

and not in Switzerland, as previously arranged. During the year, the Verein Oesterreichischer Chemiker and the Svenska National Kommitten för Kemi were elected members of the International Union. The report refers to a conference on chemical documentation, held in Paris in October, 1932, and indicates that the Federal Council and the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Technology of the U. S. National Research Council are in complete agreement with regard to certain criticisms of the activities of the International Committee dealing with the reform of biochemical nomenclature. The efforts of the British Standards Institution to extend the use of the words "British Standard" to include "chemical substances used in manufactures, photography or philosophic research and anti-corrosives" were supported by the Federal Council. The Board of Trade agreed to the institution proceeding with an application to register provided that it was in a position to submit support from the appropriate trade association or similar body. The report says: "In October, a committee consisting of Dr. E. F. Armstrong, E. R. Bolton, Dr. L. H. Lampitt, Professor G. T. Morgan, Emile Mond, Professor J. C. Philip, Sir William Pope, J. Davidson Pratt and D. Rintoul was appointed 'To consider how the resources of the various bodies concerned with the professional and scientific welfare of chemists can be most economically and efficiently utilized.' This committee has met on several occasions, and will present, early in 1933, a report on its findings for consideration by the Federal Council."

#### THE YALE NORTH INDIA EXPEDITION

THE last chapter of one of the greatest geological events in the earth's history, resulting in the elevation of the Himalayan mountains, was witnessed by prehistoric man, according to evidence uncovered by the Yale North India Expedition, led by Dr. Hellmut de Terra, research associate in geology at Yale University. The expedition, which also included Mrs. de Terra, Professor G. E. Hutchinson, of the department of biology, and Mr. G. E. Lewis, paleontologist, has just returned to New Haven after spending the past fifteen months in the Himalayas.

Traces of prehistoric man in the form of knives, scrapers and other implements and the remains of a mammoth, whose former existence in the Himalayas has been hitherto unsuspected, comprised two of the more important finds made by the expedition. The geographical, geological and zoological information obtained is expected, it is said, to change present ideas about the early history and origin of the world's highest mountains.

Dr. de Terra has issued a statement in regard to the exposition in which he says:

The paleolithic implements and the mammoth were found in formations that had been thrown into earth folds during the upheaval and indicate that prior to that time the southern Himalayas were considerably lower in altitude. The rise of the Himalayan range must have continued into historical times. The present high relief of the mountains is a recent achievement and ancient man looked upon a Himalayan range of quite a different appearance from that which modern man sees. We have found proof that prehistoric man in Northern India must have witnessed the last great mountain-making event, which resulted in the present great height of the Himalayas and neighboring high ranges.

The collections made by the expedition have just arrived at New Haven, where most of them will be placed in the Peabody Museum of Yale University. The members of the expedition will complete their investigations here by further study of the finds and their relation to their environment.

#### ANNIVERSARY OF THE PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND SCIENCE

THE one hundred and twelfth anniversary of the founding of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science was celebrated on February 23 with a special convocation at which the honorary degree of master of pharmacy was conferred upon Dr. George Denton Beal, one of the directors of the Mellon Institute of Industrial Research at Pittsburgh. Dr. Beal then delivered at the exercises an address on "Advances in Pharmacy through Scientific Research," in which he reviewed the relation of pharmacy to other sciences and pointed out many instances of the ways in which the practice of pharmacy has stimulated research and scientific advancement not only in pharmacy but also in chemistry, bacteriology, biology and physiology.

The evening of Founders' Day at the College was featured by a testimonial banquet to Professor Frank Xavier Moerk, who is completing his fiftieth year as a member of the teaching staff at the Philadelphia College, where he is at the head of the department of analytical chemistry and is one of the executive officers of the faculty. Dr. Lewis C. Scheffey, 1915, Philadelphia physician who is president of the Philadelphia College Alumni Association, acted as toastmaster.

A feature at the testimonial banquet was the graphic portrayal by undergraduates in the dramatic society of outstanding events in Professor Moerk's career. This dramatic presentation was arranged by Registrar John E. Kramer, 1925. Felicitations of the board of trustees were extended by Professor Joseph W. England, 1883, its chairman, who is head of the scientific department of the Smith, Kline and French laboratories. Dr. Henry V. Arny, 1889, dean of

Columbia University College of Pharmacy, greeted Professor Moerk as one of his most distinguished students. For the faculty of the Philadelphia College, Dean Julius W. Sturmer spoke of his many years' association with Professor Moerk. An address was also made by Dr. B. Franklin Stahl, trustee of the college.

Presentations were made by Henry Brown, of Scranton; Frank P. Kelly, Jr.; Arthur Osol and James Q. Mackey.

The climax of the evening was the unveiling of an oil portrait of Professor Moerk which was presented to the Philadelphia College by his colleagues and other friends. Dean Charles H. LaWall, 1893, made the presentation. The portrait was painted by Mrs. Mary Sturmer Jones, the daughter of Dean Sturmer. The portrait was accepted for the college by President Wilmer Krusen.

Professor Moerk responded with a recital of some of the events of his career and an appreciation of the testimonial tendered him.

In addition to the personal good wishes extended by the more than three hundred friends who were present at the banquet, Professor Moerk received hundreds of telegrams and letters from all parts of the world. Mrs. Moerk sat enbanked in a veritable bower of floral tributes.

#### AWARD OF THE LAMME MEDAL TO EDWARD WESTON

THE 1932 Lamme Medal of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers has been awarded to Dr. Edward Weston, Montclair, New Jersey, "for his achievements in the development of electrical apparatus, especially in connection with precision measuring instruments," and will be presented at the summer convention of the institute, which is to be held in Chicago from June 26 to 30, 1933.

Previous awards of the Lamme Medal of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers have been made to Allen B. Field (1928), Rudolf E. Hellmund (1929), William J. Foster (1930) and Giuseppe Faccioli (1931).

A correspondent writes:

Mr. Weston, through his thorough fundamental knowledge of and his ability to observe and analyze chemical and physical phenomena, made important improvements in the quality and speed of electroplating, which contributed materially to the present practice in electrotyping, and nickel-, gold- and silver-plating. He also developed practical and economical methods for electrolytic copper refining.

Although the dynamo had been invented some years earlier, it had not come into practical use, and batteries were used in plating processes, placing serious limita-

tions upon future developments. He, therefore, began the study and construction of dynamo-electric machines, and in 1875 became a partner in the firm of Stevens, Roberts, and Havell, of Newark, N. J., which engaged in the manufacture of such machines for electroplating, electrotyping, electric lighting, etc. This business was incorporated in 1877 as the Weston Company, and was consolidated in 1881 with the U. S. Electric Light Company, of which Mr. Weston served as electrician until 1888.

Mr. Weston had filed his first application for a U. S. patent on dynamo construction in 1876, and later received many patents in this field, his improvements causing phenomenal increases in the efficiency of these machines. He also invented new devices for starting, controlling and protecting them, and thus put their operation upon a practical basis.

From 1875 to 1886, he engaged in intensive development of both incandescent and arc lighting, doing notable work in the search for methods of making suitable incandescent filaments and arc light carbons.

As he had earlier been handicapped by the lack of generators suitable for use in electroplating, he now encountered, in all his researches, great difficulty in making the necessary electrical measurements with the clumsy, slow-acting instruments then available. Consequently, he soon developed and built for his own experiments a set of more practical instruments. His friends promptly wanted some of the same types, and he was soon spending much of his time on further developments of measuring equipment.

In 1883, he decided to relinquish his other interests and devote all his time to the research and development necessary to produce accurate and convenient electrical instruments. He established the Weston Electrical Instrument Company, of which he was vice-president and general manager from 1888 to 1905, and president from 1905 to 1924, when he became chairman of the board, a position which he still holds.

#### ELECTIONS TO THE ROYAL SOCIETY

THE council of the Royal Society, London, agreed to recommend for election as fellows the following seventeen candidates:

- Blackett, Patrick Maynard Stuart, lecturer in physics, Cambridge University.
- Collip, James Bertram, professor of biochemistry, McGill University, Montreal.
- Crompton, Rookes Evelyn Bell, electrical engineer.
- Dawson, Harry Medforth, professor of physical chemistry, Leeds University.
- Doodson, Arthur Thomas, associate director of Liverpool Observatory and Tidal Institute.
- Gough, Herbert John, engineer; National Physical Laboratory, Teddington.
- Hammond, John, senior assistant, Animal Nutrition Institute, Cambridge.
- Holmes, Gordon Morgan, physician to the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases, Queen Square, London.