

Economics and sociology, L. H. Seltzer, Detroit  
 Fine arts, Carleton Angell, Ann Arbor  
 Forestry, S. A. Graham, Ann Arbor  
 Geography, Wade DeVries, Lansing  
 Geology and mineralogy, Chester B. Slawson, Ann Arbor  
 History and political science, Howard B. Calderwood, Ann Arbor  
 Language and literature, F. W. Peterson, Ann Arbor  
 Mathematics, R. C. Shellenberger, Bay City  
 Sanitary and medical science, W. L. Mallmann, East Lansing  
 Psychology, W. C. Trow, Ann Arbor  
 Zoology, R. A. Muttkowski, Detroit

#### PRESENTATION OF THE JOHN FRITZ MEDAL

THE John Fritz medal was presented to Dr. Ralph Modjeski, member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, of New York and Chicago, at the annual banquet and reception of the society in the Hotel Commodore, New York City, on the evening of January 15. Approximately six hundred members and guests of the society were present. Immediately following the dinner Mr. Harrison P. Eddy, member of the society, as master of ceremonies, presented the newly elected president of the society and three honorary members, and then resigned the chair to Bancroft Gherardi, past-president of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, as chairman of the John Fritz Medal Board of Award.

Mr. Gherardi spoke briefly of the purposes and history of the medal and introduced Mr. J. V. W. Reynders, past-chairman of the board of award and past-president of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers. Mr. Reynders summarized the achievements of the twenty-five preceding medalists, in subject groups, and then outlined Dr. Modjeski's personal history and emphasized his contribution to the art of bridge building, especially during the period of construction of great bridges in the United States.

Chairman Gherardi then presented Past-President Dexter S. Kimball, of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, as chairman of the board which made the award to Dr. Modjeski, who spoke of the great contributions to human life made by engineers and scientists in the fields of machine tools, application of power, transportation and communication. He also alluded briefly to great contributions of the sanitary engineer and of the medical research men for the benefit of public health and of the engineering educator to the general advancement of the practice of the profession.

Following his address and in accordance with established custom, Dr. Kimball, as chairman of the board, presented the medal and certificate to Dr. Modjeski for "notable achievement as an engineer of great bridges combining the principles of strength and beauty." Dr. Modjeski responded briefly, accepting the honor.

### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

AS was reported in a recent issue of SCIENCE, Professor Michelson, having recovered from a serious attack of pneumonia, expects to return soon to Pasadena in order to continue by new methods his measurements of the velocity of light. The following appears in the London *Times* for January 8: "The death of Professor A. A. Michelson at the age of seventy-seven, announced at a recent meeting of the Académie des Sciences of the Institut de France, of which he was a corresponding member, deprives the scientific world of a physicist of original genius and remarkable achievement." There follows an extended obituary notice. Reference is made here to the matter in order that in so far as possible the anxiety caused by these announcements may be relieved.

A LESS serious error has occurred through the circumstance that it was cabled by the Associated Press from Stockholm that the Nobel Prize in physics had been awarded to the Duc de Broglie for his work on "Wave Mechanics." Duc Maurice de Broglie has accomplished distinguished work on X-rays, including

their diffraction by crystals and the proof of Einstein's photoelectric equation in the region of X-ray frequencies, which in the opinion of physicists would warrant the award of a Nobel Prize to him. The work on the relation between waves and particles has, however, been accomplished by the younger brother of the Duc, Louis de Broglie, and it is to him that the Nobel Prize has been awarded.

DR. J. C. ARTHUR, professor emeritus of botany at Purdue University, celebrated his eightieth birthday on January 11. At a luncheon held in his honor by the staff of the department of botany of the Agricultural Experiment Station, Dr. Arthur gave an account of the earlier work and the development of the department of which he was head from its founding in 1888 to his retirement in 1915. Since retiring Dr. Arthur has been actively engaged in a continuation of his studies of rusts, having just published a book entitled "Plant Rusts."

MONDAY, January 13, marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of Dr. P. A. Levene's connection with the