

student of Moritz Schiff of Florence, Carl Ludwig of Leipzig and Claude Bernard of Paris. In 1878 he was appointed to the chair of physiology at Turin (where he had graduated M.D. eight years previously), which he held until his death from diabetes at the comparatively early age of sixty-four. An indefatigable and original investigator and a popular teacher, his school became a physiological Mecca, where he trained men such as Aducco, Fano, Patrizi, Treves and Herlitzka. Master of a facile pen, among his best-known books are "La paûra" (1884), "La fatica" (1891), "La fisiologia dell'uomo sulle Alpi" (1897), and "Mens sana in corpore sano" (1903). Mosso's name is attached to the 'ergograph' which he invented in 1890 for recording voluntary contraction, and to the Institute Angelo Mosso on the top of Monte Rosa, some 9,000 ft. above sea-level, the scene of some of his most original work. Here he studied the phenomena of respiration at altitudes above the snow-line. His acapnia theory (1897) that mountain-sickness is caused by the increased washing out of carbon dioxide from the blood in the lungs was later corrected by Haldane, Douglas and Barcroft. Mosso's contributions to physiology were characterized by versatility and exceptional technical skill. An apostle of physical exercise, he founded football clubs on English lines.

The Night Sky in June

FULL moon occurs on June 14d. 18h. 42m., U.T., and new moon on June 29d. 04h. 06m. The following conjunctions with the moon take place: June 2d. 00h., Venus 0.2° S.; June 2d. 18h., Saturn 3° S.; June 4d. 19h., Mars 3° S.; June 9d. 03h., Jupiter 4° S.; June 30d. 10h., Saturn 3° S.; June 30d. 23h., Mercury 3° S. In addition to these conjunctions with the moon, the following conjunctions occur: June 12d. 13h., Venus in conjunction with Saturn, Venus 1.7° N.; June 18d. 05h., Mars in conjunction with Regulus, Mars 0.8° N.; June 24d. 01h., Mercury in conjunction with Saturn, Mercury 1.5° N. Occultations of stars brighter than magnitude 6 are as follows, the latitude of Greenwich being assumed: June 13d. 00h. 48.5m., β Scor. (*D*); June 13d. 00h. 49.6m., 56B. Scor. (*D*); June 13d. 01h. 24.9m., β Scor. (*R*). Mercury sets about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours after the sun from the middle to the end of June and can be seen in the western sky after sunset. Venus is conspicuous in the western sky, setting at 22h. 28m. and 22h. 17m., at the beginning and end of the month respectively. The portion of the illuminated disk visible on the earth varies between 0.85 and 0.77 during June 1-30. Mars can be seen before midnight, setting at 0h. 19m., and 22h. 54m. at the beginning and end of the month respectively. The stellar magnitude of the planet varies from 1.5 and 1.7 between the above dates. Jupiter sets at 2h., and 0h. 06m. at the beginning and end of the month respectively and is stationary on June 15. The stellar magnitude of Jupiter is -1.8 throughout the month. Saturn sets nearly 3 hours after the sun on June 1, but after the middle of the month is too close to the sun for good observation. The fact that all five planets are visible at the same time towards the end of the month is worth noticing. An eclipse of the sun, invisible at Greenwich, occurs on June 29, and on June 14 a total eclipse of the moon, partly visible at Greenwich, takes place. The moon leaves the umbra at 20h. 33.6m. and the penumbra at 21h. 45.1m., and as moonrise at Greenwich occurs at 20h. 17m., very little of the eclipse is visible. Summer solstice is on June 21d. 01h.

Announcements

THE Albert Gold Medal of the Royal Society of Arts, which was struck in memory of the Prince Consort in 1864, has been conferred by the Society this year on Sir Alexander Fleming and Sir Howard Florey, as a joint award, for their services in the discovery and development of penicillin.

THE Gold Medal for 1946 of the Society of Antiquaries, given for distinguished services to archaeology, has been awarded to Mr. Edward Thurlow Leeds, recently keeper of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, and known for his work on Anglo-Saxon art and archaeology.

THE Haldane Prize of the Institute of Public Administration has been awarded to Dr. H. E. Martin, a principal medical officer of the Ministry of Pensions.

MR. E. B. WEDMORE, until recently director and secretary of the British Electrical and Allied Industries Research Association, has been elected president of the British Bee-Keepers' Association.

THE following have been elected officers of the Chemical Society for the ensuing year: *President*, Prof. C. N. Hinshelwood; *Treasurer*, Mr. F. P. Dunn; *Honorary Secretaries*, Prof. D. H. Hey, Dr. J. L. Simonsen, Prof. W. Wardlaw.

A JOINT meeting of the Chemical Society and the University of Oxford Alembic Club will be held in the Physical Chemistry Laboratory, University of Oxford, on June 6 at 2 p.m. to discuss "The Chemistry of Anti-Bacterial Substances". A luncheon to precede the meeting is being arranged; those wishing to attend should notify Mr. F. M. Brewer, Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory, South Parks Road, Oxford, not later than May 27.

THE Scottish Council for Health Education is holding three summer schools on the general theme "Healthy Living" this year. There are to be two elementary courses, at the University of St. Andrews during June 29-July 12 and the University of Edinburgh during July 13-27. The third course is intermediate and will be held at the University of St. Andrews during August 3-17. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, Scottish Council for Health Education, 3 Castle Street, Edinburgh 2.

A COURSE on "Relaxation Methods" will be given in the City and Guilds College, Imperial College of Science and Technology, during July 9-August 1, 1946. A fee of £5 will be charged for the four weeks course (five days a week, including practical work). Applications should be sent to D. N. de G. Allen, Imperial College, London, S.W.7, from whom full particulars can be obtained.

THE following appointments have been made in the University of Sheffield: C. V. Jones, to be lecturer in electrical engineering; B. Donovan, to be assistant lecturer in physics; Dr. F. Segrove, to be assistant lecturer in biology; I. S. Maxwell, to be assistant lecturer in geography; B. R. Dudley, to be research assistant to the professor of engineering. Prof. G. A. Clark, professor of physiology, has resigned his chair to accept a post in the Ministry of Health; Lieut.-Colonel R. T. Percival, lecturer in metallurgy, and Mr. G. E. Walker, research assistant in glass technology, have also resigned.