on the properties of matter and radioactivity. From 1909 until 1911 he continued his work under the direction of Sir Ernest Rutherford at the University of Manchester. Returning to Canada, he lectured at McGill, was appointed assistant professor in 1912, and in the same year was made professor in the University of Alberta. During the war years, on the recommendation of Sir Ernest Rutherford, Dr. Boyle was engaged in research for the Admiralty Board of Invention and the Anti-submarine Division; and in that work he developed important applications of ultrasonics. In 1924 he tested apparatus for the detecting of icebergs and the sounding of depths in the Belle Isle Straits.

Dr. Whitby studied chemistry under Sir William Tilden at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, graduating in 1906 with the Frank Hatton prize. He was one of the first scientific workers to study the rubber industry, and one of his books thereon, "Plantation Rubber and the Testing of Rubber," 1920, has markedly influenced the trend of rubber research. In recognition of his contribution in that field, the Institution of the Rubber Industry (Great Britain) recently awarded him the Colwyn gold medal. In 1928 the distinction of Officier d'Académie was conferred upon him by the Government of France. The same year he was president of the Canadian Chemical Association.

As assistant director of the division of physics and engineering physics, Prof. John Hamilton Parkin, associate professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Toronto, has been appointed to direct the development of national aeronautical research laboratories.

Plans for the new National Laboratories building call for completion early in 1931. Meanwhile, temporary laboratory space has been provided.

THE AMERICAN STANDARDS ASSOCIATION

ANNOUNCEMENT that the underwriting of the finances of the American Standards Association for a period of three years to permit a total annual expenditure of $150,000 for its work is now being completed has just been made by William J. Serrill, president of the association. This fund permits an increase in the budget for 1930 of $80,000 over the previous budget of the association and is expected to result in an expansion of national standardization work affecting practically all industries.

The fund is being underwritten by a large group of industrial organizations. The underwriting was arranged by a committee consisting of James A. Farrell, president of the United States Steel Corporation; Gerard Swope, president of the General Electric Company; George B. Cortelyou, president of the Consolidated Gas Company of New York, and F. A. Merrick, president of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company.

Because of the rapid growth of the industrial standardization movement in this country, the underwriting was planned to permit immediate expansion of the work of providing authoritative national standards while permanent financing is under way. It is expected that this financing will be completed during the three-year period of the underwriting.

Among the companies joining in the underwriting are:

Aluminum Company of America
American Telephone and Telegraph Company
Bethlehem Steel Company
Consolidated Gas Company of New York
Detroit Edison Company
General Electric Company
General Motors Corporation
Gulf Oil Corporation of Pennsylvania
Public Service Corporation of New Jersey
Standard Oil Company of New Jersey
U. S. Steel Corporation
Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company
Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company

Up to the present time the association has adopted approximately 160 national standards, and 190 other national standards are being formulated. The association provides the machinery by which all of the producing, distributing and consuming groups concerned with a standard may cooperate in its preparation. The foremost technicians of all groups are thus brought together to pool their knowledge for the benefit of all. Over 2,000 individuals representing 800 cooperating organizations are in this way working on technical committees under the procedure of the association.

An important feature of the association's work is the adoption of national standard safety codes, which are used voluntarily by industries and also as the basis for state and municipal safety regulations and for the regulations of insurance companies in numerous states. Among the most important of these codes are the National Electrical Safety Code, the Code for Mechanical Power Transmission and several codes for mine safety.

As the result of the recent affiliation of the American Home Economics Association with the American Standards Association, this latter body has also begun important standardization work on projects of direct concern to the ultimate consumer, such as refrigerators, sheets and blankets.

INTERNATIONAL CRITICAL TABLES

THE sixth volume of the International Critical Tables was issued about the middle of October. The