

vegetable gardening and director of the Market Garden Field Station at Lexington, Mass. He is succeeded by Mr. R. M. Koon, who has been appointed extension professor of vegetable gardening.

DR. T. H. BISSONNETTE, PH.D. (Chicago, '23), has been appointed head of the department of zoology at Coe College.

ROBERT LAIRD BORDEN, former premier of Canada, has been chosen chancellor of Queen's University to succeed N. W. Beatty, president of the Canadian Pacific Railway, who resigned last spring.

M. J. A. SECARD has been appointed to the chair of medical pathology in the University of Paris, and M. G. Guillaumin to the chair of neurology.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

PRIZE ESSAYS OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

A NATIONAL COMMITTEE, with secretary Herbert Hoover as chairman, has been formed to act as judges in the American Chemical Society's Prize Essay Contest.

Dr. J. R. Angell, president of Yale University, and Dr. H. N. MacCracken, president of Vassar College, have accepted membership, representing the nation's educators, while the scientists will be represented by Dr. Robert Andrews Millikan, Dr. J. C. Merriam and Dr. Edgar F. Smith. Dr. Charles H. Mayo, of the Mayo Foundation, at Rochester, Minn., represents the medical profession; Frederick E. Weyerhaeuser, the lumber field, and Julius Rosenwald, of Sears Roebuck and Co., Chicago, the merchants of the country. Prominent women on the committee will be Alice Ames Winter, president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, Ida M. Tarbell and Jane Addams. General J. J. Carty, Senator Arthur Capper, Robert J. Cuddihy, of the *Literary Digest*, George Eastman and Senator James W. Wadsworth, Jr., are also members of the committee.

The prize essay contest, which is the result of a gift of Mr. and Mrs. Francis P. Garvan, of New York, in memory of their daughter Patricia, is being conducted by the American Chemical Society. Every high-school and secondary school student is eligible to participate. Six cash prizes are being offered to the winners in each state and six scholarships to Yale or Vassar will be the awards in the national competition between the state winners. Each contestant may submit one essay not to exceed twenty-five hundred words which must be confined to one of the following six subjects: The relation of chemistry to health and disease, to the enrichment of life, to agriculture and forestry, to national defense, to the home, to the de-

velopment of the industries and resources of your state. The best essay on each of these six subjects in each state will be awarded twenty dollars in gold, and six best essays will be selected by the national committee from among the state winners.

The writers of the winning essays will be awarded four-year scholarships to Yale University or Vassar College, each scholarship to carry with it five hundred dollars a year in cash in addition to tuition fees.

National and state educational officials have endorsed the project and over twenty thousand sets of reference books, including "The Life of Pasteur," "Creative Chemistry," "The Riddle of the Rhine," "Discovery," "The Spirit and Service of Science, and the Future Independence and Progress of American Medicine in the Age of Chemistry," have been donated to schools and libraries all over the country. Booklets and posters describing the contest have been distributed and it is estimated that more than a million essays will be written by high school boys and girls. Through the generosity of the publishers the committee has been enabled to offer sets of the reference books to interested individuals at the actual cost of printing. This was necessitated by the great demand for the books and the fact that the funds of the committee did not permit the free distribution of books to those other than schools and libraries.

Committees similar in form to the national committee are forming in each state and to these state committees will be entrusted the duty of selecting the six best essays written by the boys and girls of their state. These committees will be announced through the committee in charge and through the press.

The competition will close on April 1, 1924, and on that date all competing essays must be in the hands of the designated state authorities.

Booklets describing the contest and sets of reference books at cost, may be had upon application to Alexander Williams, Jr., Secretary, Committee on Prize Essays, American Chemical Society, Munson Building, New York City.

Committee on Prize Essays:

H. E. HOWE, *Chairman*,

W. D. BANCROFT,

CHARLES H. HERTY,

ALEXANDER WILLIAMS, JR., *Secretary*

A NEW PATROL STATION FOR THE SOUTHERN SKY

A NEW astronomical station of the Harvard Observatory, equipped with two photographic telescopes, has been installed on the edge of the nitrate desert of Northern Chile to test the atmospheric conditions in that locality, and to watch and photograph the southern stars that can not be studied at the existing sta-