program on Vitamins Other than Those of the B Complex. General papers will be presented on Wednesday and Thursday mornings.

The Microchemical Section will hold one session for the presentation of general papers.

The Division of Organic Chemistry plans a program of miscellaneous papers in three sessions.

The Division of Paint and Varnish Chemistry has scheduled two sessions of general papers. A Symposium on Synthetic Plastics, under the chairmanship of Gordon M. Kline, will be held on Wednesday morning and afternoon and Thursday morning.

The Division of Physical and Inorganic Chemistry will hold a general Symposium on the Chemistry of Solid Surfaces, a half day of group symposia and probably three other sessions for general papers.

The Division of Rubber Chemistry will meet in three sessions for the presentation of miscellaneous papers.

The Division of Sugar Chemistry will hold two sessions, at which general papers will be given.

The Division of Water, Sewage and Sanitation Chemistry will meet on Tuesday for a program of general papers.

AWARDS OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE

Two awards of the American Institute of the City of New York for 1937—the Gold Medal to the Bell Telephone Laboratories, and a fellowship to Watson Davis, director of Science Service, Washington, D. C. —were made at the annual dinner of the institute on February 4.

Robert T. Pollock, president of the institute, presided and presented the awards. President Karl T. Compton, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, spoke on the work of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, and Dr. Frank B. Jewett responded. G. B. Parker, editor-in-chief of the Scripps Howard Newspapers, spoke on the work of Science Service, and Mr. Davis responded.

The gold medal, given annually in recognition of outstanding accomplishment in research, went to the Bell Telephone Laboratories "for research in electrical science which, applied to communication, have promoted understanding, security and commerce among peoples by transmitting human thought instantly throughout the world."

The fellowship in the institute, given for outstanding service in the interpretation of science to laymen, was conferred on Watson Davis, "for interpreting to the people of the nation the rapid progress of science upon which modern civilization depends and for the organized dissemination of research findings as news."

Progressive steps in the perfection of equipment needed for the faithful transmission of speech and music over great distances was demonstrated by the use of four telephone circuits by Dr. Perrine. Two of these, one a modern long distance line, and the other a modern high quality circuit used in hook-ups for radio broadcasting, extended two thousand miles from the banquet room to Danville, Illinois, and back to a special loud speaker on the platform. Two others were synthetic circuits created to give the effect of the best lines available for transcontinental telephony in 1915 and in 1920, but now no longer used. Music and speech were sent directly to the loud speaker and then through each of these circuits in turn for comparison. The loud speaker itself, weighing some 600 pounds, was a recent development based on four integral units, each amplifying sounds of particular frequencies. Effects of differences in circuits were shown by transmitting sounds of definite pitch as well as voice and music over the various lines.

The Council on Awards of the American Institute consist of: M. L. Crossley (chairman), Calco Chemical Company; Oscar Riddle, Carnegie Institution, Station for Experimental Evolution; W. H. Carrier, Carrier Engineering Corporation; W. D. Coolidge, General Electric Company; Oliver Kamm, Parke, Davis and Company; Ward F. Davidson, Brooklyn Edison Company; L. O. Kunkel, the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research; Clinton J. Davisson, Bell Telephone Laboratories, and Harden F. Taylor, Atlantic Coast Fisheries.

AWARD OF THE WILLARD GIBBS MEDAL TO DR. McCOY

DR. HERBERT NEWBY MCCOY, known for his achievements in radioactivity and in other fields of chemical science, has been awarded the 1937 Willard Gibbs Medal of the Chicago Section of the American Chemical Society. The medal will be presented at a dinner of the Chicago Section to be given on May 21.

Dr. McCoy, who was for sixteen years a member of the faculty of the University of Chicago and who is now vice-president and director of research of the Lindsay Light and Chemical Company, Chicago, was cited as "pioneer in a greater number of fundamental discoveries than any but three or four living American chemists." According to the notice sent us:

> Independently of and simultaneously with Robert John Strutt, now Baron Rayleigh, of England, and the late Professor Bertram B. Boltwood, of Yale University, Dr. McCoy was the first to establish experimentally that radium is produced by the spontaneous transmutation of uranium. He prepared the first organic metal, tetramethyl ammonium. He and Dr. William H. Ross, now of the U. S. Bureau of Soils, were the first to recognize clearly that isotopes are chemically inseparable substances. Dr. McCoy determined the first ionization constant of an indicator as a measure of its sensitiveness, and showed how the indicator participates in a reaction. He likewise made the first determination of the secondary ionization constant of a very weak electrolyte.

The Willard Gibbs Medal, founded by William A. Converse in 1911, was named for Josiah Willard Gibbs, professor of mathematical physics at Yale University

from 1871 to 1903, whose discoveries of the phase rule and other thermodynamical laws are the bases of modern processes of petroleum refining and of other chemical industries.

The 1937 medal jury was composed as follows: Professor Joel H. Hildebrand, of the University of California; Dr. Carl S. Miner, of Chicago; Professor Julius Stieglitz and Professor Hermann I. Schlesinger, of the University of Chicago; Professor Hugh S. Taylor, of Princeton University; Professor Harold C. Urey, of Columbia University; Dr. Ernest H. Volwiler, of the Abbott Laboratories, North Chicago; Professor Harry B. Weiser, of Rice Institute; Dr. George O. Curme, of the Union Carbide and Carbon Company, New York; Dr. Irving Langmuir, of the General Electric Company; Professor Ross A. Gortner, of the University of Minnesota; Dr. Eugene C. Sullivan, of the Corning Glass Works, Corning, New York.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. FREDERICK G. NOVY, professor of bacteriology emeritus at the University of Michigan, has been elected an honorary member of the Société de Pathologie exotique, Paris.

DR. B. R. KIRKLIN, of the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn., has been elected a corresponding member of the German Röntgen Society.

THE Duddell Medal of the Physical Society, London, has been awarded to Dr. Walter G. Cady, professor of physics at Wesleyan University.

THE honorary degree of doctor of science was conferred on Dr. Charles Gordon Heyd, president of the American Medical Association, by Temple University at its Founders' Day exercises on February 15.

THE degree of doctor of pharmacy, *honoris causa,* was conferred by the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science on Dr. Thomas Parran, Jr., surgeon general of the United States Public Health Service, on the occasion of the one hundred and sixteenth celebration of Founders' Day on February 23. Dr. Parran, who gave the principal address, spoke on "The Aims of the United States Public Health Service."

AT the annual dinner in New York City of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, honors for distinguished service were awarded as follows: The William Laurence Saunders Gold Medal was awarded to Erskine Ramsay, chairman of the board and general consulting engineer of the Alabama By-Products Corporation of Birmingham. The first Anthony F. Lucas Gold Medal was awarded to J. Howard Pew, president of the Sun Oil Company. George S. Rice, chief mining engineer of the Bureau of Mines, Washington, D. C., won a certificate of honorary membership in the institute. The Robert H. Hunt prize for 1937 was awarded to William Floyd Holbrook, of the U. S. Bureau of Mines, and to Thomas L. Joseph, of the Minnesota School of Mines and Metallurgy in Minneapolis. John M. Hassler, engineer of the Southern District Republic Steel Corporation, of Birmingham, Ala., won the J. E. Johnson award.

THE 1936 Lamme Medal of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers has been awarded to Dr. Frank Conrad, assistant chief engineer of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, East Pittsburgh, Pa., "for his pioneering and basic developments in the fields of electric metering and protective systems." The medal and certificate will be presented to him at the annual summer convention of the institute, which will be held in Milwaukee from June 21 to 25. The Lamme Medal was founded as a result of a bequest of the late Benjamin G. Lamme, chief engineer of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, who died on July 8, 1924, to provide for the award of a gold medal annually to a member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, "who has shown meritorious achievement in the development of electrical apparatus or machinery."

IT is recorded in *Nature* that the council of the British Institution of Electrical Engineers has made the fifteenth award of the Faraday Medal to Professor André Blondel, of Paris. The medal is awarded not more frequently than once a year, either for notable scientific or industrial achievement in electrical engineering or for conspicuous service rendered to the advancement of electrical science, without restriction as regards nationality, country of residence, or membership of the institution.

IN addition to the Wollaston Medal, which was awarded by the British Geological Society to Professor Waldemar Lindgren, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, for his researches concerning the mineral structure of the earth, the following awards have been made: the Murchison Medal to Dr. L. J. Spencer, in recognition of the value of his original contributions to mineralogical science and of his services to the publication of mineralogical literature; the Lyell Medal to L. Richardson, for his contributions to the geology of the Jurassic rocks of Great Britain; the Bigsby Medal to Professor C. E. Tilley, in recognition of the value of his researches in petrological science; the Wollaston Fund to Dr. D. Parkinson; the Murchison Fund to S. H. Straw. The Lyell Fund was