

Medicinal products chemistry, A. W. Dox, Research Laboratories, Parke, Davis & Co., Detroit.

Organic chemistry, Frank C. Whitmore, 1812 Chicago Ave., Evanston, Ill.

Petroleum chemistry, F. W. Padgett, 433 Tahoma Ave., Norman, Okla.

Physical and inorganic chemistry, Victor K. LaMer, 353 Moore Ave., Leonia, N. J.

Rubber chemistry, A. H. Smith, 611 Peoples Savings and Trust Bldg., Akron, Ohio.

Water, sewage, and sanitation chemistry, W. D. Hatfield, 305 Linden Place, Decatur, Ill.

History of chemistry, Tenney L. Davis, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge.

Paint and varnish chemistry, P. E. Marling, Lowe Brothers Co., Dayton, Ohio.

### A GEOLOGICAL EXCURSION IN TEXAS

THE bureau of economic geology of the University of Texas and the West Texas Geological Society sponsored jointly a geological excursion and conference on January 8 and 9, 1927. The party assembled at San Saba on January 7 and disbanded at San Angelo on January 9, having examined selected exposures of formations ranging in age from the Algonkian to the Triassic. One hundred and fifty geologists participated. These were mostly from Texas, although New Mexico, Oklahoma and Louisiana had representatives. Visiting geologists were Professor Charles Schuchert, of Yale University; Dr. Julia Gardner, of the United States Geological Survey, and Dr. Charles N. Gould, state geologist of Oklahoma. Favorable weather enabled the party to make the journey of about 350 miles without delay or mishap. The average number of autos in line was between 50 and 60.

Guides for the party were: J. T. Lonsdale, for the Pre-Cambrian; E. H. Sellards and F. B. Plummer, for the Cambrian, Ordovician, Mississippian and Pennsylvanian; J. W. Beede, for the Permian and Triassic. The principal object of the excursion and conference was to examine typical exposures of formations elsewhere encountered in deep drilling, and to further the correlation of these formations across the southern end of the great salt basin of Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma. This excursion is the first of a series of field conferences planned by these organizations for this purpose. The second excursion of the series will be made February 26 and 27, at which time formations in the Glass Mountains of Texas on the southwest side of the salt basin will be examined.

### AWARD OF PRIZES BY THE SESQUICENTENNIAL EXPOSITION OF PHILADELPHIA

OF the prizes awarded at the recent Sesquicentennial International Exposition, two grand prizes, three medals of honor and nine gold medals, in addition to

a number of lesser awards, were won by the General Electric Company. The grand prizes were awarded for "systems of electric transportation and traffic regulation devices," and the other for "excellence of products and service to humanity." One medal of honor was awarded for "Gas-Electric System of Drives for Busses," one for "G.-E. Mazda Lamps" and one for "Turbine Super-Charger." Gold medals were awarded as follows: For "automatic induction voltage regulator as typical of apparatus of this class made by exhibitor"; for "A-C and D-C Motors"; for direct current generator-marine type—as typical of machines of this class made by exhibitor"; for "electric fans of high quality"; for an "electric mine locomotive fitted with automatic cable reel of high efficiency"; for "emergency automatic throw-over switch mounted on vertical steel panel"; for "motor-generator set typical of machines of this class made by exhibitor," and for "type H transformers."

The exhibit of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey at the Sesquicentennial Exposition won two medals for its excellence. The jury of awards conferred a medal of honor for the exhibit as a whole, and a gold medal for the combined models of the wire-drag and sound ranging apparatus used by the survey in its work of charting the floor of the ocean. In addition to the models shown, the exhibit included various instruments used in survey work, an explanation of the marvelous tide-predicting machine which does the work of sixty mathematicians, an exhibit detailing the steps involved in producing nautical charts, and illustrated slides showing work in progress.

The exposition awarded four gold medals to the U. S. Public Health Service for features of its exhibit at the exposition. The awards were made for (1) an exhibition of machines using chlorine gas in connection with drinking water; (2) for life-like vaccination models showing the types of reaction to small-pox vaccination; (3) for the selection of subjects and neatness of display in a collective health exhibit, and (4) for an exhibit of a modern unit for dental surgery. The material that was on display at the exposition is being arranged for display in one of the service buildings in Washington, D. C.

### SCIENTIFIC LECTURES AT PASADENA

DURING the autumn the program of the Astronomy and Physics Club of Pasadena has included the following speakers and subjects:

October 15—*Methods of studying electrically exploded wires*, Dr. J. A. Anderson.

October 22—*Refinement of the Michelson-Morley experiment*, Dr. Roy J. Kennedy.

October 27—*Electric discharge in rare gases*, Professor Richard Whittington, Cavendish professor of physics, Leeds University.

- November 3—*Turbulent motion in fluids*, Dr. T. von Karman, of Aachen, Germany.  
 November 5—*Heat transfer in moving fluids*, Dr. T. von Karman.  
 November 12—*The stagger-decalage biplane*, A. A. Merrill.  
 November 19—*A compound interferometer for fine structure work*, Dr. W. V. Houston.  
 December 3—*Red stars and their astrophysical significance*, Dr. P. W. Merrill.  
 December 10—*Mira Ceti*, Professor A. H. Joy.

The lectures on evolution, given under the auspices of Sigma Xi, were:

- November 4—*Evolution of life on the earth*, Dr. Chester Stock.  
 November 18—*Evolution of life on the earth*, Dr. Chester Stock.  
 December 2—*Evolution of the birds*, Dr. Loye H. Miller.

CHAS. E. ST. JOHN

#### DINNER IN HONOR OF DR. ERWIN F. SMITH

DR. ERWIN FRANK SMITH, senior pathologist in charge of the pathological laboratory of the Bureau of Plant Industry, a pioneer in the study of the bacterial diseases of plants, was the guest of honor at the annual dinner of the American Phytopathological Society in Philadelphia on December 29. Mrs. Smith shared the honor with him.

In introductory remarks, the president of the society, Dr. I. E. Melhus, professor of plant pathology at Iowa State College, congratulated Dr. Smith upon his extensive contributions to science. Dr. Melhus then called upon Dr. L. R. Jones, chairman of the department of plant pathology of the University of Wisconsin, to speak on Dr. Smith's services to plant pathology. Dr. Jones was followed by Dr. William H. Welch, pathologist of the Johns Hopkins University, who spoke on Dr. Smith's contributions to human and animal pathology. Dr. F. V. Rand, formerly of the Bureau of Plant Industry and now with the publication, *Biological Abstracts*, then, after appropriate remarks, presented to Dr. Smith, in the name of the society, a brochure, in which were engrossed abstracts of the addresses that had just been made, followed by the autographs of the members present.

Dr. Jones said in part:

For leadership in the early study of peach yellows, most stimulating example of dogged work upon a baffling problem, with prophetic assurance that knowledge of tobacco mosaic and aster yellow was pertinent to the solution. For leadership in pioneer studies of bacterial plant pathogens, with classic publications, exacting models for all who followed. For assembled contributions to knowledge of bacteria in relation to disease in plants. For epochal researches in crown-gall. For sympathetic counsel to eager young scientists, from far and near. For

thus exemplifying the Pasteurian characteristics—clear vision, instant action, intuitive judgment, precise method, tireless endeavor, sympathetic patience, self-sacrificing devotion in service through science. For these things we delight to honor you—pioneer, prophet, exemplar, dean of our science.

Dr. Welch said:

I rejoice in this opportunity to speak in behalf of my fellow workers and colleagues and to bear tribute to the importance and significance to human and animal pathology of your studies devoted primarily to plant diseases. No one in our day has done more to bring these two great divisions of pathology into close relation to their mutual advantage. The field which you have cultivated so successfully, and with which your name will always be associated—the relation of parasitic organisms, especially of bacteria, to the diseases of plants—is one of the broadest biological interest. Above all, your studies of tumors of plants, which you have demonstrated to be of bacterial origin, have brought you into the field of ontology in its broadest aspects. Here you take your place in national and international congresses and associations devoted to cancer research or to medicine in general, and here your work is recognized as of the greatest interest and importance. While your name is associated especially with the championship of the parasitic theory of the origin of tumors, your studies of the mechanism of tumor formation, of problems of histogenesis, of formative stimuli and inhibitions of growth, and other kindred subjects, are scarcely of less importance. It would lead far to tell of the whole debt which medicine and pathology owe to you, but I can not forego mentioning the service which you have rendered in making the life and work of Pasteur readily accessible and familiar to students of medicine and the general public.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE gold medal of the Royal Astronomical Society has been awarded to Professor Frank Schlesinger, of Yale University Observatory, for his work on stellar parallax and astronomical photography.

THE Astronomical Society of the Pacific has awarded the Bruce gold medal "for distinguished services to astronomy" to Dr. Herbert Hall Turner, Savilian professor of astronomy at Oxford University. The award was announced at the annual meeting of the society held on January 29. At this meeting Dr. Paul W. Merrill was elected president of the society for the year 1927.

THE Geographical Society of Chicago has awarded its gold medal to Dr. Isaiah Bowman, director of the American Geographical Society, for "eminent service in the promotion of geography in America." Dr. Bowman addressed the society on February 8, on which occasion the medal was presented.

DR. ALBERT F. BLAKESLEE, of the Carnegie Institu-