

ists and chemical engineers who live or work within fifty miles of City Hall have been laid off. About 900 have registered with the committee and registration continues at the rate of from five to twenty per week. A considerable number—between 25 and 50 per cent.—have obtained some form of temporary work. Others are occupying their time in researches, either in laboratories in their homes or in the libraries. Since last January the committee has helped to get permanent or temporary jobs for 184 men and women. Ten to twenty people per week have received relief in the form of work or direct contributions.

It is estimated that for the eight months from November 1 to July 1 between \$50,000 and \$60,000 is needed to help about 100 men and women and their families. This is at the rate of about \$15 a week. It is hoped that of this amount \$32,000 can be raised directly from the profession and that the balance of from \$18,000 to \$28,000 may be contributed by the chemical industry.

The committee's object is to furnish work for idle chemists that will not bring them into competition with regularly employed members of the profession, and at the same time to advance research in pure science.

It will not send out unemployed chemists to compete in industry for jobs at reduced salaries. Men who have been placed in competitive positions have been urged by the committee to ask for their regular salaries, and in no case has an appeal been made to any employer to employ a man at a reduced salary because he is in need.

AWARD OF THE EDISON MEDAL TO BANCROFT GHERARDI

THE Edison Medal for 1932 has been awarded by the American Institute of Electrical Engineers to Bancroft Gherardi, "for his contributions to the art of telephone engineering and the development of electrical communication."

The Edison Medal was founded by associates and friends of Thomas A. Edison, and is awarded annually for "meritorious achievement in electrical science, electrical engineering or the electrical arts" by a committee consisting of twenty-four members of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. The fol-

lowing eminent engineers and scientific men have been recipients of the medal: Elihu Thomson, Frank J. Sprague, George Westinghouse, William Stanley, Charles F. Brush, Alexander Graham Bell, Nikola Tesla, John J. Carty, Benjamin G. Lamme, W. L. R. Emmet, Michael I. Pupin, Cummings C. Chesney, Robert A. Millikan, John W. Lieb, John White Howell, Harris J. Ryan, William D. Coolidge, Frank B. Jewett, Charles F. Scott, Frank Conrad and Edwin W. Rice, Jr.

Bancroft Gherardi was born in San Francisco on April 6, 1873. Upon the completion of his studies at Cornell University, he entered the employ of the New York Telephone Company under Dr. John J. Carty, who was then chief engineer. From 1900-06 he was chief engineer of the New York and New Jersey Telephone Company; from 1906-07 assistant chief engineer of the New York Telephone Company, and from 1907-18 engineer of plant, American Telephone & Telegraph Company. In 1918 he became acting chief engineer and shortly afterward chief engineer of the company. Since 1920 he has been vice-president and chief engineer of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company.

H. H. Henline, acting national secretary of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, writes:

Mr. Gherardi's entire professional and business career has been devoted to the art of communication. Coming into this field when the telephone art was very young (300,000 telephones in 1895) he has played a most important part in the development and perfection of operating practices and in the development of methods, equipment and apparatus, which have brought telephone communication to the high state of perfection in which we find it to-day.

Mr. Gherardi has directed the development and introduction of many new and improved arrangements which are in use to-day on a large scale, and which have added greatly to the speed and accuracy of local and long distance telephone service.

His broad vision as to the place of communication not only in the affairs of the people of the United States but also in world affairs and his initiative and skill in the development of engineering and operating organizations and in the development of the art generally have contributed enormously to the growth and success of present-day communication.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. WILLIAM SYDNEY THAYER, professor of medicine emeritus at the Johns Hopkins University, died on December 11, at the age of sixty-eight years.

DR. WILLIAM JACOB HOLLAND, director emeritus of the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, died on December 13, at the age of eighty-four years.

THE Paris Academy of Sciences awarded on December 5 the Grand Prix founded by the late Prince Albert of Monaco to Prince Louis de Broglie, a former winner of the Nobel Prize for physics. The prize is valued at about \$3,900.

THE Gold Medals "for distinction in science" of the