

senting each branch of pure and applied science in which research is being carried on in the Niagara area. Buffalo and Niagara Falls are the central communities in the area which includes Erie and Niagara Counties of western New York.

The objects of the council are to promote scientific research and coordinate so far as possible the research work done in the area in order that duplication may be prevented and closer relations established between the individuals engaged. Buffalo and Niagara Falls by virtue of their varied industries are said to be particularly fitted to benefit by a council of this sort.

The members and the fields of research they represent include:

- Dr. Charles J. Fish, *President*, Buffalo Museum of Science, zoology.
- Cedric A. Vincent-Daviss, *Vice-president*, Roessler & Hasslacher, Niagara Falls, N. Y., chemistry.
- William N. Kessel, *Secretary*, Buffalo Chamber of Commerce, business.
- Christopher H. Bierbaum, Lumen Bearing Company, Professor John A. Curtin, D'Youville College, meteorology and astronomy.
- George A. Davis, Buffalo, astronomy.
- Professor John P. Delaney, Canisius College, seismology.
- Robert W. Elmes, Buffalo Chamber of Commerce, business.
- Charles Ward Hall, Hall Aluminum Aircraft Corporation, aeronautics.
- Dr. L. Grant Rector, University of Buffalo, physics.
- Dr. Frances M. Hollingshead, Buffalo Foundation, social science.
- Dr. Frans Visser't Hooft, Lucidol Corporation, chemistry.
- Dr. Edward W. Koch, University of Buffalo, medicine.
- J. Allen Johnson, Buffalo, Niagara and Eastern Power Corporation, engineering.
- James A. Johnson, Buffalo, radio.
- Stephen T. Lockwood, Buffalo, engineering.
- Dr. R. H. Pegrum, University of Buffalo, geology.
- R. R. Ridgway, Niagara Falls, electrochemistry.
- Wilbert H. Spencer, University of Buffalo, botany.
- Dr. A. A. Thibaudeau, State Institute for the Study of Malignant Diseases, physiology.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR GRANTS-IN-AID BY THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

At its meeting in December the National Research Council's committee on grants-in-aid made eighteen grants for the support of research, as follows:

R. C. Gibbs, professor of physics, Cornell University, the measurement and interpretation of the structure of lines in the atomic spectra of nitrogen; George R. Harrison, professor of physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the determination of transition probabilities in multiple ionized atoms; Mark H. Liddell, profes-

sor of English, Purdue University, physical characteristics of speech sounds.

John B. Whitehead, professor of electrical engineering, the Johns Hopkins University, studies upon insulating oils.

Warren O. Thompson, assistant professor of geology, University of Colorado, stratification of unconsolidated deposits.

Sydney W. Britton, professor of physiology, University of Virginia Medical School, the isolation and evaluation of the function of the cortico-adrenal hormone; Israel L. Chaikoff, instructor in physiology, University of California Medical School, the relationship of high fat diets to arteriosclerotic changes in depancreatized dogs; E. A. Doisy, professor of biochemistry, St. Louis University School of Medicine, the female sex hormone; James Ewing, professor of pathology, Cornell University Medical College, the possible tuberculous nature of Hodgkin's granuloma; E. B. Krumbhaar, professor of pathology, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, the mechanism of opsonin and bacteriotropin action; Mildred Trotter, associate professor of anatomy, Washington University, the weight of hair in relation to its form, size and color.

Bennet M. Allen, professor of zoology, University of California at Los Angeles, the influence of the thyroid gland and hypophysis upon growth and development; Lee R. Dice, assistant professor of zoology, University of Michigan, variability in subspecies of *Peromyscus maniculatus*; Francis W. Pennell, curator of plants, Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, Scrophulariaceae of the northwestern part of the United States; Charles H. Philpott, professor of zoology, Harris Teachers College, the effects of snake venoms on certain protozoa.

Melville J. Herskovits, assistant professor of anthropology, Northwestern University, Africanisms in the American Negro; Melville Jacobs, instructor in anthropology, University of Washington, the preservation of extinct or nearly extinct Indian tribal songs of northwestern Oregon.

VERNON KELLOGG,
Permanent Secretary, National Research Council

OFFICERS OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

PROFESSOR MOSES GOMBERG, of the University of Michigan, became president of the American Chemical Society on January 1. Professor Gomberg will serve during 1931, succeeding Dean William McPherson, of the Ohio State University.

Dr. L. V. Redman, vice-president and director of research of the Bakelite Corporation, Bloomfield, New Jersey, has been elected president of the society in 1932. The other nominees were Professor Joel H. Hildebrand, of the University of California; Professor Samuel C. Lind, of the University of Minne-

sota, and Professor Hugh S. Taylor, of Princeton University.

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. The society's membership of 18,000 in all parts of the country participate in the annual election.

Dr. W. D. Bigelow, director of research of the National Canners Association, Washington, D. C., and Walter A. Schmidt, president of the Western Precipitation Company, Los Angeles, were elected district directors: *Directors-at-large* were named as follows: Thomas Midgley, Worthington, Ohio, noted for his discovery in the laboratories of the General Motors Corporation at Dayton of ethyl gasoline and of a new non-toxic and non-inflammable refrigerant; George P. Adamson, of Searsport, Maine, long identified with chemical industries, including the Baker and Adamson Company, the General Chemical Com-

pany and the Allied Chemical and Dye Corporation; Milton C. Whitaker, New York, president of the Catalytic Process Corporation, formerly professor in Columbia University and vice-president of the U. S. Industrial Alcohol Company; R. E. Wilson, Chicago, assistant to the vice-president and in charge of development and patent department of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana.

Councilors-at-large are: F. C. Frary, director of research, Aluminum Company of America, New Kensington, Pa.; Professor H. N. Holmes, Oberlin College; Dr. E. H. Volwiler, director and chief chemist of the Abbott Laboratories, Chicago; R. E. Wilson.

The reserve fund of the society at the beginning of 1930 was just over \$300,000 and its trust funds amounted to nearly \$184,000. Through the will of W. H. Nichols, \$50,000 will be added to the funds of the society. The expenditures of the year were estimated at \$557,560.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

MR. W. C. MENDENHALL, chief geologist of the U. S. Geological Survey, has been made acting director of the survey to succeed Dr. George Otis Smith, who was recently appointed chairman of the reorganized Federal Power Commission.

PROFESSOR ALBERT EINSTEIN has accepted an invitation to become Cecil Rhodes Memorial Lecturer at the University of Oxford, where he will reside during the summer term.

DR. WILLIAM H. WELCH, of the Johns Hopkins University, and Dr. John A. Hartwell, of Cornell University Medical College, were guests of honor at a dinner in New York City on December 6 to celebrate the seventieth anniversary of the German Medical Association of New York.

DR. WALTER B. CANNON, George Higginson professor of physiology at the Harvard Medical School, who recently became a foreign honorary fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, received on November 15 the degree of doctor *honoris causa* from the University of Liège. On November 22 the same honorary degree was conferred on him by the University of Strasbourg.

DR. FREDERICK E. BREITHUT, president of the American Institute of Chemists, Inc., has been elected, *ex officio*, an honorary member of the Chemical, Metallurgical and Mining Societies of South Africa.

THE gold medal of the Radiological Society of North America has been awarded, for achievement in the science of radiology in its application to diseases of women, to Dr. Henry Schmitz, professor of gynecology and head of the department at the Loyola

University School of Medicine, Chicago.

THE Mackenzie Davidson Medal of the British Institute of Radiology was awarded to Professor G. P. Thomson, of the Imperial College of Science and Technology, and the Silvanus Thompson Medal to Dr. A. E. Barclay, lecturer in medical radiology and electrophysiology in the University of Cambridge, on the occasion of the recent annual congress and exhibition of the institute. Dr. Thomson and Dr. Barclay delivered memorial lectures.

THE Gedge Prize of the University of Cambridge for original observations in physiology has been awarded to Mr. H. Barcroft, B.A., of King's College, who gained first class honors in the Natural Sciences Tripos, Part II, in 1927.

LORD EUSTACE PERCY was elected president of the Royal Institution, London, on December 1, in succession to the late Duke of Northumberland. Lord Eustace was president of the Board of Education in 1924-29 and this year is president of Section L (Educational Science) of the British Association.

M. LE GÉNÉRAL BOURGEOIS has been elected vice-president of the Paris Academy of Sciences for the year 1931.

HONORARY doctorates have been conferred by the University of Liège on M. Emile Picard, permanent secretary of the Paris Academy of Sciences, on M. Jean Perrin, professor of physical chemistry, and M. Louis Lapicque, professor of physiology, of the Col-