THE WESTINGHOUSE TIME CAPSULE

THE Park Department of New York City announces that a monument of black granite, erected at Flushing Meadow Park to mark the location of the Westinghouse Time Capsule on the old site of the New York World's Fair, will be dedicated at noon on Tuesday, September 23.

At the public ceremonies sponsored by the Park Department, Robert Moses, Park Commissioner, will preside. David S. Youngholm, vice-president of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, will present the marker, and Mayor F. H. LaGuardia, or his representative, will accept the memorial on behalf of the City of New York. Executives of the principal companies which had exhibits at the fair, members of the fair administration, city officials and civic leaders will attend. The Time Capsule, a metal tube containing a record of our civilization, was buried fifty feet underground at the Westinghouse Building at the World's Fair to remain there for 5,000 years.

It contains thirty-five articles of common use and a microfilm record equivalent to 10,000,000 words of printed matter and was sealed on September 23, 1940, with leaders of American science, industry and public affairs taking part. It is made of copper alloy called Cupaloy which can be tempered to the hardness of steel and yet has a resistance to corrosion equal to pure copper. The torpedo-shaped shell is lined with an envelope of heat-resistant glass set in waterproof wax.

To preserve the memory of the Time Capsule and perhaps aid future archeologists in finding it, a permanent "Book of Record" was distributed to libraries, museums, monasteries and other repositories throughout the world.

The ten-foot black granite monument standing on a white granite base marks the exact spot where the capsule is buried at latitude 40° 44′ 34″.089, north of the equator, longitude 73° 50′ 43″.842 west of Greenwich. An inscription on the base of the shaft reads:

> The Time Capsule, deposited 50 feet beneath this spot on September 23, 1938; preserving for the future a record of the history, faiths, arts, sciences and customs of the people then alive. Scientists and engineers designed it; scholars chose its contents; the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company placed it here at the beginning of the New York World's Fair, 1939–1940, to endure for 5,000 years.

As part of the development of Flushing Meadow Park, the Park Department approved the construction and erection by Westinghouse of a memorial to mark the Time Capsule site. Five white granite seats, with black granite arm rests, face the shaft in a semi-circle from the south end of the memorial plot, which is 45 by 30 feet in area. The area is paved with dolomite flagstones from the court of the former Swedish Pavilion at the Fair. A replica of the capsule is on display at the Hayden Planetarium of the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, where duplicates of the original contents also are shown.

CELEBRATION AT RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

CONFERENCES in connection with the one hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary celebration of Rutgers University will be held on October 9 and 10. These conferences, which will comprise lectures and symposia in four fields of learning, have been arranged to provide an opportunity for scholars to discuss and correlate present knowledge, and to consider subjects for future research. On October 9 the program of lectures and symposia, in separate sections, will be devoted to social science and to applied science; on October 10, to the natural sciences and to literature and the fine arts.

Dr. Karl T. Compton, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will give the anniversary lecture before the Section on Applied Science. It will be entitled "Scientists Face the World of 1942." Speakers at a symposium before the section will be Dr. Vannevar Bush, president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, who will speak on "The Case for Biological Engineering," and Robert V. Trullinger, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, who will speak on "The Case for Agricultural Engineering."

Dr. Hugh Stott Taylor, of Princeton University, will give a lecture before the Natural Science Section on "Fundamental Science from Plogiston to Cyclotron." "Films in Chemistry and Biology" is the subject of a paper by Dr. Irving Langmuir, of the General Electric Company, and "Nuclear Physics and Biology," of a paper by Professor Ernest O. Lawrence, of the University of California.

The anniversary convocation on October 11 will be addressed by Dr. Clarence A. Dykstra, president of the University of Wisconsin, after which honorary degrees will be awarded.

AWARD OF THE BALY MEDAL OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

Nature writes: "Professor Edgar Allen, to whom the Baly Medal of the Royal College of Physicians has been awarded, is professor of anatomy in the Yale University School of Medicine, a post to which he succeeded in 1933 after a very fruitful period of office in the University of Missouri. In both universities his department has proved a vigorous center of research on the sex hormones, and his own contributions to the subject form an essential foundation to

modern knowledge of the endocrine action of the ovaries. Before 1917 attempts to isolate ovarian internal secretions were seriously handicapped by the lack of a specific test for what to-day is called œstrogenic action. In that year Stockard and Papanicolaou showed that the œstrous cycle in the guinea pig is associated with cyclical changes in the vaginal epithelium. Shortly afterwards Allen found that in the mouse, too, œstrus is associated with a specific vaginal phase, and from this discovery it was a short step to his and Doisy's successful application of the vaginal smear technique as a test for the œstrogenic action of ovarian extracts. Once extracts with demonstrable œstrogenic activity were made available, the door was open to the chemical isolation, analysis and synthesis of pure œstrogens. Although Allen did not share in this later chemical work, there can be little question that it would have proved impossible without the simple bio-assay method which he developed.

"Allen's second major achievement was his demonstration in 1926 of the fact that the follicular phase of the uterine cycle in monkeys and man is under the control of œstrogenic hormone. All later work on the primate cycle emerges from this finding, and Allen's own subsequent investigations have a significant place in the structure of present knowledge of the subject. His contribution does not rest here. Allen is that rare combination of research worker and administrator who is able to stimulate in younger men a strong and lasting interest in research. His laboratory is one of the most productive in the United States, and while the Baly Medal is a recognition of past work, endocrinologists the world over know that Allen's laboratory will prove no less successful in the future than it has in the past."

AWARDS OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

THE Priestley Medal of the American Chemical Society was presented on September 8 to Dr. Thomas Midgley, Jr., vice-president of Ethyl Gasoline Corporation, at the opening session of the one hundred and second meeting. Dr. Midgley, discoverer of tetraethyl lead as an anti-knock agent in gasoline, was honored for outstanding achievement in chemical science.

The $1,000 prize in pure chemistry, awarded annually to a chemist under thirty-six years of age, and sponsored this year by Alpha Chi Sigma, the national scientific fraternity, was presented to Dr. Karl A. Folkers, of the Merck and Company, Inc., for important contributions in the field of organic chemistry. Dr. Folkers has isolated many rare alkaloids from tropical plants and has conducted intensive research in the fields of vitamins and pyrimidines.

Professor William Lloyd Evans, of the Ohio State University, president of the society, made the presentations. In an address accepting the Priestley Medal, which is awarded once every three years, Dr. Midgley, who is chairman of the board of directors of the society, gave a demonstration of spectacular industrial developments arising from research with which he has been associated during the past twenty years.

By means of an actual gasoline engine, chemical apparatus, motion pictures and slides, Dr. Midgley demonstrated the effect of anti-knock material in a running engine; the non-toxic, non-inflammable properties of certain organic fluorides largely responsible for a great portion of the air-conditioning industry; the experiments through which he and his associates discovered that rubber containing oxygen could be vulcanized by the addition of Grignard reagents, and the process of commercially extracting bromine from sea water.

His discovery in 1922 of tetra-ethyl lead as an anti-knock agent was made after he and his colleagues in the General Motors Research Laboratories had tried more than 33,000 different chemical compounds without success. Dr. Midgley was born in Beaver Falls, Pa., in 1889 and is a graduate of Cornell University. He holds the Nichols Medal of the New York Section of the society, and the Perkin Medal of the Society of Chemical Industry. The honorary degree of doctor of science was conferred upon him by Wooster College. He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In September, 1940, Dr. Midgley was stricken with infantile paralysis. Despite his disability, however, he is actively participating in the convention proceedings.

Dr. Folkers was born in Decatur, Ill., in 1906. He received the degree of bachelor of science with honors from the University of Illinois in 1928, and the degree of doctor of philosophy in 1931 from the University of Wisconsin. He was a teaching assistant in 1928 and a research assistant and fellow in 1929–31 at the University of Wisconsin, and a post-doctorate research fellow in organic chemistry from 1931 to 1934 at the Sterling Chemistry Laboratory of Yale University. He is the author and co-author of many publications in the field of organic chemistry. He joined Merck and Company in 1934, and four years later was appointed assistant director of research. Dr. Folkers was co-recipient in 1940 of the Mead Johnson and Company Award for research on the vitamin B complex.