

years. The complete expectation of life at birth for both sexes was 12·24 years in 1902 and 25·64 years in 1918, in other words, the average length of life remaining to each child born alive in 1918 was more than double that of 1902.

### Raymond Sabouraud

THE specialist research worker in a limited field is not usually accorded a large share of public fame, even though his contributions be enlightened and fundamental. Raymond Sabouraud performed a surprising amount of original investigation, at the Pasteur Institute, Paris, into the fungi which cause skin diseases of animals. A paper by Dr. L. Grigoraki (*Mycopathologia*, 2, Fasc. 3, 171-200; March 1940) indicates the historical setting of Sabouraud's activities, and shows how greatly the science of dermatology is indebted to him. Many of the skin diseases are caused by species of fungi belonging to the genus *Trichophyton*. No fewer than twenty-five species of this genus are from Sabouraud's original description, and his studies embraced the disease and its prevention, in addition to the causal parasite; X-ray therapy developed into a cure at his hands, with the help of his associates. Most eloquent of all, however, is the citation of Sabouraud's published works, which occupy twenty-four pages in the paper under review, and provide the only monument which their author appeared to desire.

### Pest Infestation of Produce

THE Secretary of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research announces that H.M. Government has gratefully accepted the offer of the Governing Body of the Imperial College of Science and Technology to place at the Department's disposal for the period of the War all the accommodation of the Biological Field Station at Slough that is required for the purposes of the Department's work on the infestation of produce by insects. The Department has now taken into its own employment the staff of the Imperial College hitherto engaged on the Department's work in this field, and with the consent of the Governing Body of the College has secured the services of Prof. J. W. Munro as consultant. All correspondence intended for the Department on the infestation of produce by insects should be addressed to the Officer-in-Charge, Pest Infestation Laboratory, Biological Field Station, Slough, Bucks.

### Announcements

PROF. W. L. BRAGG will deliver the Norman Lockyer Lecture of the British Association at Hull on June 24.

PROF. S. S. BHATNAGAR, professor of chemistry at the University of Lahore, has been lent for two years to the Government of India as director of scientific and industrial research. Prof. Bhatnagar carried out research work at University College, London, under Prof. F. G. Donnan during the years 1919-21, and obtained the D.Sc. degree of the University of London. Since then he has built up a most successful

school of research at the University of Lahore, and has himself made contributions to magneto-chemistry and other branches of modern physical chemistry, besides doing a great deal of important technical work.

ROBERT D. POTTER, news editor and staff writer in physics and chemistry for Science Service since 1934, has been appointed science editor of the *American Weekly*, a large magazine supplement distributed by many American newspapers in their Sunday editions. Mr. Potter received his B.S. degree from the University of Buffalo in physics in 1927. During 1928-32, he was a graduate assistant in the department of physics at the Washington Square College, New York University, and later became the science editor of the *New York Herald Tribune*.

THE Trustees of the Lady Tata Memorial Fund announce that, on the recommendation of the Scientific Advisory Committee, they have agreed, if circumstances permit, to make the following awards for research in blood diseases, with special reference to leukaemia, in the academic year beginning on October 1, 1940: grants for research expenses to Dr. M. P. J. Guérin (Paris), Prof. K. Jármai (Budapest), Prof. E. L. Opie and Dr. J. Furth (New York), and Dr. A. H. T. Robb-Smith (Oxford); part-time personal grant and grant for research expenses to Dr. Werner Jacobson (Cambridge).

THE Franqui Prize of half a million francs has recently been awarded by the Franqui Foundation Committee to Dr. Pierre Nolf, professor of pathology and therapeutics at Liège and member of the Belgian Royal Academy of Medicine, for his contributions to science. The former Franqui prizemen are Prof. Henri Pirenne, professor at Louvain, Franz Cumont, member of the Royal Academy of Science, and Jacques Errera, professor in the University of Brussels.

DURING 1939, 91 miners were certified to have died of silicosis and 355 certified to have been disabled by the disease in the South Wales coalfield.

A NEW institute for experimental hygiene has recently been founded at Montevideo, and will probably be connected with the Clinic for Infectious Diseases.

ACCORDING to Sir William MacArthur, Director-General of Army Medical Services, in spite of the severe winter there have been relatively few cases of serious illness among the troops and a very light incidence of acute infectious diseases.

THE number of road accidents in the Union of South Africa in 1939 was lower than for 1938 and 1937 despite the increased number of vehicles. The number of people killed was less than in any year since 1935, and in 18 chief towns it was the lowest for five years. The number of accidents was 43,205 in 1939 compared with 43,868 in 1938 and 45,947 in 1937.