Societies' Building, New York City, from January 15 to 18. At this meeting four honorary memberships in the society will be conferred by the president. The recipients are: John W. Alvord, consulting engineer, Chicago; J. F. Coleman, consulting engineer, New Orleans, and past-president of the society; Mortimer E. Cooley, dean emeritus, College of Engineering and Architecture, University of Michigan, and state engineer, PWA, Detroit, Michigan, and Col. W. J. Wilgus, consulting engineer, Ascutney, Vermont.

A posthumous award of the Norman Medal, a gold medal award instituted and endowed in 1872 by the late George H. Norman, will be presented to the late D. C. Henny, formerly a consulting engineer of Portland, Oregon, for his paper on "Stability of Straight Concrete Gravity Dams," which was adjudged the outstanding contribution of the year to engineering science. The J. James R. Croes Medal, instituted by the society in 1912, and named in honor of the first recipient of the Norman Medal, presented for the paper considered next in order of merit, will be presented jointly to A. T. Larned, civil and hydraulic engineer, Phoenix Engineering Corp., N. Y., and W. S. Merrill, hydraulic engineer, Ebasco Services, N. Y., for their paper "Actual Deflections and Temperatures in a Trial-Load Arch Dam."

The Thomas Fitch Rowland Prize, for a paper describing in detail "accomplished works of construction, their cost and errors in design and execution," will be presented to W. H. Kirkbride, chief engineer, Southern Pacific Company, Pacific Lines and Subsidiary Lines, San Francisco, for his paper on "The Martinez-Benicia Bridge." The James Laurie Prize, named in honor of the first president of the society and presented for the paper adjudged to be next in order of merit, will be presented to Wilson T. Ballard, engineer, PWA, Baltimore, Md., for his paper on "Three-Span Continuous-Truss Railroad Bridge, Cincinnati, Ohio." The Arthur M. Wellington Prize, for "papers on transportation, on land, on the water or in the air," will be presented to Hawley S. Simpson, research engineer, American Transit Association, for his paper on "Use and Capacity of City Streets." The Collingwood Prize for juniors, presented for papers describing work with which the writer has been directly connected, will be awarded to C. Maxwell Stanley, Muscatine, Iowa, junior member of the society, for a paper on "Study of Stilling-Basin Design." The Rudolph Hering Medal, for papers on sewage and sewage disposal, will be presented to the following: Robert A. Allton, sewage disposal engineer, Department of Public Service, Columbus; Orris Bonney, sewage relief engineer, Department of Public Service, Columbus; John H. Gregory, consulting engineer, professor of civil and sanitary engineering, the Johns Hopkins University, and the late R. H. Simpson, who was chief engineer of the Department of Public Service, Columbus, for a collaboration on the paper "Intercepting Sewers and Storm Stand-by Tanks at Columbus, Ohio."

THE AWARD OF THE WILLARD GIBBS MEDAL TO PROFESSOR ROGER ADAMS

PROFESSOR ROGER ADAMS, head of the department of chemistry in the University of Illinois, has been awarded the Willard Gibbs Medal of the Chicago Section of the American Chemical Society for 1936, "for outstanding and fundamental contributions to synthetic organic chemistry, and for conspicuous achievements as a teacher of chemistry." A further announcement concerning Professor Adams's work reads:

He has carried out many difficult and important organic syntheses, including new local anesthetics, chaulmoogric acid, the principal remedy for leprosy, and allied compounds. He has synthesized diphenyl derivatives and has explained how atoms have to be arranged for the molecule of the derivative to be optically active.

This work has increased knowledge of the arrangement in space of the atoms. The development of the stereochemistry of diphenyls has stimulated the use of optical rotation for studying dynamic effects within certain molecules and has offered new methods of attack to other stereochemical problems.

Professor Adams's study of diphenyl derivatives has been of high theoretical importance to organic chemistry. Diphenyl resins at present are industrially employed in the manufacture of dyes, synthetic perfumes, explosives, medicinals and paints.

Butyn is one of the best known local anesthetics synthesized by Professor Adams. Made from coal tar materials, it is similar to novocaine, but is said to be quicker in action, and is especially useful in operations on the eye.

Professor Adams discovered the constituents of chaulmoogric acid, the effective principle of chaulmoogra oil, called the "backbone of leprosy treatment." The oil, taken from the seed of a fruit similar to grapefruit, which grows on a tree of the Indian plum family in the Philippines, Siam and Indo-China, was found to check leprosy even in fairly advanced stages and to control it in early stages. Injection of the ethyl ester of the acid under the skin of the leper was reported to be most valuable.

With knowledge of the constituents, Professor Adams was able to synthesize chaulmoogric acid as well as certain analogous compounds which are believed to be even more efficient. The synthetic acid, called diheptylacetic acid, is made from castor oil and acetic acid. It is produced on a fairly large scale, thus freeing investigators from the necessity of obtaining chaulmoogra oil for their work. Extensive tests with the synthetic substances are

now being carried out in the leper colony in the Philippines.

Platinum-oxide, an extremely useful new catalyst for the reduction of organic compounds, was discovered by Professor Adams, who has also been successful in the reduction of trypanocidal compounds.

The award is determined by a national jury of scientific men. The first medallist was Svante Arrhenius of Sweden, who has been followed by: Mme. Curie of France, Sir James Irvine of Scotland, Dr. Richard Willstaetter of Munich, and American scientists including Theodore W. Richards, Leo H. Baekeland, Ira Remsen, Arthur A. Noyes, Willis R. Whitney, Edward W. Morley, William M. Burton, William A. Noyes, F. G. Cottrell, J. Stieglitz, G. N. Lewis, Moses Gomberg, John Jacob Abel, William Draper Harkins, Claude S. Hudson, Irving Langmuir, Phoebus A. Levene, Edward Curtis Franklin, Harold C. Urey, Charles A. Kraus.

OFFICERS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

A FULL account of the St. Louis meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the scientific societies associated with it, edited by the permanent secretary, will be published in the issue of SCIENCE for February 7.

Officers of the association for 1936 were elected as follows:

PRESIDENT

E. G. Conklin, Princeton University, Princeton, N. J.

VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mathematics: G. C. Evans, University of California, Berkeley, Calif.

Physics: George B. Pegram, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.

Chemistry: Irving Langmuir, General Electric Company, Schenectady, N. Y.

Astronomy: Frederick H. Seares, Mount Wilson Observatory, Pasadena, Calif.

Geology and Geography: George R. Mansfield, U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C.

Zoological Sciences: Ross G. Harrison, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

Botanical Sciences: J. M. Greenman, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, Mo.

Anthropology: Ralph Linton, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.

Psychology: Edward S. Robinson, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

Social and Economic Sciences: Harold G. Moulton, Brookings Institution, Washington, D. C.

Historical and Philological Sciences: E. H. Wilkins, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio.

Engineering: W. E. Wickenden, Case School of Applied Science, Cleveland, Ohio.

Medical Sciences: Joseph T. Wearn, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.

Agriculture: P. E. Brown, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa.

Education: E. S. Evenden, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL

(Terms to expire in December, 1939)

Karl T. Compton, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass.

Richard C. Tolman, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, Calif.

ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(Terms to expire December, 1939)

Austin H. Clark, U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.

Arthur H. Compton, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON GRANTS-IN-AID

(Terms to expire December, 1939)

Sam F. Trelease, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.

Joel Stebbins, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.

MEMBER OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

(Term to expire December, 1939)

Arthur L. Day, Geophysical Laboratory, Carnegie Institution of Washington, Washington, D. C.

TRUSTEE OF SCIENCE SERVICE

(Term to expire April, 1939)

Burton E. Livingston, Laboratory of Plant Physiology, the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.

SECRETARY OF SECTION ON AGRICULTURE

(Term to expire December, 1939)

M. F. Morgan, Connecticut Agricultural College, New Haven, Conn.

SECTION COMMITTEEMEN

(Terms to end December, 1939)

Mathematics: L. M. Graves, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

Physics: Karl K. Darrow, Bell Telephone Laboratories, New York, N. Y.

Chemistry: Moses Gomberg, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Astronomy: John C. Duncan, Wellesley College, Wellesley, Mass.

Geology and Geography: C. H. Behre, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.

Zoological Sciences: A. M. Banta, Brown University, Providence, R. I.

Botanical Sciences: E. W. Sinnott, Barnard College, New York, N. Y.

Anthropology: Robert Redfield, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

Psychology: John P. Nafe, Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.

Social and Economic Sciences: Holbrook Working, Stanford University, Calif.

Historical and Philological Sciences: George Sarton, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.