketing and transportation of farm products and cooperative production research. The principal objective of the legislation is to give agriculture parity with industry in the field of research.

A feature of the legislation is its emphasis on research and services to improve the marketing, handling, storage, processing, transportation, and distribution of agricultural products. Permitted fields of research include improved methods of production, problems of human nutrition, discovery of new and useful crops, expanded uses for farm products, and conservation and development of land, forest, and water resources for agricultural purposes.

A major share of the expanded research work will be done by State agricultural experiment stations as provided in the Bankhead-Jones Act. The new measure gives a formula for dividing the annual appropriation among states, territories, and Puerto Rico.

The Dohme Lectures are to be given by N. Hamilton Fairley, Wellcome professor of tropical medicine, University of London, at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland, on 20–22 November. Dr. Fairley's subject will be "Chemotherapy of Malaria."

The Brooklyn Botanic Garden announces the following appointments, which became effective on 1

October: L. M. Black, formerly of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, Princeton, New Jersey, will succeed George M. Reed (retired) as curator of plant pathology. A. Gawadi, formerly associate professor of botany at Alexandria University, Egypt, has been awarded a fellowship at the Garden for research studies on growth. The latter is a graduate of the University of Cairo and received his doctorate from the Botany School, Cambridge University, England.

Meetings

The Animal Vitamin Research Council will hold its annual meeting at the Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C., on 17 October. The Council was organized in 1940 for the purpose of stimulating research and promoting collaborative studies of vitamin assay methods. Harry W. Titus is chairman of the Council; A. Black, treasurer; and Bernard L. Oser, secretary.

The 38th Annual Meeting of the American Phytopathological Society will be held at the Netherland Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati, Ohio, on 28–30 December 1946.

The American Association of Petroleum Geologists will hold its midyear meeting in Biloxi, Mississippi, on 24–25 October, with headquarters at the Buena Vista Hotel. Morning and afternoon technical sessions will be devoted to the presentation of papers discussing the stratigraphy and geology of southeastern United States and the geology of typical oil fields in the area.

Elections

The Pittsburgh Geological Society at its recent meeting elected the following officers for 1946–47: Hugh R. Brankstone, Gulf Oil Corporation, president; Shailer S. Philbrick, vice-president; W. B. Robinson, secretary; C. H. Feldmiller, treasurer; and Geo. C. Grow, Jr., Raymond E. Birch, Daniel A. Busch, Richard M. Foose, John T. Gale, J. LeRoy Kay, and James H. C. Martens, councillors.

At the meeting of the American Board of Pathology, held on 5 July, A. H. Sanford, Frank Hartman, Frederick Lamb, and J. J. Moore retired after 12 years service on the Board, which includes Shields Warren, N. C. Foot, R. P. Custer, William Sunderman, Paul Cannon, James McNaught, and Robert A. Moore. New members of the Board are Joseph A. Kasper, James Kernohan, and Edwin Schultz. The following officers were elected for the coming year: N. C. Foot, president; William Sunderman, vice-president; and Robert A. Moore, secretary-treasurer.

The next examination will probably be held in

Philadelphia about 1 June 1947. All inquiries should be sent to Dr. Robert A. Moore, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis 10, Missouri.

A. T. Poffenberger, professor of psychology at Columbia University, was elected chairman of the Social Science Research Council on 12 September.

The Louisville Physics Society ended its first year with a dinner meeting on 6 June at which D. M. Bennett, retiring president, spoke on "The Future of Physics." At this meeting Peter L. Vissat was installed as president, and H. T. Smyth, as secretary-treasurer.

The American Association for the Study of Sterility recently elected Walter W. Williams, Springfield, Massachusetts, as president, and John O. Haman, San Francisco, as secretary-treasurer. Honorary members elected were: Carl G. Hartman, University of Illinois; George Papanicolaou, Cornell University; and Lane-Roberts, England.

The American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists held its first postwar meeting in Pittsburgh on 16–18 April. Officers elected for 1946–47 are: John Treadwell Nichols, American Museum of Natural History, and Helen T. Gaige, University of Michigan, honorary presidents; Carl L. Hubbs, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, president; Roger Conant, Philadelphia Zoological Garden, Milton B. Trautman, Franz Theodore Stone Laboratory, and Arnold B. Grobman, University of Florida, vice-presidents; Arthur W. Henn, Carnegie Museum, treasurer; M. Graham Netting, Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, secretary; Helen T. Gaige, editor-in-chief; Reeve M. Bailey and Norman Hartweg, University of Michigan, managing editors; Lionel A. Walford, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D. C., ichthyological editor; Karl P. Schmidt, Chicago Natural History Museum, herpetological editor; and Walter L. Necker, 6843 Hobart Avenue, Chicago, historian.

At the Ninth Meeting of the Society for Research on Meteorites, held at the Arizona State College, Flagstaff, and Meteorite Crater, Arizona, on 9–10 September, the following members of the Council were elected for the 1946–50 term: Arthur S. King, Mount Wilson Observatory, president; F. R. Moulton, Washington, D. C., Charles P. Olivier, Upper Darby, Pennsylvania, and L. J. Spencer, London, England, vice-presidents; Oscar E. Monnig, 1010 Morningside Drive, Fort Worth, Texas, secretary; L. F. Brady, Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff, treasurer; and Frederick C. Leonard, Los Angeles, editor. The new councillors are: John Davis Buddhue, C. H. Cleminshaw, Lincoln La Paz, Earle G. Linsley,

Howard A. Meyerhoff, Stuart H. Perry, J. Hugh Pruett, and Fred L. Whipple.

Twenty-four papers were presented at the meeting, at the conclusion of which the name of the Society was officially changed from "The Society for Research on Meteorites" to "The Meteoritical Society."

Recent Deaths

Walter G. Karr, 53, of the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Medicine and director of the research laboratories of Smith, Kline & French, died on 16 September in Newport, Pennsylvania.

Harold John Edward Peake, 78, a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, died at his home in Boxford, England, on 22 September. He was best known to United States readers for two books, *The Bronze Age* and *The Celtic World*, written in collaboration with Prof. H. J. Fleure. Dr. Peake was past-president of the Anthropological Section of the British Association for the Advancement of Science and a former Huxley Memorial Lecturer and Medalist.

August Koch, 72, retired chief horticulturist, Chicago Park District, died in Chicago on 23 September. He was formerly on the staff of the Missouri Botanical Gardens, St. Louis.

Gilbert E. Seil, 57, formerly on the Technologic Committee on Manganese, National Research Council, died in Philadelphia on 11 September.

Zoological Station at Naples

The vicissitudes of the Zoological Station during the last years of the war have been described by Giuseppe Montalenti in *Pubblicazioni della Stazione Zoologica di Napoli* (1946, 20, 75). The transfer of the library to Pontelandolfo (in the province of Benevento) was accomplished in the early summer of 1943, in order to withdraw it from the threat of air raids.

On 4 August 1943 the Dohrn's house in Via Crispi was destroyed by a bomb. After the armistice on 8 September, the Germans took military command of the city of Naples and, 16 days later, ordered the evacuation of the zone of the city in which the Aquarium is located. The Institute was left by the personnel on 25 September; then, the German troops having retired, the Institute was reoccupied by the staff on 30 September and found almost intact, even the boats being undamaged. The lack of electric current for 36 hours and the consequent stoppage of the pumps was not fatal to the majority of the Aquarium animals, only a few being asphyxiated. A Diesel oil motor was put into operation to run the pumps, and the Aquarium was thus saved.

The park, Villa Comunale, in which the Aquarium

is located was then occupied by some units of the American Army. Personal passes were granted to the Zoological Station staff to enable them to reach the Institute. Due to the highly cooperative spirit of the American officers of the occupying units, the life of the laboratory was allowed to continue almost without interference, in the midst of military business. The Allied Military Government granted substantial financial help, anticipating funds on account to the Italian Government, in order to pay salaries and to cover current expenses. The Aquarium was opened to Allied troops as early as 10 December 1943, the income derived therefrom being added to the regular funds. During the first months of 1944 a grant of 1,000 pounds was received from the Royal Society in London.

The Villa was left by the occupying units on 1 May 1944, and the activity of the Station became almost normal under the leadership of the director, Prof. Dohrn (who returned from Sorrento, where he had found accommodation after the loss of his home), assisted by the constant cooperation of the Allied Military Authorities.

The library escaped destruction and heavy losses, although the very front line passed through Pontelandolfo in October 1943. It was taken back to Naples and put in order in the early summer of 1944.

After the liberation of Rome on 4 June 1944, contacts were made with the Italian Ministry of Public Instruction, and the Italian National Research Council. Both bodies helped the Zoological Station very consistently. The latter founded here a Center for Biological Studies, under the directorship of G. Reverberi, for the purpose of granting fellowships to biological students. Later on, Switzerland, Sweden, England, and the United States renewed some of the "working tables" they used to rent before the war, thus starting again the international intercourse which is one of the most outstanding features of the Station.

The activity of the Institute itself, which fortunately came through the war almost intact, is now gradually returning to normal. Although financial problems are still of the utmost gravity because of the currency devaluation and the uncertain economic conditions of the whole world, Dr. Montalenti expresses the hope that in a reasonably short time the Station will fully resume its function in the development of biological sciences, in an atmosphere of peace and international scientific collaboration. He emphasizes the importance of the fact that these old laboratories and the famous library escaped destruction, and considers this a favorable omen for the future of the Institute.—*Camillo Artom* (Wake Forest College, Winston-Salem, North Carolina).