

comprising the Southern Plains wind erosion area. This original survey, however, was conducted in state and county units and did not single out the wind erosion sector for special attention.

The new survey covered Bent, Prowers and Baca Counties in Colorado; Hamilton, Stanton, Grant, Morton, Stevens and Seward Counties in Kansas; Cimarron, Texas and Beaver Counties in Oklahoma, and Dallam, Sherman, Hansford, Ochiltree, Hartley, Moore, Oldham and Deaf Smith Counties in Texas.

AWARDS BY ACADEMIES OF SOUTHEASTERN STATES

THERE has recently been established a new and rather different sort of competition, a competition among the state academies of science of the southeastern states.

A broad-visioned and scientifically-minded donor has arranged to provide a gold medal each year to each of the academies of science of Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia. (It is anticipated that the recently organized Florida Academy of Science will participate next year.) Each academy awards its gold medal to the author of an especially meritorious paper read at its annual meeting. The papers that thus win gold medals are then brought together and compete with each other for three cash prizes, one of \$100 and two of \$25 each.

The plan went into operation this spring, but only three academies actually awarded their medals. These three gold medal papers have now been evaluated by a thoroughly competent person not resident in any of the states involved and the cash prizes have been sent to the winners as follows:

One hundred dollars to Dr. Alfred Chanutin, of the Virginia Academy of Science and the University of Virginia, for a paper entitled "The Effect of Whole Dried Meat Diets on Renal Insufficiency Produced by Partial Nephrectomy."

Twenty-five dollars to Dr. F. Gregory Hall, of the North Carolina Academy of Science and Duke University, for two papers entitled "Comparative Physiology in High Altitudes" and "The Effect of Altitude on the Affinity of Hemoglobin for Oxygen."

Twenty-five dollars to Dr. Frederick M. Kinard, of the South Carolina Academy of Science and the School of Medicine of the Medical College of the State of South Carolina, for a paper entitled "A Study of Blood Histamine in Normal and in Burned Dogs."

It is hoped that five state academies will participate next year, though this may not mean that five medals will be awarded, as it is strongly desired that these medals be awarded only for really meritorious papers.

E. C. L. MILLER,
Secretary

VIRGINIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LETTER SYMBOLS FOR HEAT AND THERMODYNAMICS

AN attempt will be made to relieve the present chaotic situation with regard to symbols for equations in thermodynamics at an international conference which has been called by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, to be held in the Engineering Societies Building, New York City, on September 14 and 15. The conference has been scheduled at this time so that some of the delegates to the World Power Conference to be held the week previous in Washington, D. C., may also act as representatives at the Symbols Conference.

American usage in regard to such symbols has become fairly well standardized since the publication of the list prepared by the Subcommittee on Symbols for Heat and Thermodynamics of the American Standards Association. This is now generally adhered to in America, but other lists have been issued by various European bodies. The conference will endeavor to compromise the differences in the several lists. While it is understood that no international body has authority to standardize any list of symbols, it is hoped nevertheless that the list finally selected by the conference will be accepted by the various bodies represented as the best possible compromise and in this way automatically become an international standard.

Participation in the conference has already been promised by Comité Electrotechnique Suisse, the British Standards Institution, the Association française de Normalisation, Ausschuss für Einheiten und Formelgrößen (Germany), Verein Deutscher Ingenieure, Institution of Gas Engineers (England), Comité Electrotechnique français, and negotiations are in progress with the International Congress of Refrigeration, the Physical Society (England), the National Research Council of Canada, the Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers (England), the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (England) and the Chemical Society (England). The American interests will be represented by the Subcommittee on Symbols for Heat and Thermodynamics of the American Standards Association.

RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

SIR HENRY SOLOMON WELLCOME, London, founder of the Wellcome Research Institution, the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum and the Wellcome Bureau of Scientific Research, who was born near Milwaukee in 1854, died on July 25. Sir Henry was the head of Burroughs, Wellcome and Company of London, manufacturers of chemicals, with establishments in the United States, Italy, Canada, Australia, India, China and other countries.

DR. CHARLES HARRISON FRAZIER, John Rhea Barton professor of surgery and head of the department of