

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

surgery at the University of Pennsylvania, died on July 26 at the age of sixty-six years.

CHARLES FITZHUGH TALMAN, meteorologist of the U. S. Weather Bureau and librarian, died by suicide on July 21. He was sixty-one years old.

Industrial and Engineering Chemistry reports that at the recent meeting of the board of regents of the University of Nebraska authorization was given to rename the Chemistry Building of the university in honor of the late Samuel Avery, and the building will henceforth be known as the Avery Laboratory of Chemistry. The name will be placed in bronze letters on the frieze of the building. In addition, the regents have established two perpetual fellowships to be

known as the Samuel Avery Graduate Fellowships in Chemistry. This action has been taken in recognition of Dr. Avery's long service to the university as professor of chemistry, head of the department, chancellor of the university, and for the last eight years of his life professor of research in chemistry.

ON the occasion of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Friedrich W. A. Sertürner, the discoverer of morphine, a monument is to be erected in his honor at his birthplace in Germany.

AT the International Congress of Comparative Pathology, recently held at Athens, a statue of Hippocrates, the work of the sculptor Georges Dimitriadis, was unveiled in front of the Medical School.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE complete list of honorary fellows recently elected by the Royal Society of Edinburgh is as follows. Foreign fellows: Professor L. H. Baekeland, honorary professor of chemical engineering, Columbia University; Professor M. Lugeon, professor of geology at the University of Lausanne; Dr. George Sarton, editor of *Isis* and *Osiris*; Dr. G. L. Streeter, director of the department of embryology of the Carnegie Institution of Washington; Professor N. I. Vavilov, director of the Institute of Genetics, Academy of Sciences, Leningrad; Professor W. M. Wheeler, emeritus professor of entomology at Harvard University. Sir Charles Boys; Sir Henry Dale, director of the National Institute for Medical Research, and Dr. F. G. Donnan, professor of chemistry in the University of London, have been elected British honorary fellows.

AT the recent meeting in Oslo of the International Congress of Mathematicians the Field Medals for mathematical work were presented to Professor K. A. M. Ahlfors, professor of mechanical engineering at the School of Technology at Helsingfors, and Dr. Jesse Douglas, professor of mathematics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

THE Rivers Memorial Medal of the Royal Anthropological Institute, London, has been awarded for 1936 to Professor Peter H. Buck (Te Rangi Hiroa), who was recently elected to succeed Dr. Herbert E. Gregory as director of the Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu. The Wellcome Gold Medal for 1935 was awarded to Dr. Lucy Philip Mair for an essay entitled "An Anthropologist's Estimate of African Policies."

THE Government of the Spanish Republic recently conferred the decoration of "Comendador de la Orden de la República" upon Sir Henry Wellcome, the founder of the Wellcome Research Institution, London, in recognition of his outstanding services to Spanish interests. Sir Henry died on July 25.

THE shield of nobility of the German Empire has been awarded to Dr. Gustav Tammann, professor of physical chemistry at the University of Göttingen, and the Goethe Medal to Dr. Reinhold Schmaltz, professor of anatomy, embryology and histology at Berlin.

THE Dr. W. S. Bruce Memorial Prize has been awarded to James W. S. Marr, in recognition of his work in polar exploration. The recipient of the prize is chosen by a committee consisting of representatives of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, the Royal Physical Society and the Royal Scottish Geographical Society.

A COMMITTEE of the faculty, with Professor F. A. Russell, chairman of the department of civil engineering, as head, will administer the affairs of the School of Engineering and Architecture of the University of Kansas, pending appointment of a successor to the late Dean George C. Shaad, who died on July 9. Other members of the committee are Professor W. C. McNown, Professor J. O. Jones and Professor E. D. Hay.

DR. RUBEN NOMLAND, for the past six years instructor in dermatology and syphilology at the Rush Medical College of the University of Chicago, has been appointed professor and head of the recently organized department of dermatology and syphilology at the College of Medicine of the State University of Iowa.

DR. J. G. GRANT, assistant professor of hygiene at the Iowa State College, has been appointed head of that department and director of the College Hospital. He will succeed Dr. J. F. Edwards. Dr. Edwards, while retiring as head of the department, will remain as professor of hygiene.

DR. NEAL A. WEBER has been appointed associate professor of biology at the University of North Dakota.