

Speakers at the Banquet

Dean Toumey, Colonel Woolsey, Major Marston, E. C. Hirst and Mr. Rogers, of the Indian Forest Service.

February 23

The undergraduate student of forestry: J. H. BRISCOE, Orono, Maine.

The student of forestry and state service: E. C. HIRST, Concord, N. H.

The student of forestry and research: S. T. DANA, Washington, D. C.

MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL EUGENICS CONGRESS IN NEW YORK CITY

THE National Research Council has appointed a committee on eugenics, under the division of biology and agriculture, consisting of the following members: L. F. Barker, A. G. Bell, E. A. Hooton, Daniel W. LaRue, Stewart Paton, Raymond Pearl, R. M. Yerkes, H. S. Jennings and C. B. Davenport, chairman. The committee met on March 20 and voted to hold the Second International Eugenics Congress in New York City, September 22 to September 28, 1921, inclusive. The invitation of the American Museum of Natural History to hold the meetings of the Congress was gratefully accepted. Dr. Alexander Graham Bell was elected honorary president and Dr. Henry F. Osborn, president. Madison Grant is treasurer and Mrs. Sybil Gotto, secretary of the Eugenics Education Society, in view of her activity in organizing the First Eugenics Congress, was named as honorary secretary of the Second Eugenics Congress. The nucleus of a general committee for the Second International Congress was elected. This general committee is to meet in New York on Saturday, April 10. To this general committee are entrusted the details of organizing the congress, of arranging the program of the meeting, of providing for the entertainment of guests and the raising the necessary funds. The national consultative eugenics bodies in the various allied and associated countries will be informed of the action of the eugenics committee of the National Research Council and invited to send representatives. A general invitation will be sent to universities in

different American countries and in various countries of Europe.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE American Institute of Electrical Engineers will confer the Edison Medal, awarded each year for the most noteworthy advance in electrical engineering, on Mr. William Leroy Emmet, consulting engineer of the General Electric Company, for his work on the electric propulsion of ships.

DR. E. W. BROWN, professor of mathematics in Yale University, received the Bruce Medal of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, at a meeting in San Francisco on March 26.

THE University of Dublin has conferred the degree of doctor of science on Professor R. A. Millikan, of the University of Chicago.

DR. J. M. T. FINNEY, Johns Hopkins University, and Dr. Charles H. Mayo, Rochester, Minn., have been elected honorary fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons. It is hoped that they may be able to attend the meeting of the council in July for the presentation of diplomas.

SIR JAMES DEWAR has been elected a corresponding member of the French Academy of Sciences in the section of general physics in succession to the late Professor P. Blaserna.

PROFESSOR HORACE LAMB, Sir Thomas L. Heath, Professor W. H. Bragg and Dr. Henry Head have been elected honorary fellows of Trinity College, Cambridge.

DR. BRADFORD KNAPP, chief of extension work in the South, States Relations Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, since 1911, has been appointed dean of the college of agriculture, of the University of Arkansas and director of the experimental station, and chief of the department of rural economics. Martin Nelson has been appointed vice-dean and vice-director and chief of the department of agronomy.

DR. J. STANLEY GARDINER, F.R.S., professor of zoology in the University of Cambridge, has, at the request of the deputy minister of fisheries, undertaken temporarily the direction of

the scientific work of the Fisheries Department of the British ministry.

MR. H. F. FISH, formerly in the research department of the Great Western Sugar Co., Denver, Colorado, has been appointed by the board of trustees of the University of Illinois as special research assistant in the joint investigation of the fatigue of metals.

MR. HARVEY BASSLER, who has held a temporary appointment on the U. S. Geological Survey since 1911 while a student at Johns Hopkins University, has joined the permanent staff of the survey as assistant geologist, and has been engaged in field work in the Virgin River Oil Field, Utah.

MR. ALBERT D. BROKAW, formerly associate professor of economic geology and mineralogy at the University of Chicago, has opened a New York office for the practise of his profession as consulting geologist.

MR. PHILIP A. MACY, assistant chemist at the Florida Experiment Station, has accepted a position with the Florida Agricultural Supply Co.

THE following officers and council of the Geological Society, London, have been elected for the ensuing year: *President*, R. D. Oldham; *Vice-presidents*, Professor E. J. Garwood, G. W. Lamplugh, Colonel H. G. Lyons and Professor J. E. Marr; *Secretaries*, Dr. H. H. Thomas and Dr. H. Lapworth; *Foreign Secretary*, Sir Archibald Geikie; *Treasurer*, Dr. J. V. Elsdon; *other Members of Council*, Dr. F. A. Bather, Professor W. S. Boulton, R. G. Carruthers, Dr. A. M. Davies, J. F. N. Green, R. S. Herries, J. Allen Howe, Professor O. T. Jones, Professor P. F. Kendall, W. B. R. King, Dr. G. T. Prior, W. C. Smith, Professor H. H. Swinnerton and Professor W. W. Watts.

FRIENDS of Professor Chandler presented in 1910 to Columbia University a sum of money which constitutes the Charles Frederick Chandler Foundation. The income from this fund is used for a lecture by an eminent chemist and to provide a medal to be presented to the lecturer in further recognition of his achievements in science. Previous lecturers on this foundation were L. H. Baeker-

land, Sc.D., and W. F. Hillebrand, Ph.D., The lecturer this year will be Willis Rodney Whitney, director of the Research Laboratory of the General Electric Company, a former president of the American Chemical Society and of the American Electrochemical Society. Dr. Whitney's subject will be "The littlest things of chemistry." His lecture will be in Havemeyer Hall, Columbia University, at 8:15 P.M., on April 27.

DR. D. T. MACDOUGAL, of the Carnegie Desert Laboratory, at Tucson, Arizona, gave a lecture in El Paso on March 10 on "Travels in the Lybian Desert," and on March 12 Dr. A. E. Douglass, of the University of Arizona, Tucson, gave a lecture in Albuquerque, N. M., on "The Big Tree and its Story." These lectures were given in connection with the proposed formation of a Southwestern Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

DR. EDGAR T. WHERRY, of the Bureau of Chemistry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, delivered an address before a joint meeting of the Washington Academy of Sciences and the Chemical Society of Washington on "Soil Reaction and Plant Distribution," on March 25.

At a meeting of the Aeronautical Society of America in conjunction with the American Museum of Natural History on March 25 brief addresses on aerial photography applied to exploration, map making and physical geography were made by Colonel Edgar Russell, U. S. Signal Corps, Sherman M. Fairchild, Carl E. Akeley and representatives of the U. S. Geological Survey.

A MEMORIAL meeting to the late Sir William Osler, regius professor of medicine at Oxford University and for many years professor of medicine at Johns Hopkins University, was held on March 15 in Johns Hopkins University. President Frank J. Goodnow presided and addresses were made by Henry Van Dyke, D.D., and Professor William H. Welch. A correspondent writes: In the *Wiener Klinische Wochenschrift* of February 26, 1920, Dr. K. F. Wenckebach has an admirable obituary of

the late Sir William Osler, in which he emphasizes the genial cosmopolitan spirit of this great physician. It appears that Osler was the first physician to inquire into the rumors concerning the economic condition of the Viennese population after the war and the first to take measures for the relief of the starving Viennese.

DR. JAMES GAYLEY, past president of the Institute of Mining Engineers, has died at the age of sixty-five years.

PROFESSOR ERNEST M. JORDAN, a member of the faculty of the Boston University Medical School since 1913, and a specialist in nervous diseases, died on March 15.

PROFESSOR CHARLES LAPWORTH, for many years professor of geology and physiography in the University of Birmingham, died on March 13 at the age of seventy-seven years.

DR. PIER ANDREA SACCARDO, emeritus professor of botany in the Royal University of Padua, and long director of the Botanical Garden of that city, has died at the age of seventy-five years.

WORD has been received of the death on December 13 last, of Professor Woldemar Voigt, the eminent mathematical physicist of the University of Göttingen, at the age of sixty-nine years. Being a man of broad mind with friends in all the warring countries, he suffered keenly throughout the war and this is said to have aggravated the heart trouble which was the immediate cause of his death. His writings include papers and books in many fields of physics, but chiefly in magneto-optics and crystal physics.

THE Carnegie Corporation has given to the American College of Surgeons \$75,000 to be used for hospital standardization. The present gift is the second which the corporation has made to the college. In 1916 it gave \$30,000, making a total now of \$105,000 for hospital standardization. This amount is supplemented by funds of the college.

THE Institute of Research in Animal Nutrition at Aberdeen has received a gift of £10,000 from Mr. J. Q. Rowett. The amount

required from public sources for the establishment of the institution is £25,000.

THE Biological Laboratory of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences will hold its thirty-first session during July and August. Investigators can find accommodation at any time during the summer. The usual courses are offered in field zoology by Drs. Walter, Kornhauser and Parshley, in comparative anatomy by Dr. Pratt, systematic and field botany by Drs. Harshberger and Stiteler and beginning advanced work under the direction of the various instructors. The Eugenics Record Office, Carnegie Institution of Washington, takes advantage of the arrangements for boarding students at Cold Spring Harbor to give its training course for field workers in eugenics at the same time with the session of the Biological Laboratory (Drs. Davenport and Laughlin.) The announcement for 1920 can be secured by addressing the Biological Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, L. I.

DURING the period of the Christmas meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, an anthropological society was organized in St. Louis, largely under the stimulation of Dr. Aleš Hrdlička who visited the city at that time. The object of the society as stated in the constitution is the promotion of research in all branches of anthropology. The officers are: *president*, Professor R. J. Terry; *vice-president*, Dr. H. M. Whelpley; *secretary-treasurer*, Dr. C. H. Darnforth, *councilors*, Drs. W. W. Graves, Albert Kuntz, R. Walter Mills, Sherwood Moore, Daniel M. Schoemaker and Mr. J. Max Wulfinf. Two regular meetings have been held. At the first Dr. R. Walter Mills presented a paper on "Variation in Physicial Type and Visceral Function," and at the second Dr. H. M. Whelpley spoke on "Notched Indian Hoes, The Most Specialized of Indian Agricultural Implements."

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE Medical College of the state of South Carolina has received an appropriation of

\$71,000 from the state for maintenance, as compared with \$49,500 last year. An additional appropriation of \$60,000 was made for a physiology building and equipment.

THE proposal to admit women to be fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh after examination, on the same conditions and with the same privileges as men, has been accepted.

DR. H. MONMOUTH SMITH, who is at present assistant director of the Carnegie Nutrition Laboratory in Boston, and who was formerly connected with Syracuse University, has been appointed a professor of inorganic chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

PROFESSOR FRANK C. WHITMORE, of the University of Minnesota, has succeeded Professor Harry A. Curtis as professor of organic chemistry in Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.

MR. J. D. BLACK has been appointed professor and chief of the division of agricultural economics at the University of Minnesota, in the place of W. W. Cumberland, whose leave of absence for service in Turkey as financial and economic adviser to the commission to negotiate peace between the Allies and Turkey has been continued for another year.

MR. A. AMOS, of Downing College, has been appointed lecturer in agriculture in Cambridge University.

DR. HUGO FUCHS, professor of anatomy at the University of Königsberg, has been transferred to the University of Göttingen, succeeding Professor Merkel.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE THE ATTAINMENT OF HIGH LEVELS IN THE ATMOSPHERE

IN the March 19, 1920, issue of *SCIENCE* appeared an article by Alexander McAdie, entitled "The Attainment of High Levels in the Atmosphere." As certain incorrect statements which are detrimental to the Curtiss Aeroplane & Motor Corporation appeared therein the following correction is made. No

criticism of Professor McAdie is intended, nor any desire on his part to misstate a fact is in any sense suspected.

Unauthorized statements are made in the press, the results of which are far reaching. One of these is the innocent acceptance of them by Professor McAdie as being correct and the corresponding reappearance of the incorrect values in the above mentioned article.

On September 18, 1919, Roland Rohlfs, the test pilot of the Curtiss Engineering Corporation, made an altitude flight, obeying in every particular the official rules laid down for such contests. It should be stated here that the compliance with these rules is a serious handicap and in justice the same conditions should be observed by all competitors.

The flight was made in a Curtiss triplane fitted with a K-12 motor without supercharger and without the use of special fuel. The result obtained from the barograph chart by the Bureau of Standards after all corrections for instrumental errors had been made was 34,910 feet, this value being, however, uncorrected for the average temperature of the air column. The instrumental corrections to the barograph readings were determined by subjecting the instrument to the same variations of pressure and temperature in the laboratory as those encountered during the actual flight.

The value of 34,910 feet, although uncorrected for air temperatures was homologated, this being strictly according to the 1919 rules and was of interest for comparison with the French altitude flight of Jean Casale made June 14, 1919, which was calculated by the same method.

It is well known that this way of expressing results, that is, without air temperature corrections, is not only unsatisfactory and unfair but also scientifically incorrect and the Curtiss Company has always admitted that the true (tape line) altitude reached by Rohlfs became 32,450 feet when the air temperature correction, also made by the Bureau of Standards, was applied. There is thus a large but proper reduction in the indicated altitude. This correction is the larger the colder the air encountered in the flight.