

Shaffer, whose terms expire on December 31, 1937.

Dr. Gustavus J. Esselen, of Boston, was reelected to the society's council committee on policy for a period of three years.

The ninety-fifth meeting of the American Chemical Society will be held in Dallas, Texas, from April 18 to 21, 1938. The ninety-sixth meeting is scheduled for Milwaukee, Wis., in the fall of 1938.

The membership of the society, the largest professional organization of its kind in the world, now exceeds 20,000, it was announced by Secretary Charles L. Parsons.

AWARD OF THE NICHOLS MEDAL TO DR. LEVENE

THE William H. Nichols Medal of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society has been awarded for 1938 to Dr. Phoebus Aaron Theodore Levene, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

Founded in 1902 to "stimulate original research in chemistry," the honor goes to Dr. Levene "for his study of the configurational relationships of the simpler optically active organic compounds." Presentation of the medal will take place at a meeting of the New York Section on March 11, 1938.

Dr. Levene's researches in the field of biochemistry have extended over a period of forty years. From a long series of early experiments dealing principally with nucleic acids and proteins, he gradually transferred his major interest to the carbohydrates and related compounds.

According to the official statement, "The award is based in particular upon his contributions of recent years, wherein he has effectively unravelled major problems in the difficult subject of configurational

relationships in several series of optically active compounds. One of the important results of this work has been the announcement of a theory of the mechanism of Walden inversions from the modern viewpoint."

Dr. Levene is the author of papers on proteins, nucleins, carbohydrates, lipoids, problems of stereochemistry and of two monographs, "Hexosamines and Mucoproteins" and "Nucleic Acids." In 1931 he was awarded the Willard Gibbs Medal of the Chicago Section of the American Chemical Society as "the outstanding American worker in the application of organic chemistry to biological problems."

Dr. Levene was born in Russia on February 25, 1869. He attended the classical gymnasium of St. Petersburg, and received the degree of doctor of medicine from the Imperial Military Academy in 1891. While a student he participated in the work of Professor A. Dianin on the condensation of phenols with aldehydes and with ketones. Coming to America in 1893, he first practiced medicine, and then entered the Columbia University School of Mines as a special student, pursuing at the same time research in biological chemistry in the laboratory of Professor J. J. Curtis at the Medical School. Later he worked with E. Drechsel in Berne, with A. Kossel in Marburg, with Professor Hofer in Munich and with E. Fischer in Berlin. From 1896 to 1905 he was associate in chemistry in the New York State Pathological Institute. During this period he was chemist for two years at the Saranac Laboratory for the Study of Tuberculosis, Saranac Lake, N. Y. In 1905-06 he was Herter lecturer in pathological chemistry at New York University. Since 1905 he has been at the Rockefeller Institute, becoming a member in 1907.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

AN Associated Press dispatch from Stockholm under date of November 11 announces that the Nobel prize in physics is shared by Dr. Clinton Joseph Davison, physicist on the staff of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, New York City, and Professor George Paget Thomson, professor of physics in the Imperial College of Science, London, son of Sir Joseph Thomson, in recognition of their work on electronic interference. Professor Walter N. Haworth, head of the department of physics at the University of Birmingham, and Dr. Paul Karrer, professor of chemistry at the University of Zurich, share the prize in chemistry for research on carbohydrates and vitamins.

DR. CHARLES G. ABBOT, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, has been awarded a gold distinguished service medal of the Great Lakes Exposition at Cleveland, Ohio, for his solar cooker.

THE Order of Merit of Carlos Finlay has been conferred by the Cuban government on the following members of the faculty of Cornell University Medical College in recognition of their medical and public health services to Cuba: Dr. Henricus J. Stander, professor of obstetrics and gynecology; Dr. Wilson G. Smillie, professor of public health and preventive medicine; Dr. Foster Kennedy, professor of clinical neurology; Dr. Morton C. Kahn, associate professor of public health and preventive medicine, and Dr. Edgar Mayer, assistant professor of clinical medicine.

DR. MORRIS EDWARD DAVIS, associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, and Dr. Arthur K. Koff, formerly instructor in obstetrics and gynecology in the Division of Biological Sciences of the University of Chicago, have been awarded the annual prize of \$100 by the Central Association of Obstetricians and

Gynecologists, in recognition of their work on the experimental production of ovulation.

DR. EARLE BRYANT PERKINS, assistant professor of zoology at Rutgers University, who was zoologist with the second Byrd Antarctic expedition, received the Congressional Medal of Honor at the Charter Day dinner of the Rutgers Club of New Brunswick on November 9 in recognition of "meritorious work in the field of science."

DR. ALBERT R. MANN, provost of Cornell University, and Mrs. Mann were guests of honor at a dinner recently given in Willard Straight Memorial Room, which was attended by more than three hundred members of the faculty and administration. The dean of the faculty, Dr. Cornelius Betten, introduced President Day and five other speakers who reviewed Dr. Mann's services to Cornell University. These were: Professors George F. Warren, agricultural economics; Julian P. Bretz, history; Floyd K. Richtmyer, dean of the Graduate School; Flora Rose, director of home economics, and H. Edward Babcock, a trustee of the university. At a meeting of the board on October 30, resolutions were passed in appreciation of Dr. Mann's service of nearly thirty years and wishing him success in his educational work as vice-president of the General Education Board in New York City.

ON the occasion of the retirement after 35 years of service of Dr. Charles H. Townsend as director of the New York Aquarium on November 2, about twenty of his friends and former associates assembled at the aquarium in the late afternoon of November 1 to have the honor of being the last group to be taken through the exhibits by its first director, and to congratulate Dr. Townsend on his long and outstanding service to science and to public education. After spending about an hour in the aquarium the group went to the historic Fraunce's Tavern, where dinner was served. Following the dinner there was an hour of informal reminiscence and congratulations, to which nearly every one present contributed, including Dr. Townsend. The institutions represented were the New York Aquarium, the Zoological Park, the American, Metropolitan and Staten Island Museums and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

DR. ERNEST O. LAWRENCE, professor of physics and director of the radiation laboratory of the University of California, has been named research lecturer for the present academic year. The lecture is delivered during Charter Week each spring by a member of the faculty who has done distinguished research.

DR. EDWARD BAUSCH, chairman of the board of the Bausch and Lomb Optical Company, Rochester, N. Y., was initiated as an alumni member of Sigma Xi on November 8 at a special ceremony conducted by the

founding chapter at Cornell University. This was followed by a dinner in Martha Van Rensselaer Hall.

DR. RUSSELL WELFORD BUNTING, since 1935 acting chairman of the executive committee of the School of Dentistry of the University of Michigan, has been appointed dean of the school. He succeeds Dr. Marcus L. Ward, who retired from the deanship three years ago.

FLOYD W. DUFFEE has been appointed chairman of the department of agricultural engineering at the College of Agriculture of the University of Wisconsin, to fill the post made vacant by the death of E. R. Jones.

DR. WILLIAM H. PIERRE, head of the department of agronomy at West Virginia University, has been appointed head of the department of agronomy at the Iowa State College, where he will take up his work on February 1. He will succeed the late Dr. P. E. Brown, who died on July 8.

DR. FRANK HAROLD SPEDDING, of Cornell University, has been appointed associate professor of physical chemistry at the Iowa State College. Dr. Spedding won the A. C. Langmuir award in 1933, and has been the recipient of National Research Council and Guggenheim fellowships.

DR. HOWARD B. LEWIS, professor of biological chemistry and director of the College of Pharmacy of the University of Michigan, has been made a member of the executive committee of the Medical School for a three-year period.

F. YATES, chief statistician of the Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, England, is conducting two lecture courses at the Iowa State College during the present month. The first course is for workers in the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station on the design of research experiments, and the second is for advanced students in mathematical statistics.

DR. WALTER O. MENGE, associate professor of mathematics at the University of Michigan, has resigned to become associate actuary of the Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Ind.

DR. JOSEPH HOGUET, formerly assistant professor of clinical surgery at Cornell University Medical School, has been appointed administrative assistant and medical director of the New York World's Fair of 1939. He will be in charge of executive and administrative work of the division of public health, medicine and sanitation.

Popular Astronomy records the appointment by the Government of Greece of Georges M. Horsch as director of the National Observatory at Athens.

PROFESSOR SIR COLIN MACKENZIE, the first director of the Australian Institute of Anatomy, known for

his researches into Australian fauna and aborigines, is resigning on account of ill health.

DR. LIBERTY HYDE BAILEY, professor of agriculture emeritus at Cornell University, sailed on October 30 from New York on a collecting trip in the West Indies.

W. D. COLLINS, of the U. S. Geological Survey, has returned to Washington from an official trip in the mid-west, where he visited the offices of the survey in Austin, Tex., and at St. Louis, Mo. He also visited the laboratory of the State Board of Health at Lawrence, Kans., and conferred with federal and state officials on problems related to water analyses for cooperative projects being conducted by the survey.

A BOTANICAL expedition to South America is planned under the direction of Dr. Thomas H. Goodspeed, director of the botanical garden of the University of California, who was the leader of the expedition of the university into the same regions in 1935 and 1936. It will be financed by an anonymous donor and by the California Garden Clubs, Inc. The expedition is an outgrowth of the Andean exploration of a year ago. Its chief object will be the collection and study of the nicotiana of South America and the collection of both known and unknown flowers and plants for American gardens and parks.

DR. W. M. STANLEY, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research at Princeton, N. J., will lecture on "The Nature of Viruses" on December 7 before the New York University Chapter of Sigma Xi.

PROFESSOR HERBERT M. EVANS, of the Medical School of the University of California, San Francisco, will deliver the Beaumont Foundation Lectures, under the auspices of the Wayne County Medical Society, Detroit, on March 28 and 29, 1938. He will speak on "Physiology of the Pituitary Gland."

DR. ERIC PONDER, acting director of the Biological Laboratory at Cold Spring Harbor and professor of general physiology at Washington Square College, New York University, gave a lecture at Cornell University on November 2 on "Some Advances in our Knowledge Regarding the Red Cell Membrane and the Action of Lysins."

SPEAKERS on the evening of November 11 at the second National Book Fair sponsored by *The New York Times* at Rockefeller Center were: Dr. Earnest A. Hooton, professor of anthropology at Harvard University; Dr. Paul B. Sears, head of the department of botany at the University of Oklahoma; Dr. Walde-mar Kaempffert, science editor of *The New York Times*, and Dr. Forest Ray Moulton, permanent secre-

tary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

OTTO LOUS MOHR, chairman of the International Committee, reports that the question as to the place for the next International Congress of Genetics has now been considered and voted upon by the committee, which has by a large majority resolved to invite the British geneticists to arrange the next congress in Great Britain in 1939. The committee of the British Genetical Society has passed a resolution welcoming the invitation. The earliest opportunity will be taken of appointing an organization committee which will send out further information concerning the date and place of the congress.

THE second annual meeting of the Carolina Geological Society was held on November 6 and 7 with twenty-four members and sixteen visitors in attendance. The meeting was held jointly at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and at Duke University, Durham, N. C. On November 6 there was a field trip of some sixty-two miles going from Chapel Hill to Raleigh to Durham with seventeen stops to examine the local geology of the Durham Basin and environs. Duke University gave a complimentary dinner to the society, at which 33 were present. On November 7 there was another field trip of some sixty miles to the Deep River coal field and to the pyrophyllite deposits of the Pyrophyllite-Talc Products Company, Incorporated, near Glendon, after which members of the society and visitors were entertained at a complimentary dinner given by Mr. Lindsey and Mr. Millikan, of the company. The field trips were arranged and directed by Professor Wm. F. Prouty, University of North Carolina, and Professor Willard Berry, Duke University, assisted by Professor J. L. Stuckey, of N. C. State College, and H. J. Bryson, state geologist, Raleigh, N. C. The following are the officers for the coming year: *President*, Professor H. W. Straley, III, University of North Carolina; *Vice-president*, B. C. Burgess, Tennessee Mineral Production Company; *Secretary-Treasurer*, Professor Willard Berry, Duke University; *Chairman of Membership Committee*, Professor J. H. Watkins, Charleston, S. C.

THE School of Mathematics of the Institute for Advanced Study each year allocates a small number of stipends to gifted young mathematicians and mathematical physicists for the purpose of enabling them to broaden their scientific outlook and to work on their research programs at Princeton in contact with the members of the institute and university faculties. Only such candidates will be considered as have already given evidence of ability in independent research comparable at least with that expected for the degree

of doctor of philosophy. Applications for the academic year 1938-39 should be filed before February 1, 1938. Blanks for this purpose may be obtained from the School of Mathematics, the Institute for Advanced Study, Fine Hall, Princeton, N. J.

THE committee on the ecology of grasslands of the division of biology and agriculture of the National Research Council has passed the following resolution: "The Division of Biology and Agriculture of the National Research Council is deeply impressed with the desirability of acquiring tracts of natural grasslands in representative areas, in order to make possible longtime, uninterrupted studies of the factors affecting the development of vegetation on such lands. Provision for such studies is particularly urgent because one of our gravest national problems has arisen from lack of precise knowledge regarding the best uses and management of large areas of grasslands in the Great Plains Region. Tracts of virgin lands, particularly, should be acquired immediately, while they are still available. The Division of Biology and Agriculture of the National Research Council, therefore, strongly urges that federal and state agencies cooperate as fully and vigorously as possible in this very important project."

THE Monsanto Chemical Company, St. Louis, Mo., has been given the 1937 Award for Chemical Engineering Achievement, instituted by *Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering* to stimulate a broader participation of chemical engineers in the affairs of industry and to honor every two years the company which has contributed most to the advance of the chemical industry and of the chemical engineering profession. Formal presentation of the 1937 award will be made on December 10. The award was given in 1933 to the Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Corporation for the development of an organic chemical industry based on natural gas and petroleum, and in 1935 to E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company, Inc., for the development of synthetic rubber and camphor compounds.

THE publication of a *Journal of Neurophysiology* has been announced to appear six times during the first year, beginning on January next. Each number will consist approximately of a hundred pages. The primary aim of the journal is slated to be "to provide a channel for prompt publication of original work bearing on the functions of the nervous system, peripheral and central. It has been planned to embrace all aspects of the subject amenable to experimental analysis; it will not include morphology for its own sake nor neuropathology, and only those clinical, psychological or zoological contributions will be considered which are primarily experimental in character." The editorial board consists of Dr. J. G. Dusser de Barenne, Sterling professor of physiology

at Yale University; Dr. J. F. Fulton, Sterling professor of physiology at Yale University, and Dr. R. W. Gerard, associate professor of physiology at the University of Chicago. The publisher is Charles C Thomas, Springfield, Illinois.

BEGINNING next January, *The Journal of Morphology*, published by the Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology, Philadelphia, heretofore a quarterly, will be issued bi-monthly. Each volume will contain six hundred pages as formerly, and will be issued in three numbers. Two volumes will be published annually, and the price has been reduced from \$12.00 per volume to \$10.00. Members of the American Association of Anatomists, the American Society of Zoologists, the American Association of Physical Anthropologists and the American Institute of Nutrition, subscribing at the special subscription rates offered them through membership in these societies, will now receive the *Journal* for \$7.00 per volume. This change, it is stated, "has been made to meet the demands of the ever increasing number of accepted manuscripts, and to assure prompt publication."

FROM February, 1938, *Chronica Botanica* will be issued bi-monthly and no longer as a year-book. The annual subscription rate will be reduced from 15 to 7 guilders. The new periodical will continue to give all the essential information which was given in the old year-book and will include some new sections. Like the year-book, the new *Chronica* will aim at promoting documentation, good-will and cooperation among plant scientists. Results of research will be published only in the first two sections. The world list of plant science institutions and societies will appear as an annual supplement.

THE Committee on Scientific Research of the American Medical Association has made the following grants: To the department of surgery of the University of Chicago for the continuation of work on "The remote effects on blood pressure following total sympathectomy in dogs"; to the Nutrition Division of the Iowa Child Welfare Research Station of the State University of Iowa to aid in studies pertaining to the possible physiologic need for fluorine; to Dr. Joseph T. King, of the department of physiology of the University of Minnesota, for work on the effects of sulfanilamide on tissues in culture, and on the effects of bacteria implanted in tissue cultures; to Dr. Marion Fay, professor of biological chemistry at the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, for an investigation of the effects of strontium upon the animal organism; to Dr. Roy H. Turner, of Tulane University, in aid of research on the physiology of blood vessels in man, and to Dr. Irving J. Wolman, of the department of pediatrics at the University of Pennsylvania, for continuation of studies on lipoid pneumonia.