B. Laufer, curator of anthropology, Field Museum, Chicago—*Secretary.*

AWARDS BY THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE

THE Franklin Institute, acting through its Committee on Science and the Arts, has recently awarded medals to the authors of especially meritorious papers that appeared in the Institute's *Journal* during the year 1916. In making these awards, the committee adopted the following resolutions:

That the Howard N. Potts Medal be awarded to Professor Ulric Dahlgren for his paper entitled, "The Production of Light by Animals," appearing in various issues of the 1915 and 1916 *Journal* of The Franklin Institute, forming an original and comprehensive treatise of an extremely interesting and important subject.

That the Edward Longstreth Medal of Merit be awarded to Mr. George A. Rankin for his paper entitled "Portland Cement," appearing in the June, 1916, issue of the *Journal* of The Franklin Institute, a highly important contribution to the theory of cement chemistry.

That Edward Longstreth Medals of Merit be awarded to Professor A. E. Kennelly, Messrs. F. H. Achard and A. S. Dana, for their joint paper entitled "Experimental Researches on the Skin Effect in Steel Rails," appearing in the August, 1916, issue of the *Journal* of The Franklin Institute, containing new and valuable experimental data, heretofore unavailable to the designers of track return systems.

That the Edward Longstreth Medal of Merit be awarded to Mr. John D. Ball for his paper entitled, "Investigation of Magnetic Laws for Steel and Other Materials," appearing in the April, 1916, issue of the *Journal* of The Franklin Institute, containing new and valuable information relating to the magnetic properties of materials used in the magnetic circuits of electrical machinery.

That the Edward Longstreth Medal of Merit be awarded to Professor Dayton C. Miller, for his paper entitled "A 32-Element Harmonic Synthesizer," appearing in the January, 1916, issue, and his paper entitled, "The Henrici Harmonic Analyzer and Devices for extending and facilitating its Use," appearing in the September, 1916, issue of the *Journal* of The Franklin Institute, a comprehensive and lucid discussion of harmonic synthesis and analysis, together with descriptions of perfected apparatus for synthesizing and analyzing functions of one variable expressible by Fourier's equation.

THE AMERICAN CERAMIC SOCIETY AND MILITARY PREPAREDNESS

THE American Ceramic Society at its annual meeting held in New York, March 5 to 8, authorized the formation of a Committee on Military and Economic Preparedness, which has now been organized and has begun its activity. The committee has offered its services to the National Defense Council and the National Research Council.

This society devotes itself to the study of the chemistry and engineering of the silicate industries, embracing the manufacture of clay products, glass, cements and other cognate lines like the manufacture of abrasive wheels, the enameling of metals, etc. It does not deal with the artistic or historical phases as the name alone might lead one to infer. In its membership it has many of the leading specialists in the country, all of whom are eager to serve the country in this crisis. A census has been taken of the membership with a view to showing the number of firms and specialists available in each subdivision of the field, which have military significance.

Up to the present time eight divisions have been created which embrace in their membership leading manufacturers and technical men. The personnel of the committee is as follows:

Edward Orton, Jr., chairman, Ohio State University, Columbus, O.

A. V. Bleininger, vice-chairman, Bureau of Standards, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Divisions and chairmen of sub-committees:

Abrasives: R. C. Purdy, Norton Company, Worcester, Mass.

Chemical Stone Ware: R. H. Minton, Metuchen, N. J.

Enameled Iron and Steel: R. D. Landrum, Harshaw, Fuller & Goodwin Co., Cleveland, O.

Glass for Optical Purposes: C. H. Kerr, American Optical Co., Southbridge, Mass.

Hydraulic Cements: P. H. Bates, Bureau of Standards, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Porcelain, for Electrical Purposes, Spark Plugs, etc.: L. E. Barringer, General Electric Co., Schenectady, N. Y.

Raw Materials for the Ceramic Industries: A. S. Watts, Ohio State University, Columbus, O.

Refractories: A. V. Bleininger, Bureau of Standards, Pittsburgh, Pa.