

Rutherford Boyd, and "Magic Squares and Cubes," by Royal V. Heath.

### THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

At the annual meeting of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, held on May 12 at its house, 28 Newbury Street, Boston, Mass., it was voted to award the Rumford Medal to William Weber Coblentz, physicist of the Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C., in recognition of his investigations in heat and light, including the physical study of the firefly, photoelectric properties of materials, the radiation of stars and pioneer work on the temperatures of the planets.

The Rumford Fund was established by a gift to the academy in 1796 from Sir Benjamin Thompson, Count Rumford, from the income of which medals may be awarded whenever the academy sees fit "to the author of any important discovery or useful improvement in light or heat, which shall have been made in any part of America."

At this meeting one foreign honorary member was elected—M. Henri Piéron, psychologist, University of Paris—and sixteen fellows, of whom the following represent the scientific sections of the academy:

#### *Class I—Mathematical and Physical Sciences*

Kenneth Tompkins Bainbridge, assistant professor of physics, Harvard University.

John Tileston Edsall, assistant professor of biological chemistry, Harvard University.

Gustavus John Esselen, consulting chemical engineer, Boston.

Joseph Henry Keenan, associate professor of mechanical engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Ernest Orlando Lawrence, professor of physics, University of California.

George Walter Stewart, professor of physics, University of Iowa.

Jabez Curry Street, assistant professor of physics, Harvard University.

Harald Malcolm Westergaard, professor of civil engineering, Harvard University.

#### *Class II—Natural and Physiological Sciences*

Walter Walker Palmer, director of medical service, Presbyterian Hospital, New York City.

Alfred Sherwood Romer, professor of zoology, Harvard University.

The following officers were elected for the coming year:

*President:* Dugald Caleb Jackson.

*Vice-president, for Class I:* James Flack Norris.

*Vice-president, for Class II:* Walter Bradford Cannon.

*Vice-president, for Class III:* George Grafton Wilson.

*Vice-president, for Class IV:* Arthur Stanley Pease.

*Corresponding Secretary:* Leigh Hoadley.

*Recording Secretary:* Tenney Lombard Davis.

*Treasurer:* Ingersoll Bowditch.

*Librarian:* Hervey Woodburn Shimer.

*Editor:* Charles Henry Blake.

Professor Percy W. Bridgman spoke on "Physical Phenomena at High Pressure."

### THE DIRECTORSHIP OF THE HOSPITAL OF THE ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

DR. THOMAS MILTON RIVERS, at present a member of the Rockefeller Institute, has been selected as director of the Department of the Hospital of the Institute to succeed Dr. Rufus Cole, who has reached the age of retirement and is withdrawing from the directorship of the hospital on June 30.

Dr. Cole has been director since its founding in 1910. When the institute was started, provision was made only for laboratories; but after a few years had elapsed the need became apparent for a hospital in which disease could be studied as it actually occurs in man. An additional gift to the funds of the institute by John D. Rockefeller made the hospital possible; and Dr. Cole, an associate in the department of medicine at the Johns Hopkins Medical School, was chosen to be placed at its head.

At that time hospitals having for their major function the investigation of disease were practically unknown. Dr. Cole started by selecting a small group of men with special interests in the basic sciences; and in the construction of the hospital building he arranged to have wards and laboratories in close proximity, so as to make readily available for the analysis of the phenomena associated with disease the techniques that had been provided through advancement in the sciences of physics, chemistry and biology. He has directed his energies and those of his staff toward the study of the common diseases which affect a large number of persons. Acute respiratory diseases, rheumatic fever, diseases of the heart, Bright's disease and the exanthematous diseases of childhood are among those which have been subjected to almost uninterrupted investigation at the hospital. No less than thirty men who have worked with Dr. Cole in the Hospital of the Rockefeller Institute now hold professorships in the medical schools of the United States and abroad.

Dr. Rivers was associate in the department of bacteriology of the Johns Hopkins Medical School, remaining there until his appointment as associate in the hospital of the Rockefeller Institute in New York in 1922. In 1927 he was appointed to membership in the institute. While at the Johns Hopkins University, he conducted studies on influenza bacilli, which resulted in the discovery of a new bacterium, *Hemophilus parainfluenzae*. Later at the Rockefeller Institute he undertook investigations of the filterable