camps until April 1. At that time all the men were urged to find outside employment if possible, so that their places in the camps could be taken by needy unemployed young men. Members of the corps are given honorable discharges on request if they find outside employment.

One hundred and twenty-five thousand new men were added during October and November to take the places of members of the summer C. C. C. camps who were discharged at or prior to the end of the first six-months' period.

FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR SCIENTIFIC WORK

IT is reported by Science Service that the new federal budget for the year 1934–35 just submitted to the Congress by President Roosevelt does not propose any substantial reduction in funds for scientific bureaus below the funds that were available for use during the present fiscal year.

Of the funds appropriated last year for use during the fiscal year 1933–34, approximately $34,768,000 was for the support of scientific research. But this sum was greatly cut by the Budget Bureau after the beginning of the Roosevelt administration. Figures appearing in the new budget volume indicate that only about $28,893,000 was actually allowed the bureaus for scientific work. A somewhat smaller amount for scientific research is allowed in the new 1934–35 budget for the fiscal year starting next July 1. Probably not more than $27,735,000 will be available for this purpose during the coming year. Most of the bureaus affected, however, have just as much as they did during the present year, or a little more.

The Bureau of Standards is allowed $1,437,702 instead of $1,336,000. The Bureau of Mines gets $762,926 instead of $694,985. The Naval Observatory gets $169,994 instead of $160,025. And other scientific bureaus or offices are given sums similarly close to the figures apportioned to them this year.

The main exception is the Department of Agriculture. Although this department is allowed under the budget greatly increased funds, these are mainly for administrative purposes and particularly for the carrying out of the recovery program. It is too early yet to know just what proportion of the total will be apportioned for research, but it is believed that not more than $15,700,000 will be devoted to this constructive work as against $18,000,000 available this year.

If the congress approves the budget as submitted, it will mean that scientific funds will be cut about 4 per cent. below the funds available for the present fiscal year, and 34.5 per cent. below the $42,375,000 spent on research during the fiscal year 1931–32.

AWARD OF THE PERKIN MEDAL TO DR. COLIN G. FINK

THE Perkin Medal of the Society of Chemical Industry was presented on the evening of January 5 to Dr. Colin G. Fink, professor of electrochemistry at Columbia University. The meeting was held jointly with the American Chemical Society, the Electrochemical Society and the Société de Chimie Industrielle.

The award was made several months ago by a committee representing five national chemical societies. This medal, a high honor in the chemical profession, is awarded each year for valuable work in applied chemistry and goes to Dr. Fink this year for his inventions in the fields of metallurgy and electrochemistry.

Dr. Fink's work was described by Professor Harold Hibbert, of McGill University. Presentation of the medal was made by Professor Marston T. Bogert, of Columbia University, who is a past president of the Society of Chemical Industry. Dr. Fink presented the customary medal address, his paper being entitled "Chemistry and Art," in which he discussed the seldom appreciated relationship between these two fields.

Dr. Fink's important inventions are in the fields of lead-in wires for electric bulbs, ductile tungsten, tungsten plating, insoluble anodes for copper refining, restoration of ancient bronzes, etc. He has been connected with the Metropolitan Museum of Art during the last eleven years. His work has been confined largely to the metals, but he has also worked with old marbles, paintings, porcelain and ceramic ware, ivories, lacquer work, etc. An interesting development is that all museum cases to-day at the Metropolitan Museum have a chemically controlled atmosphere.

Colin G. Fink was born in New Jersey in 1881. He graduated from Columbia College in 1903 and took the degree of doctor of philosophy at the University of Leipzig in 1907. He then joined the research staff of the General Electric Company at Schenectady, where he remained until 1917. In that year he became head of the new research laboratories of the Chile Exploration Company, New York. In 1922 Dr. Fink was called to Columbia University, where from that time he has been in charge of the division of electrochemistry.

THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN GEOGRAPHERS

THE thirtieth annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers was held at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, on December 26, 27 and 28. In the three-day session fifty-seven papers, including the presidential address, were presented before the association.

Out of the total number of fifty-seven papers thirteen can be classed as belonging to the field of

geomorphology. The last half day of the last session was devoted to papers on geomorphology. In this group should be included the address of the retiring president, Dr. François E. Matthes, of the U. S. Geological Survey, who spoke on "Our Greatest Mountain Range, the Sierra Nevada of California."

Six papers were devoted to urban geography. This interest in the geographical aspects of cities illustrates a feature of modern geographical field studies.

On Tuesday afternoon, December 26, one session was devoted to the general subject—"Conventionalizing Geographic Investigation and Presentation." Professor P. E. James, University of Michigan, presented a paper on "The Terminology of Regional Description." Professor W. D. Jones discussed "Procedures in Regional Investigation." The final paper of the group was given by Professor V. C. Finch, University of Wisconsin, on "Written Structures for Presenting the Geography of Regions."

Ten papers at least were strictly in the field of regional geography or chorography. In these there was evidence of the use of the techniques and terminology discussed in the symposium mentioned above.

A feature of the meeting was an address by Dr. L. Dudley Stamp, of the London School of Economics, who was an invited guest of the association. He spoke on the subject "One Hundred Years of Change in Land Utilization in the British Isles—the Work of the Land Utilization Survey of Britain." In this paper Dr. Stamp discussed not only the results of the survey but the method by which they are gradually completing a land use map of Britain on the scale of six inches to the mile.

For the forthcoming year the officers elected are: *President,* Dr. W. W. Atwood, president of Clark University; *Vice-president,* Professor V. C. Finch, University of Wisconsin; *Treasurer,* Professor R. S. Platt, University of Chicago; *Secretary,* Professor Frank E. Williams, University of Pennsylvania, and *Counselor,* Professor P. E. James, of the University of Michigan.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

IN conferring the degree of doctor *honoris causa* on Dr. Harvey Cushing in connection with the ceremonies marking the formal reopening of the University of Paris on November 4, Dr. A. Roussy, professor of morbid anatomy and dean of the faculty of medicine, said in part: "I render public homage not only to one of the greatest surgeons of the United States of America but also to the man whose work in anatomy, physiology and clinical surgery has brought great progress to modern neurology and to the ingenious inventor whose new forms of technique have made it possible, during the past thirty years or more, to save thousands of lives."

FOR the first time in 121 years the Connecticut State Medical Society on January 5 exercised its charter right to confer the honorary degree of doctor of medicine. The recipient was Dr. Russell H. Chittenden, professor emeritus of physiological chemistry and emeritus director of the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University. The ceremony was a feature of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the New Haven Medical Association. In conferring the degree, Dr. Ralph A. McDonnell, president of the state society, said: "This honor, now held by no living man, is about to be conferred upon you in recognition of your valuable contributions to our knowledge of the human body and because of the inspiration derived from your instruction by many who later achieved marked success in the practise of medicine."

AT the meeting of the American Astronomical Society held at Cambridge from December 28 to 30, Dr. Albert Einstein was elected to honorary membership. There are seven other living honorary members.

ON the occasion of the annual meeting of the National Council of Geography Teachers, the Distinguished Service Award was presented to Professor R. H. Whitbeck, of the department of geography in the University of Wisconsin. The award was established only a year ago and the first recipient was Dr. William M. Davis, professor of physiography, emeritus, at Harvard University. At the end of the present academic year Professor Whitbeck will complete twenty-five years of service at the University of Wisconsin.

AT a ceremony in New Orleans on December 4, Dr. Rudolph Matas, since 1928 emeritus professor of surgery, Tulane University of Louisiana School of Medicine, New Orleans, was presented with the medal of the Order of Isabella the Catholic, the only Spanish decoration retained by the republic from the late monarchy; the presentation was made by the consul of Spain. The honorary degree of doctor of medicine and surgery was also conferred on Dr. Matas on this occasion, the consul-general of Guatemala making the presentation on behalf of the University of Guatemala. The mayor of New Orleans presided at the ceremony.

ON January 23 the first Matas Award in Vascular Surgery will be presented in New Orleans to Dr. Mont R. Reid, from 1895 to 1927 professor of surgery at Tulane University, now professor of surgery at the University of Cincinnati.