3. Bats, a complete account of the evolution and natural history of the group, published by the Harvard University Press.

Nearly a hundred persons were present. The meeting was presided over by George Russell Agassiz, senior member of the faculty of the museum. President Emeritus A. Lawrence Lowell was present at Mr. Agassiz's side.

Addresses of congratulations were made by the director of the museum, Thomas Barbour, on behalf of the staff; by Sherwood L. Washburn on behalf of Dr. Allen's graduate students; by Professor F. L. Hisaw, speaking for the Division of Biology, and then Harold J. Coolidge, Jr., read a number of letters of congratulation and appreciation which had been received from Dr. Allen's colleagues far and wide.

Dr. Allen was presented with a hammered silver bowl, a replica of one in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, made by Paul Revere. It was suitably inscribed with a statement of the reasons for the presentation. After this Dr. Allen made a brief reply expressing his appreciation.

A humorous broadcast "direct from Africa," which had been prepared with incidental music by a group of Dr. Allen's undergraduate students, was then turned on, and at its conclusion the company adjourned to Mr. Agassiz's room for refreshments.

PRESENTATION OF THE WILLARD GIBBS MEDAL

THE Willard Gibbs Medal of the Chicago Section of the American Chemical Society was presented to Dr. Donald Dexter Van Slyke, chief chemist of the Hospital of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, at a meeting in the Stevens Hotel, Chicago, on May 19.

Dr. Charles A. Kraus, of Brown University, president of the American Chemical Society, made the presentation to Dr. Van Slyke, who was cited for his work on the chemistry of proteins, enzyme action, blood chemistry and the metabolic conditions of diabetes and nephritis. The citation reads:

> The acceleration of interest and of active work in modern quantitative clinical chemistry during the past quarter century is in no small degree attributable to Dr. Van Slyke. The need of the clinic for micro-methods for the analysis of small and readily obtainable samples of blood found in him, always adept at the development of analytic methods, the person ready to make the greatest contributions of his generation to this field.
>
> Dr. Van Slyke is honored for his contributions to chemistry, physiology and medicine. The genius of the medalist lies in his ability to see through a subject, clarify its problems, devise methods for their solution and carry the whole enterprise through to a successful conclusion. His contributions have the virtue of directness, simplicity and elegance combined with a minimum of speculation.
>
> This genius, now recognized by the award of the Willard Gibbs Medal, has previously brought him the honorary degree of Sc.D. from Yale in 1925, and from Michigan, his alma mater, in 1935. In 1938 the University of Oslo conferred upon him the honorary degree of M.D. He was awarded the Mickel fellowship, Toronto, in 1936, and the Philip A. Conne gold medal of the Chemists' Club, New York, in 1937.

Dr. Glenn E. Cullen, of the Children's Hospital Research Foundation, Cincinnati, collaborator with Dr. Van Slyke in researches, spoke on "The Medalist"; Professor Charles D. Hurd, of Northwestern University, chairman of the section, discussed "The Significance of the Willard Gibbs Medal," and Dr. Kraus described "The Life and Works of Willard Gibbs." Dr. Van Slyke, in his address of acceptance, traced the development of controlled oxygen therapy. Howard Vincent O'Brien, of *The Chicago Daily News*, gave the epilogue. Dr. Van Slyke delivered a scientific address on "Renal Mechanisms Controlling Blood Composition" on the following day before members of the section at Northwestern University.

Dr. Van Slyke's fields of work have embraced the chemistry and physiology of the proteins and amino acids, quantitative formulation of the theory of buffer action, demonstration of enzyme action by formation of temporary enzyme-substrate compounds, various phases of physical chemistry of the blood, micro-methods for the gases and other constituents of the blood, a system of microanalyses by manometric technique and various diagnostic tests, particularly those for the detection of acidosis in diabetes and of renal failure in Bright's disease.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. GEORGE DAVID BIRKHOFF, Perkins professor of mathematics at Harvard University, retiring president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, will retire on September 1 as dean of the faculty of arts and sciences, having filled the allotted three years in the deanship. He will be succeeded by Dr. William Scott Ferguson, McLean professor of ancient and modern history. Dr. Birkhoff has been appointed Harvard exchange professor to France for the second half of the academic year 1939–40.

DR. JAMES B. HERRICK, emeritus professor of medicine at Rush Medical College, Chicago, was awarded at St. Louis the distinguished service medal of the American Medical Association in recognition of his discoveries in connection with heart disease.

THE American Association of Clinical Pathologists, meeting in St. Louis, conferred on May 13 its Burdick Award, a gold medal given annually for "outstanding contribution to medical science," upon Dr. Harry Goldblatt, professor of experimental pathology at the School of Medicine and associate director of the Institute of Pathology of Western Reserve University, in recognition of his researches in hypertension and his discoveries of the relationships between high blood pressure and diseases of the kidneys.

AT the annual meeting of the American Society of Orthodontists in Kansas City on April 20, Dr. Milo Hellman, professor of dentistry at Columbia University and research associate in physical anthropology at the American Museum of Natural History, was presented with the Ketcham Memorial Award in recognition of his "contributions to the science and art of orthodontia." The award is made annually by the American Board of Orthodontists in memory of the late Albert H. Ketcham, a pioneer in the field of orthodontia.

THE Electrochemical Society has awarded the eleventh Weston fellowship of $1,000 to Waldemar P. Ruemmler, of St. Louis. Mr. Ruemmler will continue his research at Columbia University, investigating the electrodeposition of antimony. The work will be done under the direction of Professor Colin G. Fink. The prize to young authors has been awarded to Nathaniel B. Nichols, research associate at the University of Michigan, for a paper published jointly by Dr. L. A. Matheson and Mr. Nichols entitled, "The Cathode Ray Oscillograph Applied to the Dropping Mercury Electrode."

DR. NATHAN B. VAN ETTEN, of New York City, was chosen on May 19 at the St. Louis meeting president-elect of the American Medical Association. He will be inducted into office at the annual convention that will be held in New York City from June 10 to 14, 1940. He succeeds Dr. Rock Sleyster, of Wauwatosa, Wis. Dr. Alphonse McMahon, of St. Louis, was elected vice-president. The house of delegates voted to hold its convention in 1942 in Atlantic City, N. J. The 1941 meeting will be held in Cleveland, Ohio.

AT the annual meeting of the American Institute of Nutrition, held in Toronto in April, the following officers were elected: *President,* Henry C. Sherman; *Vice-president,* T. M. Carpenter; *Treasurer,* G. R. Cowgill; *Secretary,* L. A. Maynard; *Councilor,* A. H. Smith. The following were elected to the editorial board as associate editors: Icie Macy Hoobler, H. A. Mattill and H. H. Mitchell.

DR. FRANK VINSONHALER, dean of the School of Medicine of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, will retire with the title emeritus on July 1.

DR. HAROLD ST. JOHN, professor of botany at the University of Hawaii, has been appointed Bishop Museum visiting professor in botany at Yale University for the year 1939–40.

DR. NORMAND L. HOERR, assistant professor of anatomy at the University of Chicago, will be nominated at the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of Western Reserve University on June 13 as Henry Wilson Payne professor of anatomy and head of the department of anatomy of the School of Medicine, to fill the vacancy left last December by the death of Dr. T. Wingate Todd.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL A. PARKER HITCHENS, Medical Corps, U. S. A., has been appointed George S. Pepper professor of public health and preventive medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. He will be the head of a new department of the School of Medicine which will carry on work in those fields. Lieutenant Colonel Hitchens, who has devoted much of his life to the problems of public health, has been assistant professor of military science and tactics in the Reserve Officers Training Corps at the university since the opening of the current academic year. His appointment to a professorship in the School of Medicine at Pennsylvania has been made possible by permission from the Secretary of War.

DR. LEONARD H. POLLARD, associate in truck crops at the University of California, Davis, was appointed recently head of the department of vegetable crops at the Utah State Agricultural College at Logan.

DR. CHARLES H. RAMMELKAMP, assistant resident in medicine at Barnes Hospital, St. Louis, has been made a research fellow in medicine at the Harvard Medical School and assistant resident in the Thorndike Laboratory of the Boston City Hospital.

DR. ROGER J. WILLIAMS, of the Oregon State College, has been appointed a member of the department of biochemistry at the University of Texas.

DR. GUY F. MACLEOD, professor of entomology at Cornell University, has become entomologist in the University of California Agricultural Experiment Station at Berkeley. Dr. E. C. Van Dyke, who has been in charge of systematic work in the division of entomology and parasitology at the University of California, retires on July 1 with the title professor of entomology, emeritus. His work will be carried on by Professor E. O. Essig. Dr. MacLeod will take charge of the work in agricultural entomology, previously conducted by Professor Essig.

DR. FRANK M. SETZLER, head curator of anthropology at the U. S. National Museum, has been appointed a member of the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments. He

succeeds Dr. Alfred V. Kidder, of Cambridge, Mass., who resigned last autumn owing to pressure of other work.

DR. H. W. RICKETT, associate professor of botany at the University of Missouri, has been appointed assistant bibliographer at the New York Botanical Garden. He will assume his new work about July 1.

FRANK C. BAKER, since 1917 curator of the Museum of Natural History of the University of Illinois, will retire from active service on September 1, with the title of curator emeritus. Mr. Baker will remain at the University of Illinois and will continue his work on fresh-water Mollusca and on the invertebrate life of the Pleistocene.

DR. STANLEY D. WILSON, professor of organic chemistry and dean of the College of Natural Sciences at Yenching University, Peiping, China, will spend the year 1939–1940 on furlough in the United States. He will be engaged in study and observation at Harvard University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Rutgers University and the University of Chicago.

DR. GEORGE W. LEWIS, director of research of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics and president of the Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences, sailed on May 17 for London, where he will attend the annual meeting of the Royal Aeronautical Society and will deliver the Wilbur Wright Memorial Lecture.

PROFESSOR J. H. VAN VLECK, of Harvard University, is giving a series of lectures at the Institut Henri Poincaré at the University of Paris during the current month. He will also take part in a symposium on magnetism at Strasbourg.

DR. EDMUND V. COWDRY, professor of cytology at the School of Medicine of Washington University, St. Louis, delivered the Woodward lecture at the Sterling Hall of Medicine of Yale University on May 24. His subject was "Problems of Ageing."

DR. LIVINGSTON FARRAND, president emeritus of Cornell University, gave the last of this season's laity lectures at the New York Academy of Medicine on May 15. The title of his lecture was "Primitive Man and Medicine."

DR. HERBERT F. MOORE, professor of engineering materials at the University of Illinois, will give on June 28 the fourteenth Edgar Marburg lecture at the annual meeting in Atlantic City of the American Society for Testing Materials.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association states that Dr. Max Cutler, director of the Chicago Tumor Institute, recently returned from a cruise around South America in which he gave nine addresses before medical associations and universities. The Chicago Tumor Institute has granted one fellowship to each of the South American countries for graduate instruction in the field of cancer. They will be selected by the deans of the medical schools and the ministers of health.

ALFRED P. SLOAN, JR., chairman of the Board of General Motors Corporation, will deliver the sixth annual Alexander Van Rensselaer lecture at Drexel Institute of Technology on June 6. His subject will be "A Great Corporation from Within."

DR. AUGUST KROGH, professor and director of the Zoophysiological Laboratory, University of Copenhagen, who has now returned to Europe, delivered the forty-fourth Hanna Lecture at the Institute of Pathology, Cleveland, on May 5. He spoke on "The Regulation of the Circulation as Observed in Changes of Posture in Man."

THE seventh Symposium on Quantitative Biology will be held at the Biological Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, New York, from June 20 to July 21. Thirty-two papers on "Biological Oxidations" will be presented. Other investigators in the field can take part in the discussions following each paper. A complete program may be obtained from the Biological Laboratory. Those planning to stay over night or longer should make arrangements beforehand with Dr. Eric Ponder, director of the laboratory.

THE annual meeting of the American Society for Testing Materials will be held at Chalfonte-Haddon Hall, Atlantic City, from June 26 to June 30. There will be an exhibit of testing apparatus and related equipment. During the meeting the thirteenth award of the Charles B. Dudley Medal will be made.

AT the University of Colorado Summer School a Conference on the Psychology of Learning will be held in Boulder on August 9, 10 and 11, under the direction of Professor K. F. Muenzinger and Dr. I. Krechevsky, of the department of psychology.

THE ninth annual Research Conference of the Johns Hopkins University is being held at the Henlopen Hotel, Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, from June 5 to 9 and from June 12 to 16. The first week, with Dr. Leslie Hellerman as chairman, will be devoted to biochemistry. Lectures will be included on the Cage Structure of Proteins and on the Use of New Research Tools in Biochemistry, including the ultra-centrifuge, the electron microscope, the Tiselius apparatus, the dropping mercury electrode and isotopes. During the second week a number of lectures and discussions on organic molecules and organic reactions will be presented. Dr. A. H. Corwin will act as chairman. Topics to be discussed are the Friedel-Craft Reaction, Aluminum Chloride in Organic Synthesis, Infra-Red Spectroscopy and the Structure of Organic Molecules,

Raman Spectra and Their Application to Organic Molecules, Thermodynamic Data on Organic Reactions, Free Radicals in Organic Reactions and Mechanism Studies on Hydrogenation Catalysis. Further information may be obtained from Dr. P. H. Emmett, the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.

MISS MAY MORRIS, of Kelmscott-Manor, Lechlade, daughter of William Morris, poet and artist, who died on October 16, left to the University of Oxford, as a memorial of her father, her Kelmscott estate and certain furniture and effects with £3,000 for its maintenance, for a House of Rest for artists, men of letters, scholars and men of science. She directed that no modern innovations or improvements or installations be made to the house in view of its age and its historic interest as the home of the late William Morris, "as it is in the same condition as when he left it."

AT a recent meeting of the Board of Directors of the Finney-Howell Research Foundation, Baltimore, Md., eight fellowships were renewed and further fellowships for 1939 were awarded as follows: G. M. Badger, of Melbourne, Australia, to work at the Royal Cancer Hospital, London; Dr. Arthur Kirschbaum, to work at Yale University; Dr. J. L. Melnick, to work at Yale University; Dr. John F. Menke, to work at Stanford University Hospital; Dr. John L. Wood, to work at Harvard University; Dr. Paul C. Zanecnik, to work under Dr. K. Linderström-Lang at the University of Carlsberg, Copenhagen. Grants-in-aid were awarded to: Dr. R. D. Fowler and to Dr. R. Walter Graham, Jr., of the Johns Hopkins University, and to Dr. George O. Gey, of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Applications for 1940 awards must be received at the office of the foundation by January 1, 1940.

DISCUSSION

A DILEMMA IN VITAMINS

A HALF century ago the geologists were demanding a hundred million years for the age of the earth, while the astronomers were not willing to concede them more than ten million. Now there seems to be a corresponding situation between the anthropologists and the dietitians with regard to vitamin C.

The position of the dietitians, or at least of a certain school of dietetics, may be taken from the 1938 revised edition of "The Foundations of Nutrition," by Dr. Mary Swartz Rose, and reinforced by quotations which Dr. Rose gives (personal communication) from Dr. Henry Clapp Sherman's "The Vitamins" (in collaboration with S. L. Smith):

> . . . what little (vitamin C) there may be in fresh raw muscle becomes practically negligible in meat as ordinarily eaten. Even in liver, which is normally well supplied with vitamins A and B, vitamin C is found in low concentration and is lost in cooking. (Rose, p. 305.)
>
> The vitamin C which they (kidney and liver) contain is mostly destroyed in cooking. (Rose, p. 429.)
>
> Muscle tissues, ordinary meats, are so poor in antiscorbutic vitamin that attempts to show its presence by experiments upon guinea pigs have given negative results. . . . Dutcher, Pierson and Biester (1919) were not able to observe any antiscorbutic effect from raw lean beef fed to guinea pigs. (Sherman and Smith.)
>
> . . . meat, if eaten sufficiently fresh, raw, or "rare" and in large quantities has an appreciable though small antiscorbutic value. (Sherman and Smith.)
>
> In view of the fact that even when eaten in very large amounts meat can be expected to prevent scurvy only if eaten raw or nearly so, we must conclude that cooked meat, as ordinarily eaten, probably furnishes but insignificant amounts of the antiscorbutic vitamin. (Sherman and Smith.)

Few readers would think either from these quotations or from the whole of the cited book of Dr. Rose that it would be possible to live in good health on a diet consisting of thoroughly cooked meat (medium-done to well-done) and from which diet are absent most or all of the organs described as "particularly rich in vitamin C." But it is known to students of "primitive" peoples, whether ancient or modern, that this is just what hunting man has been doing from time immemorial.

The records of travelers, field anthropologists and frontiersmen (*e.g.*, post managers of the Hudson's Bay Company throughout the north of Canada) are full of case histories and general information which show that exclusive meat-eaters never show a vitamin C deficiency and that many of them consume few or none of the organs said to be rich in vitamin C.

Nor do all groups of exclusively carnivorous people eat large or even considerable amounts of raw or underdone animal tissue, as Rose and Sherman-Smith say and imply they would have to do in order to avoid scurvy.

The diet experimenters and the diet historians are, then, in square contradiction. The experiments say of animal tissues that vitamin C is negligible to begin with, except in certain glandular organs, and that in any case this vitamin C is nearly or quite destroyed by ordinary cooking; so that to avoid scurvy on a meat diet you have to eat considerable quantities of these organs and have to eat them raw or underdone. To this contention the diet historians reply that meat-eaters, such as the northern Canadian Eskimos and the northern Athapascans, feed to dogs or throw away most of the "glandular organs rich in vitamin C"; and