

the German charity schools, E. Wolf on Franklin's Stamp Act cartoon, and Prof. C. W. Miller on "Franklin's Type: its Study Past and Present". R. L. Kahn contributes three Franklin-Raspe letters, and C. C. Sellers a note on Jane Mecom's little picture of Franklin. Kahn also writes on Franklin's relations with Grimm and J. H. Landolt, E. Dvoichenko-Markov on those of Franklin with Count M. A. Benyowski, and Prof. A. Pace on "The Franklin-Volta Correspondence: Legend or Fact?". A long article by Prof. G. Chinard deals with "The Apotheosis of Benjamin Franklin, Paris, 1790-91".

Under the title "Panorama of Progress", the Franklin Institute has issued the January number of its *Journal* in honour of Benjamin Franklin. The most important of the international celebrations during the year are outlined by C. L. Jordan, chairman of the Anniversary Committee, and Prof. W. E. Lingelback writes on Franklin and the scientific societies. The remaining papers, which are planned to give a broad picture of the advances made in the physical sciences (pure and applied), in the social sciences and in economics since the birth of Franklin, are as follows: changing concepts in science (Lord Adrian), Franklin and one Plutonic year (Prof. Harlow Shapley), pioneers in electrical communications (E. Perucca and V. Gori), how medicine became a science (Sir Zachary Cope), Franklin and the unconquered fields of medicine (P. Lépine), Franklin's impetus to education (G. P. Harnwell), food and the future (D. P. Cuthbertson), science and agriculture (F. E. Bear), some aspects of Franklin's life in England (E. N. da C. Andrade) and Franklin the business man and apostle of free and competitive economy (M. L. Musante).

Zoological Nomenclature

THE International Commission of Zoological Nomenclature will start voting, as from June 30, on the following cases involving the possible use of its plenary powers: (1) *Bithynia* Leach, 1818 (cl. Gastropoda), validation; (2) *Osmerus* (cl. Pisces) as from Linnaeus, 1758, validation; (3) *Phillipsinella* Novák, 1886 (cl. Trilobita), validation; (4) *Gempylus* Cuvier, 1829, and *serpens* Cuvier, 1829 (*Gempylus*) (cl. Pisces), validation; (5) *Soguenziceratidae* Spath, 1924 (cl. Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea), suppression; (6) *Lepisma* Linn., 1758 (cl. Insecta), gender for; (7) *Pagurus* Fab., 1775, and associated family-group name (cl. Crustacea, Order Decapoda), suppression. Full details have been published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (11, Pts. 9 and 10; December 30, 1955).

In addition, an application is being made (*Bull.*, 9, Pt. 12; January 1956) for the use of the plenary powers in the following case: Curtis, 1837, 2nd ed. of "Guide Arrangement Brit. Ins.", suppression of, for the purpose of selection of type species of genera. Comments should be sent as soon as possible to the secretary to the Commission, Francis Hemming, 28 Park Village East, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1.

British Glaciological Society: Annual General Meeting

THE British Glaciological Society held its annual general meeting on December 8 in Bedford College, London, when a report was given on the Society's activities and its financial position during the past year. On behalf of the Society, Dr. G. C. L. Bertram presented an inscribed silver tray to Mr. Gerald

Seligman in recognition of his long and continuing service to glaciology; Mr. Seligman has been president of the Society since its foundation in 1936 as the Association for the Study of Snow and Ice, and editor of the *Journal of Glaciology*.

A general discussion was held on the "Future Lines of Progress in Glaciology", and a full account will be published in the *Journal of Glaciology* (all contributions should be sent to the Editor, Little Dane, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent). The following were elected officers of the Society for 1956: *President*, G. Seligman; *Vice-Presidents*, J. M. Wordie, W. V. Lewis and K. Sandford; *Secretary for Scotland*, P. D. Baird; *Honorary Treasurer*, G. C. L. Bertram; and *Secretary*, Mrs. H. Richardson (c/o Scott Polar Research Institute, Lensfield Road, Cambridge).

Perkin Centenary Celebration

DURING May 7-10 the centenary of the production by W. H. Perkin of the first synthetic dye will be celebrated in London as follows. On May 7 overseas delegates to the Perkin Centenary Celebration will be received in the City of London at the Hall of the Worshipful Company of Tallow Chandlers. Four lectures will be given at the Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, London, W.1, and the first of these, "The Life and Work of Perkin", by Prof. John Read (University of St. Andrews), will be given in the afternoon of May 8, followed in the evening by a reception to delegates and guests at the Guildhall in the City of London. On the morning of the next day, Mr. Clifford Paine (development director, Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd.) will give the second lecture, his subject being "The Development of the Dyestuffs Industry", and in the afternoon Mr. J. G. Evans (technical director of the Bradford Dyers' Association), speaking on "The Tinctorial Arts To-day", will give the third; the Perkin centenary banquet will be held in the evening, at the Dorchester Hotel, when the president of the Perkin Centenary Celebration, Sir Cyril Hinshelwood (president of the Royal Society), will be in the chair. On May 10 the fourth lecture, "The Development of Organic Chemistry since Perkin's Discovery", will be given by Sir Alexander Todd (University of Cambridge).

Domestic Heating in Great Britain

THE subject of domestic heating in Great Britain, which is of particular interest at the present time in view of the great changes that will be brought about by the forthcoming Clean Air Act and the programme of slum clearance, will be discussed at a conference arranged by the Institute of Fuel, to be held in the Assembly Hall of Church House, Westminster, London, S.W.1, during May 1-2. The first session will deal with fuels, including the possibilities of the production of smokeless fuel from coals hitherto considered unsuitable. The next three sessions will deal, respectively, with the design and application of appliances, the design of dwellings, and the planning and administration of smoke-control areas. The conference will end with a summing-up by a *rapporteur*, followed by open discussion. The sessions will be open to the public without charge. For enrolment as a member of the conference, non-members of the Institute of Fuel will be charged a fee of one guinea (half a guinea for those belonging to various participating bodies). Enrolment forms and further information can be obtained from the Secretary of the Institute of Fuel, 18 Devonshire Street, Portland Place, London, W.1.