

Award will be the twelve months ending June 30, 1930. All scientific workers, professional and amateur, academic and commercial, are eligible.

The members of the Committee of Award are:

Dr. Charles G. Abbot, secretary, Smithsonian Institution; Professor Collins P. Bliss, director, Popular Science Institute; Dr. Samuel A. Brown, dean, New York University and Bellevue Hospital Medical College; Dr. George K. Burgess, director, United States Bureau of Standards; Dr. William W. Campbell, president, University of California; Dr. Harvey N. Davis, president, Stevens Institute of Technology; Dr. Arthur L. Day, director, Geophysical Laboratory, Carnegie Institution; Dr. E. E. Free, consulting engineer; Travis Hoke, editor, *Popular Science Monthly*; Dr. Frank B. Jewett, vice-president, American Telephone and Telegraph Co.; Dr. Vernon Kellogg, permanent secretary, National Research

Council; Charles F. Kettering, president, General Motors Research Corporation; Dr. Arthur D. Little, president, Arthur D. Little, Inc.; Dr. John C. Merriam, president, Carnegie Institution; Dr. Robert A. Millikan, chairman, executive council, California Institute of Technology; Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn, president, American Museum of Natural History; Dr. Elmer A. Sperry, chairman, board of directors, Sperry Gyroscope Co.; Dr. Samuel W. Stratton, president, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Dr. Elihu Thomson, director, Thomson Laboratory of the General Electric Co., Lynn, Mass.; Dr. Edward R. Weidlein, director, Mellon Institute of Industrial Research; Henry Herman Westinghouse, chairman, board of directors, Westinghouse Airbrake Co.; Dr. Albert E. White, director department of engineering research, University of Michigan; Dr. Willis R. Whitney, director of research, General Electric Co., Schenectady, N. Y., and Orville Wright, co-inventor of the airplane.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. THOMAS HUNT MORGAN, director of the Kerkhoff Laboratories of the Biological Sciences of the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, was elected president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at the close of the Des Moines meeting.

AT the 158th convocation of the University of Chicago, the degree of doctor of science was conferred on three chemists—Professor Moses Gomberg, Professor Gilbert Newton Lewis and Dr. H. A. Spoehr. The candidates were presented by Henry Gordon Gale, dean of the Ogden Graduate School of Science. The citations were as follows: Moses Gomberg, head of the department of chemistry, University of Michigan, “in recognition of his fundamental contributions to chemistry, especially in the discovery of free radicals, and in testimony of his leadership in the field of organic chemistry.” Gilbert Newton Lewis, head of the department of chemistry, University of California, “in recognition of fundamental contributions to chemistry, especially in atomic and molecular structure, and in thermodynamics, and in testimony of his leadership in research in physical chemistry.” Herman Augustus Spoehr, who received a Ph.D. degree from Chicago, and is now assistant director of the Coastal Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, “in recognition of his fundamental contributions in the field of photosynthesis and in testimony of his leadership in the application of chemistry to botanical problems.”

THE Edison medal, awarded by the American Institute of Electrical Engineers for “meritorious achievement in electrical science, electrical engineering or the electrical arts” has been conferred on Dr.

Charles F. Scott, professor of electrical engineering at Yale University, for “his contributions to the science and art of polyphase transmission of electrical energy.”

THE David Livingstone Centenary medal has been awarded by the National Geographic Society to Commander Richard E. Byrd. The Hispanic Society of America founded the decoration in 1913 with the proviso that it could be given only for “exceptionally important achievement in the field of geography of the Southern Hemisphere.” Others who have received the medal include Sir Douglas Mawson, leader of the Australian-Antarctic expedition of 1911–1914; Theodore Roosevelt, for his discovery and exploration of the “River of Doubt,” now known as Rio Roosevelt, and Colonel Rondon, for exploration of the Brazilian interior.

A RECEPTION and dinner dance was given to W. W. Skinner, assistant chief, chemical and technological research, U. S. Department of Agriculture, on December 4 to commemorate the completion of twenty-five years' service. On this occasion a silver token was presented to him by Dr. A. F. Woods, who spoke in appreciation of Dr. Skinner's work for the department. Dr. F. B. Linton presided at the dinner as toastmaster. The speakers were Dr. H. G. Knight, chief of the bureau of chemistry, who spoke of Dr. Skinner as a scientific man and administrator, and Mrs. M. T. Read, who spoke on Dr. Skinner as a man.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM MCPHERSON, dean of the Graduate School of the Ohio State University, became president of the American Chemical Society on January 1 as a result of the society's annual election.

Dr. McPherson will serve during 1930, succeeding Dr. Irving Langmuir, associate director of research of the General Electric Company. Dr. Moses Gomberg, professor of chemistry in the University of Michigan, was chosen president for 1931. In accordance with a recent change in its constitution, the society now elects each year a president and a president-elect, who serve in successive years. Professor James F. Norris, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Charles L. Reese, of the E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company, Wilmington, Delaware, were elected directors for 1930-1932. The following are councilors-at-large: Edward Bartow, professor of chemistry, Iowa State University; Professor S. C. Lind, director of the School of Chemistry, University of Minnesota; Dr. Hugh S. Taylor, professor of physical chemistry, Princeton University, and David Wesson, consulting chemist, of Montclair, New Jersey.

At the thirty-sixth annual meeting of the American Mathematical Society, which opened at Lehigh University on December 26, Professor E. R. Hedrick was reelected president. The vice-presidents are Professor W. C. Graustein, of Harvard University, and Professor E. P. Lane, of the University of Chicago. The meeting next summer will be held at Brown University. The winter meeting will be held at Western Reserve University and the Case School of Applied Science. In the summer of 1931 the society will meet at the University of Minnesota.

DR. FREDERICK C. WAITE, professor of histology and embryology at Western Reserve University, has been elected president of the Ohio Academy of Science for the year 1929-30.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY announces the appointment of Dr. J. von Neumann, of the University of Berlin, and Dr. E. Wigner, of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institut für Physikalische Chemie, as visiting lecturers in mathematical physics for the second term of the present academic year. Dr. von Neumann and Dr. Wigner have both contributed to the development of modern mathematical physics, particularly in the theories of relativity and quantum mechanics, and during the past few years have collaborated in applying these principles to problems of molecular structure.

DR. KO KUEI CHEN, known for his work on ephedrine, has become director of pharmacologic research of Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis.

PER K. FRÖLICH has resigned his position as associate professor in chemical engineering and assistant director of the Research Laboratory of Applied Chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, to join the staff of the Standard Oil Development Company, Elizabeth, N. J., where he will work on special research problems on petroleum.

PROFESSOR ALFRED C. LANE, of Tufts College, and Professor Albert P. Brigham, of Colgate University, have been added to the staff of consultants of the Library of Congress.

DR. T. WAYLAND VAUGHAN, director of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at La Jolla, has been appointed to represent oceanography on the general subcommittee for geology of the Science Advisory Committee for the Chicago World's Fair of 1933.

VICENTE G. LAVA, associate professor of physical chemistry at the University of the Philippines, who has leave of absence, is visiting professor and Grasselli Research fellow at Oberlin College, working in colloid chemistry under Harry N. Holmes.

C. P. BULLER has been appointed first senior observer in the solar physics observatory of the University of Cambridge.

MR. AND MRS. ROBERT T. HATT, of the American Museum of Natural History, have returned from a three months' expedition to Yucatan, where they collected recent mammals and reptiles and excavated fossils in the caves occurring in Yucatan's low mountains.

At the annual meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Dr. Fred R. Low, editor of *Power*; Robert LeRoy Streeter, vice-president of the U. S. Aluminium Company; Harold W. Mowery, safety engineer with the American Abrasive Metals Company, and Edward J. Kearney, secretary and treasurer of the Kearney Trecker Company, were elected chairmen of the four standing technical committees, Power Test Codes, Research, Safety and Standardization, respectively.

A CONFERENCE committee convened on December 12 and December 13, at the Missouri Botanical Garden, for the purpose of discussing methods for making cultures of wood-destroying organisms and specifically to discuss methods for determining toxicity relations of poisonous substances to wood-destroying fungi and type of conclusions which could be drawn after making toxicity determinations. The following were in attendance: Dr. Henry Schmitz, of the University of Minnesota; Mr. J. D. Burnes, of Page and Hill; Mr. Ernest Bateman, senior chemist of the United States Forest Products Laboratory; Dr. Carl Hartley, principal pathologist, and Dr. C. Audrey Richards, pathologist, U. S. Bureau of Plant Industry; Dr. R. H. Colley and Mr. R. E. Waterman, of the Bell Telephone Laboratories; Mr. C. S. Reeve, of the Barrett Company; Mr. S. R. Church, consulting engineer; Mr. E. B. Fuls, vice-president of the American Creosoting Company; Dr. A. L. Kammerer, consulting timber engineer, St. Louis; Dr. David H. Linder, mycologist, and Dr. Hermann von Schrenk, pathologist, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis.

THE ninth series of Beaumont lectures of the Wayne County Medical Society, Detroit, will be given on January 27 and 28 by Dr. Wingate Todd, professor of anatomy in the Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

DR. CLARENCE E. MCCLUNG, professor of zoology and director of the zoological laboratory, University of Pennsylvania, will read a paper on "A Working Model of a Modern University" before the American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, on January 3.

DR. H. H. WHETZEL, head of the department of plant pathology at Cornell University, addressed the instructional staff of the school of agriculture at the Pennsylvania State College on December 17.

DR. N. E. FORSYTHE, of the Nela Park Laboratories of the General Electric Company at Cleveland, Ohio, addressed the Physics Club of Philadelphia on December 13 on the "Physical Production of Ultra-violet Light."

PROFESSOR GARY N. CALKINS spoke before the New York Biology Teachers Association on December 20. He took for his subject "The Nucleus."

DR. C. M. YONGE, director of the Great Barrier Reef Expedition to Australia, recently gave a popular illustrated lecture on the work of the expedition before the Rutgers chapter of Sigma Xi at New Brunswick and before the Biological Seminar of Princeton University.

ON December 14, Dr. A. P. Coleman, professor emeritus of geology at the University of Toronto, delivered a lecture to the Royal Canadian Institute, on the subject, "The Last Million Years."

SIR RICHARD GREGORY, editor of *Nature*, gave an address on "Science and the Empire" at a joint meeting of the Royal Empire Society and the British Association for the Advancement of Science held at the Hotel Victoria on December 3. A brief address was also made by Sir Thomas Holland, president of the British Association.

THE American Association of Petroleum Geologists will hold their fifteenth annual meeting at New Orleans on March 20, 21 and 22, under the presidency of J. Y. Snyder, of Shreveport, Louisiana.

ON January 10 the first Chilean Congress of Pathology will meet in Concepcion with more than 600 delegates in attendance. An exposition of medical and sanitary products, technical books and publications will be held in conjunction with the congress.

A SPECIAL correspondent of the New York *Herald Tribune* reports that closer relations between the United States Department of Public Health and the Mexican Department of Health will be sought at the

seventh Latin-American Medical Congress, to be held in Mexico City from January 12 to 19. Dr. Hugh S. Cumming, of the United States Department of Public Health, is expected to attend. Argentina, Peru, Brazil, Chile, Cuba and San Salvador will send delegates, and all other Spanish-American countries are expected to be represented. The congress in January will be the first held since 1922 in Latin-America. It is expected that President Emilio Portes Gil, of Mexico, will open the convention. In conjunction with the congress the second National Hygiene Convention of Mexico will be held. Also there will be a scientific exposition, in which the School of Medicine of the University of Mexico, the Federal Department of Health, the Public Charities and the Military Medical School will take part.

THE Commonwealth Fund has made an additional appropriation of \$27,000 to continue a series of psychiatric fellowships at the psychopathic hospital at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Denver. Six fellows are now in training. The new appropriation will make possible the appointment of three more in 1930 and three more in 1931 for periods of two years.

AN Institute of Paper Chemistry, a graduate school for the training of chemists in the pulp and paper industry, has been established at Lawrence College, Appleton, Wisconsin. The institute, which has been organized as an affiliated institution, has the support of ninety per cent. of the paper mills of Wisconsin and will be controlled by a board of trustees representing the college and the participating mills. President Henry M. Wriston is director of the new organization, Dr. Otto Kress, paper chemist, is technical director, and Ernest Mahler, vice-president of the Kimberley-Clark Paper Company, president of the board of trustees. Appropriations sufficient to meet an annual budget of at least \$60,000 have been assured the college by the paper manufacturers. It is planned to open the institute in February, 1930. Two fellowships with annual stipends of \$500 each have been endowed for the institute by the Paper Makers Chemical Corporation, manufacturing chemists. The fellowships, which will be available with the opening of the institute, are to be awarded to students showing suitable qualifications for the advanced work of the graduate school.

A SERIES of conferences for the purpose of helping freshmen in their choice of a major engineering course has been announced by Dean Paul Cloke, of the College of Technology of the University of Maine. The conferences will begin at once and extend through January and February. The following topics will be discussed in order: Engineering Studies, Experiences in Engineering, Chemical Engineering,

Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Relation of Athletics to College Life, Student Life. The discussions will be led by the dean, the department heads and the faculty manager

of athletics. Although designed for freshman engineering students, the conferences will be open to all who are interested, especially those who are having difficulty with their work.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

AN anonymous gift of \$100,000 to the University of California has been received for the support of research in cancer and allied subjects by the medical school and the Hooper Foundation for Medical Research. With the addition of this fund, the university will have a total endowment of \$200,000 for research in this field. Mr. and Mrs. George H. Roos, of San Francisco, recently made a gift of \$100,000 for research in thoracic surgery and cancer, and later added \$5,000 for the equipment of a clinic and research laboratory to carry on this work.

THE late Abraham Rosenberg, San Francisco merchant, who was a leader in developing world markets for California dried fruits, has included in his will a bequest of \$100,000 to the University of California as an endowment for the support of graduate research fellowships.

IN honor of Martin J. Insull, of Chicago, Mrs. Insull has founded and endowed with \$25,000 a scholarship in the college of engineering of Cornell University, from which Mr. Insull was graduated with the degree of M.E. in 1893, and in which he is himself building up a loan fund for the benefit of students. The new scholarship may be held for four years and

during that time will pay most of the scholar's expenses at college, amounting, at the present rate of tuition, to an average of more than \$1,000 a year.

It is announced that in accordance with the wish of Dr. Joseph S. Ames, who recently succeeded Dr. Frank J. Goodnow as president of the Johns Hopkins University, there will be no formal inauguration ceremonies.

THE resignation is announced of Arthur Edward Wells, professor of metallurgy at Harvard University.

DR. BENNO EDWARD LISCHER, of the University of Michigan, has been appointed full-time professor of orthodontics in the University of California.

DR. KENNETH GOODNER has been appointed instructor in bacteriology and immunology in the School of Public Health at Harvard University.

At the University of Cambridge, C. F. A. Pantin, of Trinity and Christ's Colleges, has been appointed university lecturer in zoology, and J. E. E. Craster, of Downing College, has been appointed university lecturer in geography.

DISCUSSION

SUPERFLUOUS PUBLICATIONS

THERE appears to be an increasing tendency for the publication of journals devoted to exploitation of work by individual laboratories and organizations promoting an extended program of research on varied subjects. There are dozens of institutions where the amount of manuscript produced per year is amply sufficient to fill the pages of a weekly, monthly or quarterly journal so that a reasonable temptation on the part of the executives of these institutions may readily exist for the independent maintenance of an organ of publication. It is doubtful, however, if the publicity so secured reacts favorably toward the organization concerned.

Usually such a journal is a hopeless compilation of reports on almost every subject known to science. A short article on atomic physics may be buried between a memoir on the physical properties of concrete and a report on the design of an aeroplane propeller. For continuity, the Encyclopaedia Britannica is to be preferred.

A serious problem confronts the librarian in the

cataloguing and disposition of these publications, especially in universities where reference libraries are divided and allocated to the various departmental offices. Institutions devoted to a restricted subject are forced to subscribe to a journal containing numerous articles on material of little interest in order to have on file a few papers of immediate importance. Often the smaller institutions will not subscribe to the journal and papers of importance to it are lost except through the courtesy of the particular authors in distributing reprints. The miscellaneous character of such journals is also responsible for inadequate review of their contents by the various abstract journals. Many papers so published have not been abstracted and accordingly are unknown in the bibliography of the particular subject concerned.

The research investigators in institutions maintaining private publications recognize the handicap to which they are subjected and desire to submit their reports to a medium of publication primarily concerned with papers of a similar character. If such a policy is permitted, however, the privately printed