

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

viruses. These led to the discovery of Virus III and the development of methods of growing viruses in tissue cultures. A vaccine prepared from cultured virus is now available for the prevention of smallpox in human beings. He has worked on psittacosis and

has developed a safe method of diagnosing the disease by the use of white mice instead of birds. His most recent work has dealt with a new disease, lymphocytic choriomeningitis, that attacks the central nervous system of man.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

FELLOWS of the Royal Society, London, were elected on May 6 as follows: John Desmond Bernal, lecturer in crystallography, University of Cambridge; Albert Charles Chibnall, assistant professor of biochemistry, Imperial College of Science and Technology; George Roger Clemo, professor of chemistry, Armstrong College, University of Durham; Alan Nigel Drury, M.D., lecturer in pathology, University of Cambridge; Harold Munro Fox, professor of zoology, University of Birmingham; William Edward Garner, professor of physical chemistry, University of Bristol; Sydney Goldstein, Ph.D., lecturer in mathematics, University of Cambridge; Percival Hartley, D.Sc., director of biological standards, National Institute for Medical Research; Herbert Leader Hawkins, professor of geology, University of Reading; the Rev. John Ernest Holloway, lecturer in botany, University of Otago; William Hume-Rothery, D.Sc., Warren research fellow of the Royal Society; Thomas Godfrey Mason, Sc.D., Cotton Research Station, Trinidad; James Reid Moir, archeologist; Marcus Laurence Elwin Oliphant, Ph.D., assistant director of research, Cavendish Laboratory, University of Cambridge; Carl Frederick Abel Pantin, Sc.D., lecturer in zoology, University of Cambridge; David Randall Pye, Sc.D., deputy director of scientific research, Air Ministry, and Edmund Clifton Stoner, Ph.D., reader in physics, University of Leeds.

PROFESSOR W. L. BRAGG, Langworthy professor of physics in the University of Manchester, has been appointed director of the British National Physical Laboratory. He will assume duty in the autumn.

DR. T. MADSEN, chief of the State Serum Institute in Copenhagen, has for the seventh time been elected president of the Health Committee of the League of Nations. Dr. Madsen recently gave the Abraham Flexner lectures at Vanderbilt University, where he was in residence during March and April.

THE council of the British Royal Institute of Public Health has awarded the Harben Gold Medal to Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins, professor of biochemistry at the University of Cambridge. The medal is awarded triennially under a trust created by the late Sir Henry Harben "to the person, irrespective of nationality, who, in the opinion of the council, has rendered the most eminent services to public health."

THE Patrons' Medal of the Royal Geographic Society, London, has been awarded to Lincoln Ellsworth for his Antarctic flight of 1936.

THE Société Nationale d'Acclimatation de France has awarded its 1936 silver medal to Dr. George S. Myers, of Stanford University, in recognition of his researches on fishes, particularly the smaller tropical fresh-water species. The presentation was made on March 15 by M. Albert Lebrun, president of the French Republic.

DR. JAS. LEWIS HOWE, dean of the School of Applied Science and head of the department of chemistry of Washington and Lee University, has been awarded the Herty Medal of the Southern Division of the American Chemical Society "for outstanding work on chemistry in the south."

THE Army Ordnance Association has conferred its Medal of Merit upon Major General J. G. Harbord, chairman of the Board of the Radio Corporation of America. The ceremony of presentation took place on May 12 at the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D. C.

DR. WILLIAM H. DOHERTY, of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, has been awarded by the Institute of Radio Engineers the Morris Liebman Memorial Prize for 1937, in recognition of his work in the field of radio-frequency power amplifiers. The presentation was made at the annual dinner of the institute in New York on May 12.

THE doctorate of science has been conferred by Clemson College on Dr. George W. Keitt, head of the department of plant pathology of the University of Wisconsin, in recognition of his contributions in the field of plant diseases. The degree was conferred on the occasion of the dedication of the new agricultural building on May 12.

THE degree of doctor of science will be conferred at the summer convocation of the University of Durham on Sir Henry Dale, director of the National Institute for Medical Research.

DR. DAVID RIESMAN, emeritus professor of clinical medicine at the School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania, professor of clinical medicine in the Graduate School of Medicine and professor of the history of medicine in the Graduate School of Arts