Professor Dr. Ernst Wertheimer, Jerusalem, for continuation of the study of the relationship between free and bound glycogen in normal and pathological conditions.

Dr. M. M. Wintrobe, the Johns Hopkins Hospital, for continuation of studies of macrocytic anemia in animals.

DEGREES CONFERRED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

AMONG the honorary degrees conferred at the graduation ceremonial of the University of Edinburgh were the doctorate of laws on Dr. Leo Hendrik Baekeland, president of the Bakelite Corporation, honorary professor of chemical engineering at Columbia Unversity, and on Sir William (Henry) Bragg, president of the Royal Society. The degrees were conferred by Sir Thomas Holland, vice-chancellor and principal of the university. Candidates for the degree of doctor of laws were presented by Professor James Mackintosh, dean of the faculty of law. The citations were as follows:

"Born in Ghent in 1863, Leo Hendrik Baekeland, having won his doctorate in chemistry and the hand of his professor's daughter, emigrated to America, where he engaged in chemical research. The first fruit of his investigations was Velox printing paper, long prized for its sensitive qualities by photographers throughout the world. After effecting certain improvements in the apparatus used in the production of caustic soda and chlorine, Dr. Baekeland turned his attention to synthetic resins. He found that phenol and formaldehyde interacted to yield an insoluble, infusible material, which looked like amber, but had much more serviceable properties. Here was a superresin which nature had not furnished; it had been built to specification in the research laboratory. This substance, called Bakelite after its parent, now meets us at every turn in our daily life. It is there when we turn on the electric light, the wireless set, or the gramophone record; it provides us with fountain pens, billiard balls, even artificial dentures—in truth, it enters into every modern contrivance for our convenience or discomfort. Meanwhile, its genial inventor dives for sponges from his yacht off the coast of Florida and continues to devise fresh methods for their utilization. His career is indeed a striking example of the romance of applied science, which has brought him high honor in the land of his adoption, and is eminently worthy of being crowned with our academic laurel."

"Sir William Bragg won his earliest laurels in the Cavendish School at Cambridge, the greatest nursery of experimental physics in this country. After Cambridge he found for a time a quiet haven for reflection and experiment at the Antipodes. It was felt, however, when his fame came to be noised abroad, that he should not be left too long to 'waste his genius on the desert air,' and he was brought back to occupy the chair of physics in the Universities of Leeds and London successively, and was ultimately promoted to the directorship of the Royal Institution of Great Britain, a position for which he was eminently fitted by his zeal for the application of scientific methods to new problems and his gift of infecting others with the same enthusiasm. His early work on x-ray diffraction, leading up to the design of a spectrometer applicable to the study of crystals, was undertaken in collaboration with his son, Professor W. L. Bragg, and was recognized by the joint award of the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1915. During the war the Admiralty placed Sir William in charge of an experimental station for the investigation *inter alia* of methods for the detection of submarines. Since that time a band of crystal gazers under his supervision have perfected a technique for determining the structure of crystals, and they now form the acknowledged vanguard in crystallographic research. The high position Sir William has attained in the world of science is shown by the many distinctions that have been bestowed upon him, and he enjoys the special gratification of seeing the directorship of another great national institution—the National Physical Laboratory—in the hands of the son who inherits his talents. Unfortunately, science has not shown us how to split the doctorate of laws; for the present we must be content to award it *pro indiviso*—as a birthday gift, I am happy to say—to the distinguished President of the Royal Society."

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. ROSS G. HARRISON, Sterling professor of biology at Yale University, has been elected a foreign honorary member of the Royal Academy of Medicine of Belgium.

THE University of Belfast on the occasion of the recent meeting there of the British Medical Association conferred the degree of doctor of laws on the president of the association, Sir E. Farquhar Buzzard, professor of medicine in the University of Oxford.

THE James E. Stacey award of the University of Cincinnati, consisting of a gold medal and $100, was recently presented to Dr. Edward C. Rosenow, professor of bacteriology and immunology in the Graduate School of Medicine of the University of Minnesota, Rochester, Minn., "because of recent establishment of the fact that certain types of spasmodic disease—such as chronic hiccup, torticollis and other types of spasm involving particularly the respiratory muscle group—