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<i>Dedication of the William Albert Noyes Laboratory of Chemistry at the University of Illinois: PROFESSOR ROGER ADAMS; PROFESSOR WILLIAM A. NOYES</i>	71
<i>Obituary: Joseph Grinnell: PROFESSOR WM. E. RITTER. Recent Deaths and Memorials</i>	75
<i>Scientific Events: Transfer of the Bureau of Fisheries; Reorganization of the Work in Zoology at Cornell University; Grants of the National Tuberculosis Association; Guggenheim Fellowships for Brazil, Canada, Peru and Uruguay; American Ornithologists' Union</i>	76
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i>	79
<i>Discussion: Present-day Botany in Italy: PROFESSOR FRANCIS RAMALEY. The Production of Unfertilized Seeds in Trillium: PROFESSOR EDWARD C. JEFFREY and EDWIN J. HAERTL. The Role of Arrhenotoky in the Adaptation of Insects: DR. STANLEY E. FLANDERS. Mottled Enamel in Rat Molars: DR. GERALD J. COX and OTHERS</i>	81
<i>Quotations: The British Association for the Advancement of Science</i>	83
<i>Scientific Books: Popularization of Modern Science: PROFESSOR CHAUNCEY D. LEAKE</i>	84
<i>Reports: Astronomical Symposium on Galactic and Extragalactic Structure: PROFESSOR OTTO STRUVE</i>	85

<i>Special Articles: Linkage of Pea Comb and Blue Egg in the Fowl: DR. J. H. BRUCKNER and PROFESSOR F. B. HUTT. Role of Vitamin E in the Prevention of Muscular Dystrophy in Guinea Pigs: NOBUKO SHIMOTORI, GLADYS A. EMERSON and DR. HERBERT M. EVANS. A Quantitative Study of Meaning by a Conditioned Salivary Technique: DR. G. H. S. RAZZAN. The Gelatin of Brom Phenol Blue: DR. EDWARD S. AMIS and PROFESSOR VICTOR K. LA MER</i>	88
<i>Scientific Apparatus and Laboratory Methods: A Practical Method of Obtaining Bacteria-free Cultures of Trichomonas hominis: DR. WILLIAM S. STONE and MAJOR FRANÇOIS H. K. REYNOLDS. The Use of the Horsley-Clarke Instrument on the Rat: DR. GEORGE CLARK</i>	91
<i>Science News</i>	6

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DEDICATION OF THE WILLIAM ALBERT NOYES LABORATORY OF CHEMISTRY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

By Professor ROGER ADAMS

HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

OUR meeting to-day is to honor Dr. William Albert Noyes, formerly head of this department. This is a rather unusual occasion; first, because there is probably a larger proportion of the graduate students and faculty in chemistry gathered here to-day in a group than at any time since I have been associated with the department, and second, because we are naming a building, one half of which is thirty-seven years old and the other half twenty-three years old.

The older members of the staff know Dr. Noyes and his accomplishments. The younger men who are so busily engaged in their studies toward advanced degrees know too little of him. I shall, therefore, outline briefly his career.

Dr. Noyes was born in Iowa and took his undergraduate degree at Grinnell College in 1879. He then

went to Johns Hopkins for graduate work. In those days Johns Hopkins was the leading institution for graduate work in chemistry in the country. There he studied under Professor Remsen, whose name is known to all of you, and received the doctor's degree in 1882. His first scientific publication with Professor Remsen appeared that year.

Dr. Noyes served as instructor at the University of Minnesota in 1882-1883 and then accepted a professorship at the University of Tennessee, where he stayed until 1886. The probability is (though I do not have the facts) that at this institution he acted not only as professor of chemistry, but assistant in the laboratory, purchasing agent, janitor and possibly even stenographer as well. In 1887, he became professor at the Rose Polytechnic Institute, where he remained until

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