

Fourteen Elected to Science Academy

General Science

Fourteen Americans and five foreigners were honored by the National Academy of Sciences at the concluding session of their annual spring meeting, either by election to membership or to the foreign associate-ship.

Prof. Arnold Sommerfeld, famous physicist of Munich, Germany, who attended the scientific sessions of the meeting as a guest, was one of the newly-elected foreign associates. The others included Richard Hertwig, zoologist, also of the University of Munich; C. de la Vallée-Poussin, professor of analytical mechanics at the University of Louvain; Willem de Sitter, of the observatory of Leiden, Holland, and Frederick Orpen Bower, British botanist, formerly Regius Professor of Botany at the University of Glasgow.

The new members of the academy are Dr. Roger Adams, professor of organic chemistry at the University of Illinois; Irving W. Bailey, associate professor of botany, Bussey Institution, Boston; Dr. A. F. Blakeslee, botanist at the Carnegie Institution's station for experimental evolution at Cold Spring Harbor, N. Y.; Dr. James B. Conant, associate professor of chemistry, Harvard University; Dr. Bergen Davis, professor of physics at Columbia University; Dr. C. J. Davisson, physicist at the Bell Telephone Laboratories, New York, whose recent work in proving the wave nature of electrons has been hailed as one of the most important advances in physics; Dr. Joel H. Hildebrand, professor of chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley; William Hovgaard, Danish-born pro-

essor of naval design at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Dr. Albert W. Hull, research physicist at the General Electric Company's Research Laboratory at Schenectady, N. Y.; Frank Leverett, geologist of the U. S. Geological Survey and lecturer in glacial geology at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; Dr. Paul W. Merrill, astronomer at the Mt. Wilson Observatory, Pasadena, Calif.; Dr. David H. Tennent, zoologist at Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania; Dr. George H. Whipple, dean of the School of Medicine and Dentistry and professor of pathology at the University of Rochester, N. Y.; and Dr. Clark Wissler, curator of ethnology at the American Museum of Natural History, New York, and professor of anthropology in the Institute of Psychology at Yale.

Science News-Letter, May 4, 1929

A Close-up of Mars

Astronomy

In one of H. G. Wells' delightful short stories a crystal egg on the earth is so in tune with one on Mars that by looking into the terrestrial one, the scene surrounding the Martian crystal appears. The owner of the crystal identifies the scene as on Mars because of the motions of the two moons which periodically appear.

Some such device would be needed to see the view represented on our cover this week; only the second crystal would have to be on Phobos, Mars' inner moon. Then the planet, only a little over 5,000 miles distant, would appear in the sky as a huge moon, and would undergo phases from new to crescent, then half, then gibbous and finally full, returning to the new phase in the reverse order. As Phobos presumably has no atmosphere, the sky would remain constantly dark, and the sun and stars would be seen at the same time. The sun would appear a little smaller than from the earth, but the groups of stars would bear the same configuration that they have for us.

It is to the artistic ability, aided by the scientific knowledge, of Howard Russell Butler, N. A., that we are indebted for this imaginative view. Our cover is reproduced from one of two views of Mars from Phobos that Mr. Butler has painted, through the courtesy of Dr. Clyde Fisher, curator of astronomy at the American Museum of Natural History.

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