The Museum News, was formally opened to the public by the mayor of the city on November 12.

The new building is a log structure with a two-story central portion and three one-story wings. It includes exhibition space, meeting hall, work rooms and storage space. The whole of the lower portion is without windows, each case or section being equipped with shaded electric light so that the exhibits can be plainly seen and the labels read. More than two thousand specimens have been relisted and arranged in new cabinets in the new quarters. The building is on Jacks Creek near the foot of Second Street, in the new City Park which has been established as a CWA project. A portion of the funds for the building was raised by a campaign this spring in which donors were given recognition in a unique manner. Each log and square of the roof was "sold" at a specified price and the names of the donors placed on a model of the building which was displayed in a prominent store window and then removed to the museum building.

The museum is the creation of a group of boys, who began work in 1923 in a tent, and moved successively to a home, an old shop and then to the second floor of the City Hall. Its collections include rocks and minerals, fossils, botanical material, insects, fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds and bird eggs and mammals; also guns, coins and historical objects.

Speakers at the opening ceremonies in the museum and at a dinner on the same evening at the Parish Hall included H. H. Brimley, director of the North Carolina State Museum; L. C. Warren, member of the Congress; B. B. Brandt, of Durham; E. S. Johnson and J. G. Bragaw, of Washington; J. F. Oertel, of Vienna, Va.; George W. Ross, president of the museum, and Roderick L. Cotten, director. The museum is open to the public from 7:30 to 10:30 in the evenings and on Sunday afternoons.

THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW YORK NEUROLOGICAL INSTITUTE

THE twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Neurological Institute of New York, now part of the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, was celebrated on December 20 with appropriate ceremonies.

Telegrams of congratulation commending the achievements of the institute and its pioneer work in the research and treatment of the diseases of the brain and the nervous system were received from President Roosevelt, Governor Lehman and other leaders in American life.

The principal speaker was Dr. Joseph Collins, the sole survivor of the three original founders of the institute. A silver tray was presented to him on behalf of the medical staff of the institute by Dr. Edwin G. Zabriskie, chairman of the medical board, who introduced Dr. Collins.

Other speakers were Dr. Bernard Sachs, retiring president of the New York Academy of Medicine; Dr. Willard C. Rappleye, dean of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, and Dean Sage, president of Presbyterian Hospital. The speakers were introduced in the order given by Dr. Frederick Tilney, director of research of the institute; Dr. Charles A. Eisberg and Dr. Walter Timme.

President Roosevelt's telegram, addressed to Miss Mabel Choate, acting president of the institute, read:

> Press of work prevents me from personally participating in the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Neurological Institute. I am glad, however, to take this opportunity to extend congratulations to you and your associates for the high professional ethics maintained by the institute and the splendid work you are doing.

Governor Lehman's telegram read in part as follows:

> Since its organization I have been acquainted with the work that the institute has carried on and know from personal knowledge of its fine achievements and constructive service to the community. As governor of the state I have been particularly interested in the work of your institute because of its close association with the New York State Psychiatric Institute and Hospital and because of the splendid service rendered by Dr. Tilney and so many of your other physicians to the state in the administration of the State Training School for Boys at Warwick. This is merely another evidence of the readiness to serve and to lead which the Neurological Institute has always shown. May I add my personal and my official congratulations and express the hope that the work of the institute will continue and grow through the years.

AWARD OF THE WILLIAM H. NICHOLS MEDAL

THE William H. Nichols Medal of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society for 1935 has been awarded to Father Julius A. Nieuwland, professor of organic chemistry in the University of Notre Dame.

The award, one of the highest honors bestowed by chemical science in this country, goes to Father Nieuwland "for basic work on syntheses from unsaturated hydrocarbons."

Working in a field beset with dangers, Father Nieuwland successfully carried out investigations in the chemistry of acetylene, his discoveries being utilized in subsequent research in the laboratories of E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company, Wilmington, Del., which led to the development of the synthetic rubber called "Du Prene."

According to the announcement by Dr. J. M. Weiss, chairman of the jury of award:

> Father Nieuwland was engaged for many years in investigations of reactions of acetylene hydrocarbons and derivatives, a field which most investigators had not en-

tered because the compounds were unstable and presented serious hazards of explosion.

Persisting, Father Nieuwland learned how to control these reactions and make them safe to handle in general laboratory manipulations. As a result of this work, he was able to produce a number of new and unusual unsaturated hydrocarbons and hydrocarbon derivatives.

The ceremony at which Father Nieuwland will formally receive the medal will be an outstanding event of a week's celebration of the 300th anniversary of the founding of the American chemical industries to be held in New York City in connection with the eighty-ninth meeting of the American Chemical Society beginning on April 22.

The speakers will include the Rev. Father Eugene Burke, of the arts faculty of Notre Dame, whose subject will be "Father Nieuwland—The Man," and Dr. E. R. Bridgwater, who will describe practical applications of his work. Dr. Weiss will present the award and Father Nieuwland will deliver the annual Nichols Medal address.

Father Nieuwland was born in Hansbeke, Belgium, on February 14, 1878. He received the bachelor of arts degree at the University of Notre Dame in 1899. In 1903 he was ordained a priest in the Roman Catholic Church, joining the Congregation of the Holy Cross.

In 1904 he received the Ph.D. degree from the Catholic University, and in 1911 the Sc.D. degree from Notre Dame. He joined the Notre Dame faculty in 1904 as professor of botany, and since 1918 has been professor of organic chemistry. He was dean of the College of Science from 1920 to 1923.

Father Nieuwland is botany librarian and curator of the Botany Herbarium and the E. L. Greene Herbarium at Notre Dame. He is the founder and editor of the *American Midland Naturalist*. In 1904 he published a book entitled "Some Reactions of Acetylene," and in 1917 edited a de luxe edition of Le Conte's unpublished plates.

He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the British Chemical Society and the Indiana Academy of Science, of which he was vice-president in 1929–30 and president in 1933–34. He is a member of the American Chemical Society, the Chemical Society of London, the Biological Society of Washington, the Deutsche Chemische Gesellschaft and Phi Sigma.

THE EDISON MEDAL AWARD

THE Edison Medal for 1934 has been awarded by the American Institute of Electrical Engineers to Dr. Willis R. Whitney, "for his contributions to electrical science, his pioneer inventions, and his inspiring leadership in research."

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.

Dr. Whitney, son of John J. and Agnes (Reynolds) Whitney, was born in Jamestown, New York, on August 22, 1868. He was graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, with the degree of S.B., in 1890, and in 1896 he received the degree of Ph.D. from Leipzig. He received the honorary degree of Sc.D. from Union University in 1919, and of Ch.D. from the University of Pittsburgh in the same year, of Sc.D. from Syracuse University in 1925, of Sc.D. from the University of Michigan in 1927, of LL.D. from Lehigh University in 1929, and of Sc.D. from the University of Rochester in 1932.

He held the following positions at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology following his graduation: Assistant instructor in general chemistry, 1890–92, analytical chemistry, 1892–94, sanitary chemistry, 1896–98, instructor in theoretical chemistry and proximate analysis, 1898–01, assistant professor of theoretical chemistry, 1901–04, non-resident associate professor of theoretical chemistry, 1904–08, non-resident professor of chemical research, 1908.

Dr. Whitney assumed the directorship of the Research Laboratory of the General Electric Company at Schenectady, New York, in 1900, became vice-president and director of research on July 6, 1928, and vice-president in general charge of research on November 1, 1932.

His most notable achievement has been the creation and development of the Research Laboratory of the General Electric Company at Schenectady. This laboratory, one of the earliest of its kind in this country, the embodiment of the application of science to industry, has gained a world-wide reputation by the quality of its work and the importance of its results. Much purely scientific work of a high order is being done in the laboratory and published in the scientific journals. Among such investigations have been the study of the laws of heat conduction and radiation, the electron emission from hot bodies, ionization, crystal structure, dissociation of gases at high temperatures, transformation of other forms of carbon into graphite, chemical reactions at very low pressures and the vapor pressures of metals.

Among the papers which Dr. Whitney has personally published are: Solubility Determinations, Colloids, Corrosion of Iron, Alloys, Chemistry of Light, Carbon Brushes, Vacua, Phenomena of Catalysis, etc. His translation of LeBlanc's text-book of Electrochemistry is well known.