

Basil Roland Record, B.Sc. Hons., Ph.D. (Birmingham). Department of scientific and industrial research award, 1937-39. Proposed research—the specific soluble substance found in the tissues in acute vaccinia infection. At the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine, University of London.

NOMINATIONS TO THE COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

NOMINATIONS to the Council of the American Association of Museums for the three-year term of 1940-43 have been made by the council as follows:

Clyde H. Burroughs, secretary of the Detroit Institute of Arts.

Frederick Trubee Davison, president of the American Museum of Natural History, New York.

Mrs. Juliana R. Force, director of the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York.

James J. A. Fortier, president of the Louisiana State Museum, New Orleans.

Chauncey J. Hamlin, president of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences; a former president of the American Association of Museums.

Robert T. Hatt, director of the Cranbrook Institute of Science, Bloomfield Hills.

Horace H. F. Jayne, director of the University Museum, University of Pennsylvania.

Miss Mildred E. Manter, director of the Children's Museum, Boston.

Daniel Catton Rich, director of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Francis Henry Taylor, director of the Worcester Art Museum.

The by-laws provide that any five members of the association may make other nominations in writing. Additional nominations reaching the office of the association before April 12 will be incorporated in the final ticket. The council's nominations and any additional nominations that may be put forward by members will be voted on by mail prior to the annual meeting, which begins on May 22. Council members elected will take office at the time of the annual meeting.

SYMPOSIUM ON THE THERMODYNAMICS OF HYDROCARBONS

THE American Chemical Society will hold a national symposium on "Fundamental Thermodynamics of Hydrocarbons and Their Derivatives" at its ninety-ninth meeting, which will be held in Cincinnati from April 8 to 12.

The symposium, of which Dr. Frederick D. Rossini, chief of the Section of Thermochemistry and Constitution of Petroleum of the National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C., will be chairman, is planned to give fresh direction to the new and revolutionary activities of the petroleum industry in the potentially

vast field of synthetic products, including plastics, artificial rubber and silk and other materials.

While the petroleum industry, with a \$2,000,000,000 investment in refineries, is now primarily concerned with the production of fuels for automobiles and airplanes, it is also believed to be at the threshold of practically limitless expansion as a manufacturer of synthetics. Chemists aim to clarify the scientific and economic problems involved in this development.

The purpose of the symposium is to bring before scientific men and technologists associated with the petroleum and other allied industries a summary of present knowledge concerning the thermodynamic properties of hydrocarbons and related compounds. With this summary available, it will be possible to know what new thermodynamic data need to be obtained in some cases because of the absence of any data at all and in others because many of the older data are not accurate enough to satisfy present-day requirements.

Speakers at the symposium will include: Professor E. Bright Wilson, Jr., of Harvard University, who won the \$1,000 American Chemical Society Award in Pure Science in 1937 for experimental work in physical chemistry; Professor John G. Aston, of Pennsylvania State College; Professor Kenneth S. Pitzer, of the University of California; Professor George S. Parks, of Stanford University, and Dr. Rossini.

The symposium will be a feature of the program of the Division of Petroleum Chemistry, of which Dr. Cary R. Wagner, of the Pure Oil Company, Chicago, is chairman.

PIONEERS ON THE AMERICAN FRONTIERS OF INDUSTRY

ON the occasion of the hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the American patent system a series of fourteen regional meetings and dinners were held throughout the country during February under the auspices of the American Manufacturers Association. At these dinners, sponsored by state industrial groups, scrolls were awarded to about five hundred local "Modern Pioneers on the American Frontiers of Industry" for "significant contributions to the creation of jobs and the improvement of the standard of living through patented inventions or discoveries."

Robert L. Lund, executive vice-president of the Lambert Pharmacal Company, was chairman of the national committee. Members of the committee on awards were:

Karl T. Compton, president, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; past president, American Association for the Advancement of Science, *chairman*.

Forest R. Moulton, permanent secretary, American Asso-