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## THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES PRESENTATION OF MEDALS AND HONORARIA

At the annual meeting of the National Academy of Sciences, held from April 23 to 25 in Washington, five medals and four honoraria were awarded. A brief announcement of these awards was included in the address of the president of the academy, published in SCIENCE of May 4. The medals and honoraria are given in recognition of important contributions to knowledge and for encouragement of research activity in the future. As stated by the president in his address, the academy's ability to confer honor upon its members and others of high achievement proceeds from the honors conferred upon the academy by its members through their accomplishments in the advancement of knowledge. The academy is designated in its charter from Congress an adviser to the Government in scientific matters. Election to membership in the academy carries with it the obligation to aid in the solution of any problem of a sci-

tific nature on which the Government seeks advice. In view of this relationship the following extracts from the speeches made at the time of the presentation of the medals and honoraria are of interest.

### PRESENTATION OF THE MARCELLUS HARTLEY MEDAL TO DR. DAVID FAIRCHILD

In making the presentation, Dr. Henry H. Donaldson, of the Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology, said:

It is my privilege to announce the award of the Marcellus Hartley Gold Medal for the year 1934 to Dr. David G. Fairchild (from 1889 until his retirement two or three years ago, on account of ill health, an invaluable member and officer of the Department of Agriculture), for eminence in the application of science to the public welfare. Specifically, the award is made for Dr. Fair-

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## New Whittlesey House Books

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### Rebel Destiny

By MELVILLE J. HERSKOVITS, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Northwestern University, and FRANCES HERSKOVITS. 366 pages, \$3.00

A vivid yet scholarly account of the authors' ethnological field work among the Bush Negroes of Suriname, Dutch Guiana, where the descendants of Negro slaves who fled

from their Dutch masters over one hundred fifty years ago still observe the ancient tribal customs and traditions of their African ancestors.

### The Racial Myth

By PAUL RADIN, Lecturer in Anthropology, University of California. 141 pages, \$1.50

This timely new book seeks to answer the questions: How did the myth of racial superiority arise? What elements of truth does it possess? The author traces the growth

of the racial myth from Biblical times in an effort to show that the claim of superiority is without scientific basis.

### The Method and Theory of Ethnology:

*An Essay in Criticism*

By PAUL RADIN. 278 pages, \$2.50

Gives a clearcut account of the growth and development of the major anthropological theories since Tylor's *Primitive Culture*, emphasizing the fact that anthropology has no affinities with the natural or biological sciences. The

author critically and objectively considers the question: Must anthropology become history in the historian's acceptance of the term? The book contains an almost complete bibliography of modern ethnological theories.

### You Must Relax

By EDMUND JACOBSON, M.D., Assistant Professor of Physiology, University of Chicago. 201 pages, \$1.50

In this important new book Dr. Jacobson offers a clear and simple exposition of cultivated relaxation. For the past twenty-five years the author has been making an intensive study of nerve tensions. He has developed a tech-

nique of relaxation which has won recognition in medical circles both here and abroad and which is proving of great value to those who suffer from the multifarious strains engendered by modern living.

### Earth, Radio and the Stars

By HARLAN TRUE STETSON, Research Associate in Geophysics, Harvard University. 336 pages, \$3.00

Brings together recent developments in astronomy and its related fields in an effort to suggest a more intimate relationship between man and his cosmic environment. A large part of the book is based on the author's own re-

searches toward a synthesis of geology, meteorology, radio engineering and astronomy into a new science—*cosmecology*. Attention is given to sun-spots, aurorae, cosmic clouds, cosmic rays, etc.

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