spectrum with concave grating spectrographs used both with fixed and jumping films; (4) photographs of the coronal spectrum with various spectrographs, one using a Schmidt lens; (5) measurement of the total light of the corona; (6) measurement of the percentage of polarized light in the corona; (7) shadow bands.

In spite of distance and isolation, the National Broadcasting Company, over a nation-wide hook-up, will broadcast the progress of the expedition towards its destination, will describe the course of the preparations in the weeks ashore and on eclipse day will give very extended accounts of the observations as they are being carried out on June 8.

## SCIENCE ON THE RADIO

FOR two hours and fifteen minutes each week, the nation-wide radio networks carry seven programs of science. In the form of dialogues, dramatizations and talks, these sustaining programs are the result of cooperation between two networks and the several scientific or educational organizations. The networks contribute the time and the producing organizations prepare the programs and arrange for their presentation. Each of the talks is carried by a chain of about 30 to 60 stations and each brings forth a considerable amount of listener interest.

In addition to these programs on the networks, there are numerous programs of local stations which are devoted more or less regularly to science. Sometimes other network programs, such as those devoted to agriculture, include scientific material. Many broadcasts are given at the time of scientific meetings and on other special occasions.

A weekly talk on "Science News of the Week" is prepared in continuity form by Science Service and sent to local broadcasting stations, many of them connected with educational institutions, for reading by an announcer. Since this talk is used by about 50 stations, it is in effect a broadcast available to the whole nation.

The world wide short wave station W1XAL at Boston performs another sort of service in acting as a sort of scientific journal of the air. Each day at 4:55 P. M. EST, cosmic data ursigrams and scientific news furnished by Science Service and often astronomical and other news are broadcast on 11.79 megacycles.

The science programs regularly on nation-wide networks are listed below. Times given are Eastern Standard. CBS means Columbia Broadcasting System and NBC means National Broadcasting Company. Local stations carrying these programs can be determined by reference to programs in local newspapers.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON:

3:45 to 4:00 P.M.—*Have You Heard?*—Curious and interesting facts in natural science, presented under the auspices of the Federal Office of Education. NBC Blue Network.

5:00 to 5:30 P.M.—*Your Health.*—Dramatized health broadcasts under auspices of the American Medical Association. NBC Blue Network.

5:15 to 5:30 P.M.—*Science Service Series.*—A leading scientist is interviewed each week by Watson Davis, director of Science Service. CBS Network.

6:00 to 6:15 P.M.—*Science in the News.*—Arranged by the University of Chicago Educational Council. NBC Red Network.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON:

2:00 to 2:15 P.M.—*Academy of Medicine.*—Medical programs, arranged by the New York Academy of Medicine. CBS Network.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON:

5:30 to 5:45 P.M.—*Drama of the Skies.*—Dr. Clyde Fisher, of the Hayden Planetarium, speaking on astronomical subjects. CBS Network.

SUNDAY MORNING:

11:30 to 12:00 A.M.—*The World is Yours.*—Dramatizations based on Smithsonian Institution activities, arranged by cooperation with the Federal Office of Education. NBC Red Network.

WATSON DAVIS

## PRESENTATION OF THE WILLIAM H. NICHOLS MEDAL TO DR. WHITMORE

DEAN FRANK C. WHITMORE, of the School of Chemistry and Physics of Pennsylvania State College, president-elect of the American Chemical Society, received on February 26 the William H. Nichols Gold Medal of the New York Section of the society, at a dinner given jointly by the section and the Society of Chemical Industry at the Hotel Pennsylvania.

More than 400 scientific men, representing many different fields of knowledge and investigation, united in honoring Dean Whitmore, who was awarded the medal for studies in "metallo-organic compounds, especially those of mercury, and in the field of aliphatic chemistry, particularly in molecular rearrangements and in the polymerization of olefins."

Dr. Walter S. Landis, vice-president of the American Cyanamid Company and chairman of the Nichols Medal Jury of Award, presented the medal, which was established in 1902 by the late Dr. William H. Nichols, a leader of the chemical industry and a charter member of the American Chemical Society, to "stimulate original research in chemistry." To insure perpetuation of the medal, a gift of securities was made recently to the New York Section by C. W. Nichols, chairman of the board of the Nichols Engineering and Research Corporation and son of William H. Nichols. Members of

the 1937 Medal Jury, in addition to Dr. Landis, were Dr. L. W. Bass, Dr. J. M. Weiss, Professor A. W. Hixson and Professor Victor K. LaMer.

Dean Whitmore, in his address of acceptance, discussed recent research on polymerization and the genesis and interrelation of his chemical investigations. Professor Marston T. Bogert, of Columbia University, past president of the society, spoke on the scientific achievements of the medallist, and Dr. Gerald L. Wendt, director of the American Institute of the City of New York, outlined his personal career. In his address Dr. Whitmore reported that with the aid of a dozen assistants, he has succeeded, after five years of work, in removing most of the "magic and uncertainty" attached to reactions involved in polymerization, and in reducing these complex changes to an orderly basis.

Dr. Whitmore was born in North Attleboro, Mass., on October 1, 1887, and received his early education in Atlantic City, N. J. Later he attended Harvard University, taking the degree of bachelor of arts in 1911, of master of arts in 1912 and of doctor of philosophy in 1914. He was instructor in organic chemistry at Williams College in 1916–17 and at the Rice Institute in 1917–18. From 1918 to 1920 he was assistant professor at the University of Minnesota, when he joined the faculty of Northwestern University with the rank of professor, serving as head of the department of chemistry from 1924 to 1929, leaving to become dean at Pennsylvania State College.

He is consultant and member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Chemical Warfare Service, and was formerly chairman of the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Technology of the National Research Council. In 1932 he was vice-president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and chairman of its chemical section. Beginning with the treasurership of the Southwest Texas Section in 1917, Dean Whitmore has held many offices in the American Chemical Society, of which he has been a director since 1927. He was an officer of the Division of Organic Chemistry for eight years, and is an associate editor of the *Journal* of the society.

# SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE John Scott Awards for 1937 of the City of Philadelphia, $1,000 and a copper medal, were presented on March 5 to Dr. W. D. Coolidge and Dr. Irving Langmuir, director and associate director of the research laboratories in Schenectady of the General Electric Company, and to Dr. Evarts A. Graham, professor of surgery at the Washington University Medical School, St. Louis. The award to Dr. Coolidge was for his application of a new principle in x-ray tubes and that to Dr. Langmuir for development of the electric bulb now in common use. The award to Dr. Graham was for his application of the x-ray to the study and diagnosis of gall bladder conditions. Dr. Ernest T. Trigg, chairman of the Board of City Trusts, made the presentations.

THE seventieth birthday of Dr. Adolf Meyer and the beginning of his twenty-fifth year as director of the Henry Phipps Psychiatric Clinic of the Johns Hopkins University Medical School will be celebrated on April 16 and 17.

HONORARY scrolls in recognition of "outstanding contributions to the human race" have been awarded by the Columbia Graduate School Alumni Association to John Kunkel Small, head curator of the New York Botanical Garden; Jesse Feiring Williams, of Teachers College; Victor Emanuel Levine, professor of biological chemistry at Creighton University, and William Crocker, director of the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, Yonkers.

A BANQUET was given on March 4 at Northwestern University for members of the faculty who had served for twenty-five years. These included Dr. Robert Blue, Dr. James Carr, Dr. Arthur Curtis, Dr. Alexander Day, Dr. Charles Freeman, Dr. William Holmes, Dr. George Meyer, Dr. Stephen Ranson and Dr. John A. Wolfer, *medicine;* Professor William Bryan and Professor Walter K. Smart, *English;* Professor William Burger and Professor Herbert Philbrick, *engineering;* Professor Elton J. Moulton, *mathematics;* Professor Horace Secrist, *economics;* Dr. William Skillen, *dentistry;* Professor David Himmelblau, *accounting.*

A TESTIMONIAL dinner to Willis H. Carrier was held on February 25 at the Boston Chamber of Commerce, with members of eight societies of air conditioning, heating, refrigerating, mechanical and metallurgical engineers attending. Mr. Carrier made an address on the application of air-conditioning work at the Robinson Deep Mine in the Rand Gold Fields of South Africa.

*Museum News* calls attention to the following awards made to scientific men in South Africa: K. H. Barnard, assistant director of the South African Museum, Capetown, has been awarded the senior Captain Scott medal by the South African Biological Society in recognition of his researches with South African crustacea and fish. H. M. L. Bolus, curator of the Bolus Herbarium, University of Capetown, has received an honorary degree of doctor of science from the University of Stellenbosch. John Hewitt, director of the Albany Museum, Grahamstown, received the South African medal and