

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: *President*, Dr. Harlow Shapley, director of the Harvard Observatory; *Vice-president*, Professor Lewis A. Brigham, Boston University; *Secretary*, Mr. Frank S. Hogg, Harvard Observatory; *Treasurer*, Mr. Freeman D. Miller, Winchester; *Councillors*, Mr. Percy Witherell, Jamaica Plain; Mr. Horace Taylor, Cambridge; Mrs. Eleanor Ingelfinger, Swampscott.

### THE RUMFORD FUND

FOR nearly one hundred years the American Academy of Arts and Sciences has maintained a standing committee of seven persons, called the Rumford Committee. This committee receives and deals with applications for grants of money in aid of researches in light and heat, branches of science in which the founder, Benjamin Count Rumford, was particularly interested. Since 1839, the American Academy, through its Rumford Committee, has made 270 grants of this character, in sums between \$25 and \$750, averaging about \$260.

Applications may be accepted from any duly qualified resident of North America or of the American islands. Applications should indicate the nature of the research and the particular aid sought. Grants may be applied to furnishing apparatus which remains the property of the academy, or to the printing and publishing of the results; but are not applicable to assistants. The research subjects within the scope of the fund are light and heat, including X-rays. Applications should be addressed to the Rumford Committee, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Boston.

A. E. KENNELLY,  
*Chairman*

### CONFERRING OF THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL ON MR. EDISON

MR. THOMAS A. EDISON received on October 20 from Mr. Andrew W. Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury, the medal conferred on him by act of the Congress. The address was made by President Coolidge over the radio as given on page 389. In concluding his address in presenting the medal Secretary Mellon said:

It is that genius which has made possible the achievements of Thomas A. Edison. It has set him apart as one of the few men who have changed the current of modern life and set it flowing in new channels. Such men appear only at rare intervals in the world's history. They belong to no nation, for their fame, no less than their achievements, transcends national boundaries. America is proud that she has given such a man to the world and, as an expression of what the nation feels, Congress has directed that a gold medal be struck in commemoration of what Thomas A. Edison has done in il-

luminating the path of progress through the development and application of inventions that have revolutionized civilization in the last century. It is my privilege, Mr. Edison, to present to you this medal as a token of the high esteem and grateful appreciation of your country.

On receiving the medal from Secretary Mellon, Mr. Edison responded as follows:

Mr. President, Mr. Secretary and honored guests—in accepting the medal which has been awarded to me, I do so with a keen appreciation of the great honor that has been conferred on me. To my mind there is a profound significance in this token of the esteem and good-will of my fellow countrymen as expressed by their representatives in Congress. This medal will be a source of pride and veneration to my family as well as to myself and will be preserved in my home with my choicest possessions.

For the occasion the British government returned to Mr. Edison the first talking machine, which was loaned to the British Patent Office Museum forty-five years ago.

The concluding address was made by President John Grier Hibben, president of Princeton University.

### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

A MONUMENT in honor of Joseph Henry was unveiled in Albany on October 18 at the time of the annual convocation of the University of the State of New York. The presentation to the city was made by William Gorham Rice, vice-president of the Albany Institute of History and Art. It was accepted by Mayor John Boyd Thatcher, 2d. Professor Islay F. McCormick, head master of the Albany Academy, spoke in appreciation of the monument having been placed in front of the academy where Henry carried out his experiments on the electromagnet. Dr. John H. Finley, of the New York *Times*, formerly New York State Commissioner of Education, made the principal address.

A DIPLOMA of membership in the Berlin Geographical Society was presented on October 14 to Dr. C. F. Marbut, chief of soil survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture. The presentation was made in Washington by Professor A. Penck, president of the society. Dr. Marbut was elected a corresponding member of the society at its centenary meeting some months ago.

THE Grasselli Medal Committee of the Society of Chemical Industry has voted to award the Grasselli Medal for 1928 to Dr. H. J. Rose for his paper on the "Importance of Coal Preparation in the Manufacture of Gas and Coke." This medal is awarded

for a paper presented before any meeting in which the Society of Chemical Industry has participated in the preceding five years.

MRS. ZELIA NUTTALL has been elected a corresponding member of the Geographical Society of Lima, Peru, in recognition, a correspondent writes, "of her having demonstrated that the inhabitants of tropical America dated the beginning of their solar year from the moment when the sun passed the zenith—which has led to the revival of the observation of this phenomenon as a school festival throughout Mexico and, under the patronage of the Geographical Society of Lima, is also to be instituted as a national festival for children throughout Peru."

DR. LEVADITI, of the Institut Pasteur, Paris, has been elected a member of the Paris Academy of Medicine.

DR. W. F. FOSHAG, of the division of mineralogy of the U. S. National Museum, has been made a corresponding member of the Sociedad Científica "Antonio Alzate" of Mexico.

JOHN HAYS HAMMOND has been elected to honorary membership in the Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, of which he has been a member of long standing and one of the past presidents, not of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, as was erroneously reported in *SCIENCE* last week.

THE "Order of Merit in Culture" has been established in Japan. It will be conferred on "those who distinguish themselves in literary work or art, or who achieve merit in connection with the progress of human culture and social welfare." During the present emperor's coronation ceremony, to be held in November, the decoration will be conferred, for the first time, on Dr. Shiga, the discoverer of the dysentery bacillus, and on Dr. Inada, the discoverer of *Spirochaeta icterohemorrhagica*.

MAJOR LEONARD DARWIN, on his retirement from the presidency of the British Eugenics Society, was presented with his portrait by fellows and members of the society on October 10.

THE retirement of Dr. George M. Kober, after twenty-seven years' service as dean of Georgetown University School of Medicine, Washington, is announced. In accepting his resignation President Nevils tendered Dr. Kober a place on the board of regents of the university and the title of dean emeritus of the medical school.

N. ERNEST DORSEY, associate editor of *The International Critical Tables of Numerical Data*, has been appointed principal consulting scientist (physics) in the Bureau of Standards.

DEAN ALBERT R. MANN, of the New York State College of Agriculture, has been named director of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Ithaca. He will continue to serve as dean of the College of Agriculture.

B. J. HOWARD, microanalyst in the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, has been placed in charge of a micro-analytical laboratory established in the Food, Drug and Insecticide Administration.

AT the Porto Rico Insular Experiment Station Dr. Melville T. Cook, acting director for several months, has been appointed vice-director and editor of the *Journal of the Department of Agriculture*.

HOWARD D. LIGHTBODY, associate professor of physiologic chemistry, Michigan State College of Agriculture, East Lansing, has been appointed director of the John C. Oliver Memorial Research Foundation, recently established at the St. Margaret Memorial Hospital, Pittsburgh.

DR. LINSLEY R. WILLIAMS, who has been managing director of the National Tuberculosis Association since 1922, has resigned, and Dr. Kendall Emerson, of Worcester, Massachusetts, has been appointed as his successor.

DR. ROGER I. LEE, professor of hygiene of Harvard University Medical School, has been made chairman for this year of the committee on public health of the Boston Chamber of Commerce.

DR. LUDWIG STEINER has been appointed director of the Hungarian Institute for Meteorology and Magnetism at Budapest.

DR. WILLIAM H. MCGOVERN, assistant curator of South American ethnology at the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, resigned on October 1.

DR. GREGORY BREIT, mathematical physicist of the department of terrestrial magnetism of the Carnegie Institution, has been assigned to carry out work in atomic physics in various laboratories and universities of Europe for one year, beginning on September 1. During his absence Dr. M. A. Tuve, also of the department of terrestrial magnetism, will carry on the high-potential and conducting-layer experimental work, with the assistance of Dr. R. E. Gaviola and L. R. Hafstad, who have been appointed associate physicist and assistant physicist, respectively, for one year.

DR. CARL A. L. BINGER, associate member of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, has been granted a year's leave of absence for study abroad.

He is at present at the University Medical Clinic in Heidelberg, of which Geheimrat Krehl is the director.

PROFESSOR A. K. LOBECK, of the department of geology of the University of Wisconsin, has returned from a tour abroad, during which he visited thirteen countries.

DR. S. E. LONGWELL, professor of biology in Middlebury College, has recently returned from a sabbatical year which was spent in studying the fauna and flora of Australia, New Zealand and Tasmania.

DR. ALEXANDER VYSSOTSKY, of the Leander McCormick Observatory, is paying a visit of several weeks to the Harvard Observatory. He is engaged in securing with the 24-inch reflector the spectra of faint stars, of which he has measured the proper motions at Leander McCormick. Dr. Leon Hufnagel is spending the next few months in the study of spectrophotometry at the observatory.

A COMMITTEE of ten Americans who, at the invitation of a German committee representing agriculture, industry and finance, were selected to work with a committee of Germans in a study during the summer of 1928 of the marketing of farm products in Germany, particularly dairy products and meats, has now returned to the United States. Dr. George F. Warren, of Cornell University, was chairman of the American commission. The other members were J. Clyde Marquis, of the bureau of agricultural economics, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture; Director F. B. Morrison, of the New York State and Cornell Experiment Stations; Dean and Director H. W. Mumford, of the Illinois University and Station; Dr. F. A. Pearson, H. A. Ross and Otto Rahn, of Cornell University, and G. E. Gray, Dr. N. W. Hepburn and I. C. Weld, representing commercial interests. This survey included a thirty-day trip through the principal agricultural regions of Germany, on which more than 5,000 miles were traveled by rail and automobile. The commission was given a most favorable opportunity to observe conditions at first hand.

DR. GRAHAM LUSK, professor of physiology in the Cornell University Medical College, gave an address on October 12 at the eighty-second anniversary of "Ether Day" at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston.

PROFESSOR E. L. THORNDIKE, of Teachers College, Columbia University, will give twelve lectures on the Messenger Foundation of Cornell University. The subject of his lectures will be "The General Field of Psychology." The Messenger Lectures were established at Cornell University in 1923 as a memorial to the late Hiram J. Messenger.

DR. WILLIAM K. GREGORY, professor of paleontology in Columbia University, will read a paper on "The Upright Posture of Man: its Origin and Evolution," at a meeting of the American Philosophical Society of Philadelphia on November 2, at 8:15 in the evening.

DR. WILLARD ROUSE JILLSON, director and state geologist of the Kentucky Geological Survey, is giving a course of lectures on the "Geology of Kentucky" at the University of Kentucky, Lexington. The lectures will occupy the entire fall semester of 1928 and 1929.

DR. HOWARD C. TAYLOR, president of the American Society for the Control of Cancer; Dr. Burton J. Lee, New York, and Dr. Channing C. Simmons, Boston, were the speakers at a symposium on cancer which was held at Bridgeport, Connecticut, on October 16.

DR. WALTER R. MILES, professor of experimental psychology, Stanford University, will give the first annual series of three Benton W. Colver Lectures under the auspices of the College of Medical Evangelists, Los Angeles, California. The general subject announced is: "The Psycho-biologic Investigation of Drugs"; November 13, "Animal Learning and the Psycho-bioassay of Drugs"; November 14, "Important Drugs Weighed on the Behavior-balance"; November 15, "Dilute Alcoholic Beverages and Human Behavior."

ACCORDING to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association the anniversary of Sir William Osler's birthday was kept in London on July 12, by the Osler Club for the Study of the History of Medicine. Sir Wilmot P. Herringham, delivering the first Oslerian oration, gave a sketch of Osler as clinician, man and bibliophile. Sir Humphry Rolleston spoke of Osler as a human being. This was followed by an Osler symposium, with short papers by Sir Squire Sprigge, Dr. Franklin Martin, Sir Walter Fletcher, Professor Fraser-Harris, Dr. Harold Scott, Dr. Andrew Balfour, Dr. John D. Rolleston and Dr. Ernest Jones. There was an exhibition of a selection of Sir William's writings, scientific and literary, of books inspired by him, of biographic appreciations, and of his favorite books—the *Religio Medici*, *The Anatomy of Melancholy* and *Letters de Gui Patin*.

A STATUE of Louis Pasteur, near the west end of the Field Museum, Chicago, will be dedicated on October 27, at 3 P. M. The French ambassador to the United States will make a brief address and the French Choral Society will sing. In the evening, the Pasteur Memorial Committee will give a banquet at the Drake Hotel in honor of the ambassador. Dr. Frank Billings is chairman of the Memorial Committee.

DR. HARRIS MILLER BENEDICT, professor of botany in the University of Cincinnati, and his daughter, a freshman at the university, were killed in an automobile accident on October 17. Professor Benedict was fifty-five years old. He had been president of the Ohio Academy of Science and was a representative of the American Society of Plant Physiologists on the council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

DR. E. A. SCHWARZ, the well-known beetle specialist of the Bureau of Entomology, who retired several years ago, died on October 15. On the afternoon of the sixteenth a memorial meeting was held in the museum and several of the older entomologists spoke appreciatively of his life and work.

*Nature* reports, on September 27, at the age of eighty-three years, the death of Sir Henry Wickham, who succeeded in obtaining seeds of *Hevea* from the Upper Amazon which were successfully grown at Kew and distributed in the East, thus starting the plantation rubber industry.

DR. ROBERT KNOX, president of the British Röntgen Society, died on September 21 at the age of sixty years.

DR. JEAN BRETHES, entomologist of the Museum of Natural History at Buenos Aires, died on July 2.

THE one hundred and eighty-seventh meeting of the Columbus Section of the American Chemical Society was held in the new chemistry building at the Ohio State University on October 15. The speaker of the evening was Dr. Orland R. Sweeney, head of the department of engineering chemistry at the Iowa State College. His subject was: "The Commercial Utilization of Corn Stalks and Corn Cobs." Dr. Sweeney reviewed the present economic situation in agriculture and told of the research work now in progress to utilize the yearly waste of over a billion tons of crop residues. It was followed by a demonstration of the new Kodacolor process by Mr. Frank Haskett, of the department of architecture of the Ohio State University.

AN intersectional meeting of the Eastern New York, Cornell, Rochester, Western New York and Syracuse Sections of the American Chemical Society was held at Syracuse University on October 19 and 20, at which a symposium was held on the organization of industrial research and a discussion on cellulose. Among those taking part in the symposium were Dr. C. E. Kenneth Mees, of the Eastman Kodak Company; Charles M. A. Stine, of the du Pont Company; Professor John Johnston, of Yale University; Dr. W. R. Whitney, of the General Electric Company, and Thomas Midgley, Jr., of Dayton, Ohio.

A PUBLIC health congress and exhibition to be held in London in November is noted in the *Journal* of the American Medical Association. Addresses will be given by Sir George Newman, chief medical officer of the ministry of health and board of education, on the purpose of the public health services; by Sir Walter Fletcher, secretary of the Medical Research Council; by Mr. E. D. Simon, formerly lord mayor of Manchester, on housing; by Mr. Wilfred Buckley, a member of the milk advisory board, on the production and distribution of wholesome milk, and by Dr. W. M. Willoughby, health officer of the city of London, on food protection from the national and domestic standpoints. Water supply and sewerage, the construction and equipment of hospitals and town cleansing are other subjects to be discussed. The congress will last for a week.

A DINNER of the Engineering Foundation in New York City on October 19 marked the opening of a campaign to collect \$7,000,000 for the work of the institute. Of the total sum to be raised, \$2,000,000 is sought to advance scientific research under the auspices of the foundation and the rest is needed to add to the library of the Engineering Societies Building, at 29 West Thirty-ninth Street. Dr. Charles H. Herty, adviser to the Chemical Foundation, Inc., called for the establishment of a Cellulose Institute to be financed jointly by the lumber, cotton textile and paper institutes. Others who spoke were Marston T. Bogert, professor of chemistry at Columbia University, and Ambrose Swasey, of Cleveland, founder of the Engineering Foundation.

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## UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

A GIFT of \$20,000 as a fund for fellowships or scholarships has been made to the Yale School of Forestry by Mrs. William H. Sage, of Albany, New York. The fund has been given as a memorial to William Henry Sage, a graduate of Yale College in the class of 1865. Before his death Mr. Sage provided a fund of \$300,000 for the erection of a building for the School of Forestry, in memory of his son, DeWitt Linn Sage, Yale, '97.

THE new agricultural hall at Berea College, made possible by a gift of \$45,000 from Dr. and Mrs. Joel E. Goldthwait, of Boston, was dedicated on October 18.

DR. C. T. DOWELL, formerly dean of the school of agriculture of the Oklahoma College and director of the Oklahoma Station, has been appointed dean of