

February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and thirty-eight, and of the independence of the United States of America the one hundred and sixty-second.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

Stamps bearing pictures of American wild animals and birds, designed by Jay N. ("Ding") Darling, cartoonist, already have gone on sale throughout the nation.

#### AWARD OF THE MEDAL OF THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

At the stated meeting of the New York Academy of Medicine on the evening of March 3 the medal of the academy was presented to Dr. Béla Schick, discoverer of the Schick test in 1913, on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the publication of his work on immunity in diphtheria. Dr. James Alexander Miller, president of the academy, made the presentation. He spoke as follows:

To you, Dr. Béla Schick, the Council of the New York Academy of Medicine has awarded the academy medal and upon this occasion I have the privilege of presenting this medal to you.

This is a well deserved honor.

Since you received your medical degree, in 1900, at the Karl Franz University at Graz, Austria, you have devoted your energies not only to clinical medicine but also to medical investigation and to teaching.

As early as 1905 you, with Clemens von Pirquet, also a distinguished pupil of Theodore Escherich, published the classical monograph—*Serumkrankheit*. This not only gave the first description of serum sickness, but also

established fundamental principles of allergy. In 1912, with Escherich, you published the celebrated clinical monograph on scarlet fever. You had meanwhile promulgated the idea that post-scarlatinal diseases were allergic in nature. This is now a firmly established fact, of wide significance.

You have also made important studies of the nutrition of the newborn, of infantile tuberculosis, of metabolism in infectious diseases, as well as of other subjects.

It was in 1913 that you published the discovery which has given you the widest fame—the reaction which so justly carries your name. This was no chance observation, but was the result of careful studies carried on over a number of years.

Through this discovery you made it possible to determine who is and who is not susceptible to diphtheria, and this laid the basis for the present-day effective campaign of prevention against this dreaded disease. Your place is, therefore, amongst the great benefactors of mankind.

It is an honor to present to you the Medal of the New York Academy of Medicine upon this date, made notable by the fact that it is the twenty-fifth anniversary of the announcement of the Schick reaction.

Dr. Schick was born in Boglar, Hungary, on July 16, 1877, and was graduated from the medical school at Graz, Austria, in 1900. Since 1923 he has been pediatrician-in-chief at Mount Sinai Hospital. He is also clinical professor for diseases of children at Columbia University, pediatrician in chief at the Sea View Hospital and consulting pediatrician at the Willard Parker Hospital and the New York Infirmary for Women and Children.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Kelvin Medal Award Committee has awarded the Kelvin Medal for 1938 to Sir Joseph J. Thomson, master of Trinity College, Cambridge, in recognition of the eminent services he has rendered to engineering science. The presentation will be made by Lord Rayleigh at the Great Hall of the Institution of Civil Engineers on May 3.

THE University of Oxford will confer the degree of doctor of medicine on four newly appointed Nuffield professors. They are H. W. B. Sairns, R. R. Macintosh, J. Chassar Moir and J. A. Gunn, Nuffield professors of surgery, anesthetics, obstetrics and gynecology and therapeutics, respectively.

At a special convocation on February 21 at the University of Manitoba, presided over by Sidney E. Smith, president of the university, the doctorate of laws was conferred on Dr. E. V. McCollum, professor of biochemistry and head of the department at the School of Hygiene and Public Health of the Johns Hopkins University, in recognition of his contributions

to medical science. Premier John Bracken represented the Manitoba Government at the ceremony.

DR. HOWARD A. KELLY, professor of gynecology, emeritus, at the Johns Hopkins University, the only surviving member of the group that was instrumental in the founding of the Medical School, celebrated his eightieth birthday on February 20.

A DINNER in honor of Howard S. Warren, director of the protection development department of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, was given by his associates on March 2 in observance of his sixty-fifth birthday. On this occasion he was presented with a bronze desk set. Mr. Warren retires at the end of the present month, having served the Bell Telephone System for thirty-nine years.

DR. W. A. SETCHELL, professor of botany, emeritus, at the University of California, has been elected a foreign member of the Royal Society of Science and Arts of Göteborg, Sweden.