

science degree in 1907 and the master of science degree in 1908. Ottawa University conferred the degree of doctor of science upon him in 1935. From 1909 to 1915 he was chief chemist of the Philippine Bureau of Science, spending the year 1911-12 in postgraduate work at the University of Chicago.

He was for three years with the U. S. Bureau of Chemistry in Washington, D. C. In 1918 he was engaged in the Chemical Warfare Service and Air Service research in Washington; he was associated with the Meleo Chemical Company, Bayonne, N. J., in 1919, and later joined the staff of the Western Electric Company. He was named chemical director of the Bell Telephone Laboratories in 1925. In this year he became research associate at Teachers College, Columbia University, where he has carried on much of his investigation. He is also research associate of the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

The announcement of the Chicago section points out that "there is perhaps no more outstanding example of the broad attitude of some of the great corporations toward fundamental research than the brilliant synthesis of the beriberi vitamin by the chemical director of the Bell Telephone Laboratories."

Four laboratories contributed personnel or facilities to the basic research leading to the synthesis of the beriberi vitamin, while the depression beginning in 1929 afforded the investigators at the Bell Telephone Laboratories additional week-end leisure for work. Funds were granted by the Carnegie Corporation.

The Willard Gibbs Medal, founded by William A. Converse in 1911, was named for Josiah Willard Gibbs, from 1871 to 1903 professor of mathematical physics at Yale University, whose discoveries of the phase rule and other thermodynamical laws are the bases of modern physical chemistry.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. LEONARD CARMICHAEL, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science and chairman of the department of psychology at the University of Rochester, previously professor of psychology at Brown University, has been elected the seventh president of Tufts College, from which he graduated in 1921.

DR. FREDERICK B. MUMFORD, for thirty-three years dean of the College of Agriculture of the University of Missouri, has presented his resignation to take effect next September. He will be succeeded by Merritt F. Miller, who joined the faculty in 1904 and became assistant dean in 1929. Dr. Mumford's brother, Dr. Herbert W. Mumford, is dean of the College of Agriculture of the University of Illinois.

A MEETING in honor of Dr. Charles E. Coates, who recently retired as dean of the College of Pure and Applied Science and head of the department of chemistry of the Louisiana State University, was held by the Louisiana section of the American Chemical Society at Tulane University on January 18. As a tribute to Dr. Coates the meeting was designated the "Charles E. Coates meeting."

THE Dallas Agricultural Club of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station gave a dinner on February 21 in honor of A. B. Conner, director of the station. The program included tributes to Mr. Conner as follows: "What Director Conner has Contributed to Texas Agriculture," by Victor H. Schoffelmayer, agricultural editor of *The Dallas News*; "Contributions of Director Conner to National Agriculture," by Dr. C. T. Dowell, director of the Louisiana Experiment Station; "Conner, Our Chief," by R. E. Dickson, superintendent of the Spur Experiment Station.

AMONG the honorary degrees conferred at the mid-winter commencement of Temple University, Philadelphia, was the degree of doctor of science on Dr. J. Leon Lascoff, president-elect of the American Pharmaceutical Association. The doctorate of laws was conferred on Henry Butler Allen, director of the Franklin Institute.

THE College of Charleston, South Carolina, will confer at the end of May the degree of doctor of laws on Dr. Harry Stoll Mustard, professor of preventive medicine at New York University.

IN the issue of *SCIENCE* for January 28 it was stated that the degrees conferred on the occasion of the installation of Dr. Harris as president of Tulane University included the degree of doctor of humane letters on Dr. Walter Smith Leathers, dean of the School of Medicine of Vanderbilt University, and on Dr. Alphonse Mary Schwitalla, S.J., dean of the School of Medicine of St. Louis University. The degree conferred was that of doctor of laws.

THE Anthony F. Lucas gold medal for distinguished achievement in improving the practice of finding and producing petroleum was presented to Henry L. Doherty, president of the Cities Service Company, at the annual dinner of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers on February 16. Others who received awards from the institute were Thomas S. Washburn and John Hunter Nead, who won the Robert Woolston Hunt prize of \$250 for a paper presented to the institute last year; Roy A. Lindgren, who received the J. E. Johnson, Jr., award for his paper on performance and selection of refractories for blast-furnace linings, and Hal W. Harding, who

received the James Douglas medal for distinguished achievement in non-ferrous metallurgy.

THE first Marconi Memorial Gold Medal for Valor established by the Veteran Wireless Operators Association was presented on February 11 at the annual dinner to Lieutenant Carl O. Petersen, U.S.N.R., for his work in connection with radio communication from an airplane during an exploration flight over the Antarctic Continent with Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd on January 3, 1934. David Sarnoff, president of the Radio Corporation of America, a life member of the association, made the presentation.

AWARDS of the British Institution of Mechanical Engineers with the names of the recipients and the titles of the papers for which the award was given are as follows: the Thomas Hawksley Gold Medal to A. P. M. Fleming, "Training of Apprentices for Craftsmanship"; the Thomas Hawksley Premium to Major C. C. B. Morris, "The Organization and Mechanical Appliances of the London Fire Brigade"; the Thomas Lowe Gray Prize to R. F. Davis, "The Mechanics of Flame and Air Jets"; the T. Bernard Hall Prizes to H. Wright Baker, "Piston Temperatures in a Sleeve Valve Oil Engine"; to David Clayton and Christopher Jakeman, "The Measurement of Attitude and Eccentricity in Complete Clearance Clearings"; and the Starley Premium to R. A. Railton, "Racing Motor Car Design."

JAY N. DARLING, formerly chief of the U. S. Biological Survey, was reelected president of the General Wild Life Federation at the closing session on February 17 of the National American Wild Life Conference. Other officers elected were: *Treasurer*, C. F. Delabarre, of Blacksburg, Va.; *Vice-presidents*, David A. Aylward, of Cambridge, Mass.; William L. Finley, of Portland, Ore., and Dr. Walter B. Jones, of the University of Alabama. At this meeting the name of the organization was changed to the National Wild Life Federation.

THE annual meeting of the Branner Geological Club of Southern California was held at the California Institute of Technology on January 14. Short papers were read at the afternoon session by U. S. Grant, IV, J. C. Hazzard and F. P. Shepard. After the annual dinner John H. Maxson addressed the society on "Modern and Ancient Asia Minor." Newly elected officers are: *President*, Dr. Ian Campbell; *Vice-president*, William Geise; *Secretary*, William C. Putnam. Retiring officers are: *President*, A. I. Gregerson; *Vice-president*, Dr. Ian Campbell; *Secretary*, Robert W. Webb. The membership of the Branner Club consists of professional and university geologists residing in Southern California. Dinner meetings are held monthly throughout the academic year. Visiting

geologists are urged to communicate with the secretary in order that they be notified of meeting dates.

DR. HAROLD P. MORRIS has resigned as associate biochemist in the Division of Pharmacology of the Food and Drug Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, to become chemist in the Division of Pharmacology of the National Institute of Health.

DR. JOHN B. SAUNDERS, associate professor of anatomy at the Medical School of the University of California, has been made the editor for medicine on the magazine *Isis*, the quarterly organ of the International Society of the History of Science.

PROFESSOR CHARLES E. RUSH, associate librarian of Yale University, announces that with the assistance of a subvention for one year from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the American Library Association has founded *The Journal of Documentary Reproduction*, a quarterly review of the application of photography and allied techniques to library, museum and archival service.

DR. CHARLES F. BROOKS, professor of meteorology and director of the Blue Hill Observatory at Harvard University, has been elected president of the Mount Washington Observatory Corporation, a new scientific organization of 400 members which conducts the Mount Washington Observatory and publishes occasional news bulletins. The observatory was established in 1932 and is financed by the Blue Hill Meteorological Observatory of Harvard University. It is equipped with instruments and apparatus furnished by Blue Hill, the U. S. Weather Bureau, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Eppley Laboratory, Inc., and the General Radio Company, all of which share in the program and results.

DR. GUSTAV EGLOFF, Universal Oil Products Company, Chicago, has been appointed chairman of the Committee on Science and Technology for the tenth International Petroleum Congress and Exposition, which will be held in Tulsa, Okla., from May 14 to 21.

DR. WILLIAM T. PENFOUND, head of the department of botany at Tulane University, has leave of absence for the second semester, during which he plans to study soil chemistry at the College of Agriculture of Rutgers University.

DR. FREDERIK NILSSON, who is in charge of plant breeding in Sweden and head of the branch station at Svalof, is visiting the United States.

THE Adolph Lomb Memorial Lecture of the Optical Society of America will be delivered on February 25 by Professor Harlow Shapley, director of the Harvard College Observatory, at the annual meeting of the society. This lecture is open to the public. His

subject will be "The Debt of the World to Optical Science."

DR. E. RABINOWITCH, of University College, University of London, will give the John Howard Appleton Lecture of Brown University for 1937-38 on February 28 on "The Photochemistry of Chlorophyll and the Problem of Photosynthesis."

DR. HARALD U. SVERDRUP, director of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, on February 9 addressed the California Chapter of Sigma Xi on "The Current Systems of the Oceans."

DR. VICTOR HEISER, of the Rockefeller Foundation, spoke on February 14 at Duke University on the public health work done in tropical regions by American physicians. On January 31, Dr. E. G. Crabtree, of the Harvard Medical School, gave a lecture on the "Fluid Balance in the Puerperium."

DR. WILLIAM DE B. MACNIDER, of the University of North Carolina, delivered on February 10 the Brown-Sequard lecture of the Medical College of Virginia, Richmond, on the general subject of acquired cellular resistance.

DR. MAURICE E. BINET, a member of the French Academy of Medicine, president of the Society of Medical Science of Vichy, France, who is making a tour of the United States, recently delivered an address on "Hepatic Insufficiency in the Course of Chronic Colitis" at the Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia. Following the lecture the honorary degree of doctor of laws was conferred on him by the college.

DR. F. R. MOULTON, permanent secretary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, was the principal speaker at the fourteenth annual science luncheon, which was held on February 19 in New York City. Associate Superintendent William E. Grady was toastmaster. The luncheon was sponsored by the Science Council, the Chemistry Teachers Club of New York, the General Science Teachers Association, the New York Association of Biology Teachers, the Physics Club of New York, the Physiographers and Geographers Club and the Association of Laboratory Assistants. An exhibit of recent developments in apparatus and teaching technics was on display.

THE third International Cancer Congress under the auspices of the International Union against Cancer

will be held in the United States, from September 11 to 16, 1939, at the Haddon Hall Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J. The president of the congress is Professor Francis Carter Wood, director of the Institute of Cancer Research of Columbia University, New York City; Dr. Donald S. Childs, of Syracuse, N. Y., is the secretary-treasurer, and Dr. A. L. Loomis Bell, of Long Island College Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y., is in charge of transportation and exhibits. The proposed sections are as follows: General research; biophysics; genetics; general pathology of cancer; surgery of cancer; radiological diagnosis of cancer; radiotherapy of cancer; statistics; education. Further details concerning section chairmen, committees and other data will be announced later. The membership fee will be \$15. All inquiries should be addressed to the Institute of Cancer Research, 1145 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, N. Y.

By the will of the late Edward Bayard Halsted, retired stock broker, Johns Hopkins University and Duke University, Durham, N. C., share equally in the residuary estate of undetermined value, which is believed to be in excess of \$500,000. The income from the bequest to Johns Hopkins is to be used "for research work for the advancement of knowledge as to the nature, causes, means of prevention and cure of such maladies as may in the opinion of the governing body be in need of further study and investigation." The fund is to be known as the "E. Bayard Halsted Fund for Medical Research." The university also receives \$200,000 on the termination of two trusts. The bequest to Duke University is for the establishment of four scholarships in medicine, science, journalism and history, each for \$60,000. Duke also receives \$75,000 on the termination of a trust.

MRS. MARION E. STERN, daughter of Julius Rosenwald, has given \$75,000 to the University of Chicago. Mrs. Stern reserved the right to specify the educational uses to which the money may be put and has approved the expenditure of \$5,000 in scholarships to needy and deserving students.

A FOUNDATION for the furthering of scientific research has been established at Stockholm by Dr. and Mrs. Axel L. Wennergren, with an endowment of a million dollars. Dr. Wennergren is president of the Electrolux Company.

## DISCUSSION

### FALLING CHIMNEYS

IN the issue of *SCIENCE* (No. 2176, Vol. 84), published on September 11, 1936, there appeared an article

entitled "Concerning Falling Chimneys," which seems to be, in part, in error. The author says:

A simple analysis shows that, since all points of the