

The effect of the character of the atmosphere on the ignition of coal dust, Chemical composition.  
 Miscellaneous sources of ignition of coal dust.  
 The obtaining of a measure of fineness of coal dust.  
 The efficacy of devices for arresting an explosion after it has traveled some distance. Rock dust barriers.  
 The behavior of different coal dusts as regards the propagation of flame.  
 Propagation with wetted coal dust.  
 The effect of the mode of deposition of dust on the ease of propagation of flame.  
 Ignition of firedamp by lamp flames. Addition of helium and chlorinated hydrocarbons.  
 The propagation of flame in mixtures of natural gas and air. Field work in large galleries.  
 The propagation of flame in mixtures of natural gas and air. Laboratory work.  
 The effect of partial distillation of coal on its oxidation.  
 Heat production during oxidation.  
 Underground communication.  
 The charge-limit gas-composition curve for explosives.  
 The composition of the products of detonation of explosives.  
 The effect of confinement and the nature of the tamping of the charge-limit of explosives.  
 Cushioned blasting.

#### THE ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE OF THE ENGINEERING FOUNDATION AND EN- GINEERING SOCIETIES LIBRARY

At the meeting of Engineering Foundation in New York on May 19, Mr. W. L. Saunders, president of the United Engineering Society, announced that, in response to a request from Engineering Foundation last December and repeated suggestions from the Founder Societies of Civil, Mining, Mechanical and Electrical Engineers, United Engineering Society had appointed an endowment committee to seek increase of funds for Engineering Foundation and Engineering Societies Library.

The personnel of this committee is made up of nominees of the four societies and other members as follows:

*Ex Officiis:* W. L. Saunders, president, United Engineering Society, *Chairman*; L. B. Stillwell, chairman, Engineering Foundation; Sydney H. Ball, chairman, Library Board.

*Nominees of American Society of Civil Engineers:* Charles F. Loweth, Chicago, chief engineer, Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway; H. deB. Parsons, New York, consulting engineer; Ralph J. Reed, Los Angeles, chief engineer, Union Oil Company.

*Nominees of American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers:* D. W. Brunton, Denver, chairman, Board of Consulting Engineers, Moffatt Tunnel; J. V. N. Dorr, president, The Dorr Company (metallurgical, chemical and sanitary process equipment), New York; Thomas Robins, New York, 1 resident, Robins Conveying Belt Co., member, Naval Consulting Board.

*Nominees of American Society of Mechanical Engineers:* J. W. Lieb, New York, vice-president and general manager, The New York Edison Company; Wynne Meredith, San Francisco, member of firm, Sanderson and Porter; E. A. Simmons, New York, president, Simmons-Boardman Publishing Company.

*Nominees of American Institute of Electrical Engineers:* Calvert Townley, New York, assistant to president, Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company; H. A. Lardner, vice-president, J. G. White Engineering Corporation, New York; E. Wilbur Rice, Jr., Schenectady, honorary chairman, General Electric Company.

*Members-at-large:* Charles F. Rand, New York, past-president, American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers; James H. Perkins, New York, president, The Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, financial adviser and custodian of securities for United Engineering Society; H. Hobart Porter, New York, of Sanderson and Porter, and president, American Water Works and Electric Company.

No hectic "drive" is planned, but an organization is being created to maintain a well-considered and persistent endeavor to get larger financial resources for Engineering Foundation and Engineering Societies Library as their opportunities for service develop.

The committee has had meetings and is studying plans for its work. Further announcements will be made later.

ALFRED D. FLINN,  
*Secretary*

#### NATIONAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS IN THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

THE Board of National Research Fellowships in the Biological Sciences, at its last meeting on May 14 and 15, made the following additional appointments and reappointments for the year 1926-27:

##### REAPPOINTMENTS

L. Joseph Klotz—Botany  
 Helen Redfield—Zoology  
 Lewis E. Wehmeyer—Botany

##### NEW APPOINTMENTS

Theodora Mead Abel—Psychology  
 H. B. Adelmann—Zoology  
 Stuart Carter Dodd—Psychology  
 C. C. Epling—Botany  
 Carroll Lane Fenton—Paleontology  
 Dwight L. Hopkins—Biochemistry  
 Eugene M. Landis—Zoology  
 Margaret R. Murray—Zoology  
 R. H. Seashore—Psychology  
 George Gaylord Simpson—Paleontology  
 E. A. Swenson—Zoology  
 R. C. Travis—Psychology  
 G. C. Vaillant—Anthropology  
 A. M. Wolfson—Botany  
 Karl E. Zener—Psychology

The next meeting of the board for consideration of appointments will be held early in February, 1927. A more detailed announcement will be published in the fall. Applications may be received at any time for future consideration.

FRANK R. LILLIE,  
*Chairman*

BOARD OF NATIONAL RESEARCH  
FELLOWSHIPS IN THE  
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

### THE GOLDEN JUBILEE OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

THE American Chemical Society was founded in 1876. It celebrates its fiftieth anniversary in Philadelphia from September 6 to 11, 1926. It is anticipated that some 3,500 chemists from all parts of the world will be present. The society will meet in eighteen divisional gatherings, as follows:

Agricultural and Food Chemistry  
Biological Chemistry  
Cellulose Chemistry  
Chemical Education  
Dye Chemistry  
Fertilizer Chemistry  
Gas and Fuel Chemistry  
Industrial and Engineering Chemistry  
Leather and Gelatin Chemistry  
Medicinal Products Chemistry  
Organic Chemistry  
Petroleum Chemistry  
Physical and Inorganic Chemistry  
Rubber Chemistry  
Sugar Chemistry  
Water, Sewage and Sanitation Chemistry  
History of Chemistry  
Paint and Varnish Chemistry

Many of the divisions will hold special symposia of papers and addresses of importance from authorities in their respective fields. In addition, there will be two general meetings of the whole society with evening entertainments and gatherings open to all members and visitors.

The American Chemical Society will send no direct invitations or requests for the appointment of special delegates from other organizations. Instead, it publicly invites all non-American chemists to attend and take part in the meeting on the same basis and under the same conditions as members of the society.

The American Chemical Society is expecting many visiting chemists from other countries and will endeavor to see that they are given warm welcome in full fellowship at this gathering. Foreign chemists expecting to attend the meeting should, if possible, send advance information to Charles L. Parsons, Secretary, Mills Building, Washington, D. C., U. S. A.

### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE degree of doctor of science was conferred at the recent commencement of Columbia University on Dr. Walter Sydney Adams and Dr. Max Mason. The recipients were presented by Dr. Michael I. Pupin, professor of electromechanics, and in conferring the degrees President Nicholas Murray Butler said: "Walter Sydney Adams—Born under foreign skies at ancient Athens; graduated from Dartmouth College with the class of 1898; astronomer and interpreter of celestial mechanics; director of the Mount Wilson Observatory at Pasadena; member of the National Academy of Sciences and its Draper medalist, as well as gold medalist of the Royal Astronomical Society, I gladly admit you to the degree of doctor of science in the university. Max Mason—A native of Wisconsin; graduated from its state university with the class of 1898; trained in advanced studies at the University of Göttingen; choosing the meeting point of mathematics and physics as a field of special intellectual interest and investigation and gaining marked achievement in it; called to high administrative office as president of the University of Chicago; member of the National Academy of Sciences, I gladly admit you to the degree of doctor of science in this university."

DR. IGNATZ MOSCICKI, professor of chemistry in the University of Lemberg, became president of Poland on June 5. Dr. Moscicki is reported, in the course of his address, to have said: "I am a new man in all political issues, and I shall have to inform myself before I take a stand on the various problems. I have the habit, as a scientist, and demand exact figures before I make decision, and if I am unable to do so on the moment I will confess it and tell the truth." Later in an interview he said: "I am a scientist but it will not hurt the country that politics is not being made a profession by me. We who serve the state should not be educated as politicians alone, but also as scientists and technicians. I can not divert my interest as a scientist, for the chemical question is one of the most important for my country and I will continue to be an adviser while serving the state loyally to the best of my ability."

PROFESSOR CHARLES SCHUCHERT has been elected an honorary member of the Kaiserliche Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher zu Halle. This society, founded in 1652, now has 550 members, with the paleontologist and geologist Johannes Walther as its president.

DR. B. L. ROBINSON, Asa Gray professor of systematic botany at Harvard University, has been elected a corresponding member of the Botanical Society of