

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

At the dinner on March 30 of the first International Congress on Fever Therapy, held in New York City, the French government, represented by Count Charles de Ferry de Fontnouvelle, French Consul General of New York, conferred membership in the Legion of Honor on four Americans who have been foremost in fever therapy experiments. They were: Dr. William Bierman, president of the American Congress of Physical Therapy and director of the department of physical therapy at Mount Sinai Hospital; Charles Franklin Kettering, vice-president of General Motors Corporation and director of its research laboratories; Dr. Walter Simpson, one of the pioneer workers in this country in the production of fever, and Dr. Willis Whitney, retired director of the General Electric Company's research laboratories. Dr. Simpson and Dr. Bierman were recognized for their experiments and research in artificial fever; Mr. Kettering and Dr. Whitney for discoveries and inventions that had helped to apply fever therapy in a practical manner.

THE Howard Crosby Warren Medal for outstanding research in experimental psychology has been awarded for 1937 to Professor Karl Spencer Lashley, of Harvard University, "for his distinguished work on the physiological basis of learning and on the neural mechanisms involved in vision." The award was made at the annual meeting of the Society of Experimental Psychologists, Inc., held at Smith College, Northampton, Mass., on March 25 and 26. The Warren Medal was established in 1936 through the generosity of Mrs. Warren in memory of her husband.

At the annual general meeting of the Institution of Petroleum Technologists held on March 9, the Redwood Medal was presented to Mr. Harry Ricardo, in recognition of his contributions to the advancement of the science and technology of petroleum.

*Nature* reports that the Royal Society of Edinburgh has awarded the Gunning Victoria Jubilee Prize for the period 1932-36 to Professor C. G. Darwin, master of Christ's College, Cambridge, formerly Tait professor of natural philosophy in the University of Edinburgh, "for his distinguished contributions in mathematical physics"; and the Makdougall-Brisbane Prize for the period 1934-36 to Dr. E. M. Anderson, formerly of H.M. Geological Survey (Scotland), for his paper "The Dynamics of the Formation of Conesheets, Ringdykes, and Caldron-subsidencees," published in the society's *Proceedings* within the period of the award.

THE Senate of the National University of Ireland has voted to confer on Hugh O. Hencken, director of the Harvard archeological expedition to Ireland,

curator of European archeology at the Peabody Museum at Harvard University, the honorary degree of Litt.D.

THE degree of doctor of science has been conferred by the University of Oxford on Dr. The. Svedberg, professor of physical chemistry at the University of Upsala.

DR. JULIUS WAGNER-JAUREGG, professor of psychiatry and neurology at Vienna, celebrated his eightieth birthday on March 7.

At a meeting of the Royal College of Physicians, London, on March 22, Lord Dawson of Penn was re-elected president.

OFFICERS of the Geological Society of London have been elected as follows: *President*, Professor O. T. Jones; *Vice-presidents*, Professor W. T. Gordon, J. F. N. Green, Professor W. J. Pugh and Professor H. H. Swinnerton; *Secretaries*, Dr. L. Hawkes and Professor W. B. R. King; *Foreign Secretary*, Sir Arthur Smith Woodward; *Treasurer*, F. N. Ashcroft.

DR. JOHN G. KIRKWOOD, of Cornell University, who received the 1936 award in pure chemistry given by the American Chemical Society, has been appointed associate professor of chemistry at the University of Chicago. Dr. George W. Wheland, now in England as a Guggenheim fellow, has been made instructor in the department of chemistry.

DR. E. G. ANDERSON, of the California Institute of Technology, has returned to Pasadena after spending the past three months at the University of Minnesota as guest professor, teaching advanced courses in plant genetics.

DR. PAUL H. FALL, since 1920 professor of chemistry and head of the department of chemistry at Hiram College, has been appointed associate professor of chemistry at Williams College.

DR. WAYNE DENNIS, of the University of Virginia, has been appointed visiting professor of psychology at Clark University for the academic year 1937-38. He will offer work in child psychology and social psychology. Dr. Robert H. Brown has been appointed assistant professor of psychology and philosophy, beginning with the opening of the same year.

DR. JAMES ARCHIBALD DOUGLAS, of Keble College, has been elected to the chair of geology at the University of Oxford.

PROFESSOR SAMUEL SUGDEN, of Birkbeck College, has been appointed to the university chair of chemistry tenable at University College, London.

DR. ARTHUR B. CLEAVES, who has been appointed junior geologist on the Pennsylvania Topographic and Geologic Survey, has been elected permanent secretary of the Field Conference of Pennsylvania Geologists, Harrisburg.

THE Lucius N. Littauer Foundation has awarded a grant to Dr. Israel S. Kleiner, professor of biochemistry at the New York Medical College, to aid in his studies of the male hormone.

DR. H. J. MULLER, formerly professor of genetics at the University of Texas, who has been working with N. I. Vavilov in Soviet Russia, reached Valencia on his way to Madrid on March 15 to join the Canadian blood transfusion unit. He expects later to resume his work in Moscow.

DR. EDWIN GRANT CONKLIN, emeritus professor of biology at Princeton University, lectured on "Biology and Social Problems" on April 2, 3 and 9 on the Richard B. Westbrook Free Lectureship Foundation of the Wagner Free Institute of Science, Philadelphia.

DR. HAROLD C. UREY, professor of chemistry at Columbia University, delivered the lecture at the annual public meeting of the Harvard University Chapter of the Society of Sigma Xi on March 31. His subject was, "The Problem of the Concentration of Isotopes."

DR. C. N. H. LONG, professor of physiological chemistry at Yale University, will deliver the seventh Harvey Society Lecture of the current series at the New York Academy of Medicine on April 15 at 8:30 P. M. Dr. Long will speak on "The Influence of the Pituitary and Adrenal Glands upon Pancreatic Diabetes."

DR. CHESTER M. ALTER, of the department of chemistry of Boston University, lectured on March 22, 23 and 24 on "Radioactivity and the Determination of the Age of the Earth" before the faculty and students of science at Colby College, Bowdoin College and Bates College.

DR. WILLIAM HEALY, director of the Judge Baker Guidance Center, Boston, will deliver the fifth series of the Thomas William Salmon Memorial lectures at the New York Academy of Medicine on April 9, 16 and 23. The titles of the lectures are: "Foundations of the Personality Structure," "The Developing and Emerging Personality" and "Personality in Widening Human Relationships."

DR. ALEXANDER SILVERMAN, head of the department of chemistry in the University of Pittsburgh, delivered the inaugural Charlotte A. Bragg Memorial lecture in chemistry at Wellesley College on March 19. He spoke on "Glass and the Modern World."

THE scientific sessions of the American Heart Association will be held on June 7 and 8, from 9:30

A. M. to 5:30 P. M., in the Viking Room, Haddon Hall, Atlantic City, New Jersey. On Monday, June 7, the program of the Section for the Study of the Peripheral Circulation will be given. The general heart program will be presented on Tuesday, June 8.

THE second International Conference of History of the Americas will be held in Buenos Aires from July 5 to 10 of this year, under the joint auspices of the Argentine government and the Junta de Historia y Numismática Americana. It will have special sections devoted to the history of each of the countries of this hemisphere, for the discussion of topics such as the conquest and any aspects of their political, cultural, economic, military, naval and diplomatic history and numismatics. Societies, historians, professors and other persons interested in this field are invited to participate in the gathering. The president is Dr. Ricardo Levene, formerly president of the University of La Plata, and the secretary is Dr. Mariano Belgrano, Museo Mitre, San Martín 336, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

THE estate of the late Noyes D. Clark, of New York City and Bethany, except for specific bequests of \$64,000, has been bequeathed to the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University to set up a Dwight Noyes Clark and Noyes Dwight Clark scholarship fund, in memory of the donor and his father. The estate is estimated to be worth from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000.

THE California Institute of Technology has awarded contracts for four new buildings to be erected at a cost of more than \$1,000,000. These include the second unit of the Kerckhoff biological laboratories; the Crellin laboratory of chemistry; the Seeley W. Mudd geology laboratory and Charles Arms geology laboratory. The new unit for biology is financed from a fund given by the late William G. Kerckhoff, of Los Angeles, and Mrs. Kerckhoff. The unit for chemistry is given by Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Crellin, of Pasadena. The third building is the gift of Mrs. Seeley W. Mudd, of Los Angeles, as a memorial to her late husband. The Charles Arms laboratory is given by Mr. and Mrs. Henry M. Robinson, of Pasadena, in memory of Mrs. Robinson's father, operator of mining properties. Mr. Robinson, a Southland banker, is vice-president of the board of trustees of the institute.

FOR the support of the Kansas State College, Manhattan, for the biennium beginning on July 1, the State Legislature has appropriated \$2,511,000, including \$450,000 for a new building to house the departments of chemistry and physics.

ANNOUNCEMENT of a Museum Building to be constructed at Mound Park, Moundville, Ala., has been

made by Dr. Walter B. Jones, state geologist in charge of excavations in the Moundville area. Plans for the structure call for a central building 130 feet by 43 feet, surrounded on all sides by terraces. The building itself is to consist of a central exhibition hall 40 feet by 60 feet in size, with a wing on each end of the exhibition hall to house burial pits already excavated. No change will be made in these burial pits, which were excavated and put in their present condition by Dr. Jones and his assistants. Remains of the Mound Culture and Mound Indians are preserved in these burial pits, which have been exposed and laid open to view. Construction of the museum is the joint project of the Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Park Service.

REORGANIZATION of the Biological Board of Canada under the name of "The Fisheries Research Board" is provided in a bill introduced in the House of Commons, Ottawa, by Hon. J. E. Michaud, Minister of Fisheries. Mr. Michaud said that the old name was misleading to the public, as the work of the organization was confined to fisheries, and did not extend to biology generally. Some universities did little or no work on fishery research and they would not be represented on the new board. It will consist of fifteen members appointed by the Minister, two from the Department of Fisheries, two representing the Atlantic Coast and two the Pacific Coast fishing industry, and nine scientific men selected from a list which will include nominations by any Canadian university whose staff includes investigators engaged in research bearing on fishery problems.

THE Association of American Medical Colleges has completed the study of the accomplishment of all freshmen in medical schools during the session 1935-1936. Any arts college or university which would like to have a report on those of their students whose records form a part of this study may obtain it by writing to the secretary of the association, 5 South

Wabash Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. This study has been made each year since 1928. The records of students in the second, third and fourth year of the medical course may also be obtained if the names of such students are given. The full four-years report applies only to the class which entered medical school in 1932; the first three years for the entrants of 1933; first and second year for the entrants of 1934; freshmen for 1935.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association reports that it is hoped to finish the building of the Paris Eastman Dental Clinic in time to hold the dedication ceremonies on July 4, 1937. The president of the French Republic, M. Lebrun, Ambassador William C. Bullitt and a number of other leading French and American personalities will be invited to take part in the ceremonies. The clinic is designed to provide free dental service for children less than sixteen years of age who are unable to pay. It occupies a large area, and the land surrounding the clinic will be converted into parks and playgrounds. The work of the Paris Eastman Dental Clinic will be based on that carried out at Rochester, N. Y., and it should serve as a center for dentists and dental surgeons to carry on research and postgraduate work. It will also aim to teach children and parents the need and value of regular dental work.

THE transfer of the *Discovery* to the Boy Scouts' Association is reported in the *London Times* to have considerably disorganized the arrangements of the British Antarctic Expedition Committee and has made it impossible for them to carry out their original program. E. W. Walker, commander of the proposed Antarctic expedition, states that a certain proportion of financial support was conditional on acquiring the *Discovery* and will no doubt be withdrawn. It is the intention to readjust the organization and draw up a new program.

## DISCUSSION

### MIMICRY, AS VIEWED BY PROFESSOR SHULL

THE book on "Evolution," by Professor A. Franklin Shull, is, according to the preface, an "attempt to review the field of evolution as it appears to modern biologists, with the genetic bearings indicated wherever these may reasonably be assumed." It is stated that "general books on evolution have . . . lacked any adequate application of knowledge of genetics to the problems of evolution."

One of these problems is natural selection, and the

author discusses it with special reference to the theories of mimicry and other forms of protective coloration. Now the field of genetics is scarcely the standpoint from which to survey problems of the coloration of insects as a whole, for genetics are primarily concerned with the basic changes which result in *production* of a certain appearance, whereas the problem for the mimetist is not "how or why" a habit or pattern is produced, but how or why it *survives*. There is thus from the beginning a discrepancy which is constantly apparent between Professor Shull's point of view and