

Society. Dr. Campbell, who has been a regular member of the society for twenty-five years, becomes the fifth botanist to receive this honor during the fifty years' existence of the society, the others being Dr. Carl Christensen, of Denmark; Professor Frederick Orpen Bower, of England; Professor Willard Nelson Clute, of Butler University, Indiana, and Dr. Campbell E. Waters, of Washington. Professor Campbell began his fern work with a research problem on the common sensitive fern, *Onoclea*, fifty years ago.

The American Fern Society is about to celebrate fifty years of activity relating to ferns. While its official organization and first publication date from 1893, forty-nine years ago, there had been a preliminary gestational period of a year or two before that, during which its nineteen charter members perfected the plans which led to its birth as the "Linnaean Fern Chapter" of the Agassiz Association, and later to an adolescent change into "The American Fern Society." Drs. Waters and Clute have been members for half a century.

From its start with nineteen charter members, the Fern Society has grown to a present membership of over four hundred, comprising fern students from many different professions and walks of life. During 1941, the society's publication, the *American Fern Journal*, completed its thirty-first volume with Dr. W. R. Maxon, of the Smithsonian Institution, as its editor-in-chief. Preceding him, C. A. Weatherby, of the Gray Herbarium, served as editor for a period of twenty-six years. Publication headquarters of the journal are at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, which also houses its herbarium and library. Before the *Journal* was started (1910), the society sponsored the *Fern Bulletin*, which was edited through twenty volumes by Willard N. Clute.

#### THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

SINCE 1937 the American Philosophical Society has been holding a general meeting in the month of February, at which meetings such topics have been considered as the "Administration of Funds in Aid of Research," the "Publication of Research," "The Centenary of the Wilkes Exploring Expedition," "The Life and Work of Alexander Dallas Bache" and the "Centenary of Geomagnetism in America."

It is proposed to devote the midwinter meeting on February 13 and 14 to the "Early History of Science and Learning in America" with especial reference to the part played by the American Philosophical Society, which this year completes its bicentenary. At present the program includes the subjects and speakers given below:

Mathematics, Frederick E. Bransch, Library of Congress.

Astronomy, S. A. Mitchell, University of Virginia.  
 Physics, W. F. Magie, Princeton University.  
 Chemistry (Joseph Priestley), Detlev W. Bronk, University of Pennsylvania.  
 Engineering, Dugald C. Jackson, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.  
 Meteorology, W. J. Humphreys, U. S. Weather Bureau.  
 Agriculture, M. L. Wilson, under-secretary, United States Department of Agriculture.  
 Botany, M. L. Fernald, Harvard University.  
 Natural History (Benjamin Smith Barton as naturalist), Francis Pennell, Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.  
 Entomology, Philip P. Calvert, University of Pennsylvania.  
 Geology and Geophysics, Bailey Willis, Stanford University.  
 Paleontology, George G. Simpson, American Museum of Natural History.  
 Medicine, Francis R. Packard, Philadelphia.  
 The American Indian, Clark Wissler, American Museum of Natural History.  
 Education, Merle M. Odgers, Girard College.  
 Michaux and His French Associates, Gilbert Chinard, Princeton University.

This program should prove of unusual interest not only because of the subjects and speakers announced, but also because the theme of this meeting has been proposed as the field which should be especially cultivated by our library. This meeting should enable us to assess the present value of our library in this field and to learn of the gaps which should be filled if it is to be an important aid in this department of historical research.

As usual the society will provide hotel entertainment for non-resident members and specially invited guests.

EDWIN G. CONKLIN,  
*Executive Officer*

#### OFFICERS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

A FULL account of the Dallas meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the scientific societies associated with it, edited by the permanent secretary, will be printed in the issue of SCIENCE for February 6.

Officers for 1942 were elected as follows:

##### *President*

Dr. Arthur H. Compton, University of Chicago.

##### *Vice-presidents and Chairmen of the Sections*

*Mathematics* (A): Marshall H. Stone, Harvard University.  
*Physics* (B): A. J. Dempster, University of Chicago.  
*Chemistry* (C): J. H. Hildebrand, University of California, Berkeley.

*Astronomy* (D): Edwin F. Carpenter, University of Arizona.

*Geology and Geography* (E): Chester R. Longwell, Yale University.

*Zoological Sciences* (F): W. C. Allee, University of Chicago.

*Botanical Sciences* (G): J. T. Buchholz, University of Illinois.

*Anthropology* (H): Leslie Spier, University of New Mexico.

*Psychology* (I): H. E. Garrett, Columbia University.

*Historical and Philological Sciences* (L): Morris R. Cohen, New York, N. Y.

*Engineering* (M): W. R. Woolrich, University of Texas, Austin, Texas.

*Medical Sciences* (N): H. S. Gasser, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York.

*Agriculture* (O): A. E. Murneek, University of Missouri.

*Education* (Q): Harold F. Clark, Columbia University.

#### *Members of the Sectional Committees*

*Mathematics*: W. L. Ayres, West Lafayette, Ind.

*Chemistry*: William C. Rose, University of Illinois.

*Astronomy*: R. M. Petrie, Dominion Observatory, Victoria, B. C.

*Geology and Geography*: Marland Billings, Harvard University.

*Zoological Sciences*: A. C. Kinsey, Indiana University.

*Botanical Sciences*: H. H. Bartlett, University of Michigan.

*Anthropology*: Clyde Kluckhohn, Harvard University.

*Psychology*: William A. Hunt, Newport, R. I.

*Historical and Philological Sciences*: Alexander Pogo, Harvard Library.

*Medical Sciences*: Irvine H. Page, Indianapolis City Hospital.

*Agriculture*: W. H. Pierre, Iowa State College.

*Education*: M. R. Trabue, Pennsylvania State College.

#### *Executive Committee*

Esmond R. Long, Henry Phipps Institute, Philadelphia, Pa.

W. E. Wrather, Dallas, Texas.

#### *Council*

Howard A. Meyerhoff, Smith College.

William E. Wickenden, Case School of Applied Science.

#### *Committee on Grants*

A. F. Shull, University of Michigan.

A. L. Hughes, Washington University.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. ARTHUR H. COMPTON, Charles H. Swift distinguished service professor of physics at the University of Chicago, was elected president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science on December 31, at the Dallas meeting. He succeeds Dr. Irving Langmuir, of the General Electric Company.

MOUNTAIN summits in the Sequoia National Park, all more than 13,000 feet high, with the approval of the U. S. Board of Geographical Names, have been given the names of the following distinguished scientific men: Chamberlin, Hale, Newcomb and Pickering.

THE annual \$1,000 prize of the American Association for the Advancement of Science for a notable contribution to science presented at its annual winter meeting has been awarded to Professors Frank H. Johnson, of Princeton University, and Dugald E. S. Brown and Douglas A. Marsland, of New York University, for their paper entitled "The Reversible Denaturation of Enzymes as a Determining Factor in the Reaction of Biological Systems to Temperature and Pressure."

DR. ALWIN M. PAPPENHEIMER, of the New York University College of Medicine, was presented on December 30 with the prize of \$1,000 and a bronze medal of the Eli Lilly Company at the joint annual banquet in Baltimore of the Society of American Bacteriologists, the American Association of Immu-

nologists and the American Society for Experimental Pathology.

THE Penrose Medal of the Geological Society of America was presented to Professor Norman Levi Bowen, of the University of Chicago, at the annual dinner of the society at the Boston meeting on December 30.

THE presentation of the Perkin Medal "for outstanding work in applied chemistry" to Dr. Martin Hill Ittner, chemist of the Colgate-Palmolive-Peet Company, will be made at a meeting of the Chemists Club, New York, on January 9.

PROFESSOR DOUGLAS JOHNSON, of Columbia University, was elected president of the Geological Society of America on December 29 at the opening of the annual meeting in Boston. Other officers elected were: *First Vice-president*, Professor E. L. Bruce, of Queen's University, Kingston, Ont.; *Second Vice-president*, Professor Chester R. Longwell, of Yale University; *Third Vice-president*, Dr. Lloyd W. Stephenson, of the U. S. Geological Survey; *Fourth Vice-president*, Dr. Frederick E. Wright, of the Geophysical Laboratories of the Carnegie Institution; *Secretary*, Dr. H. R. Aldrich, of Columbia University. Councilors elected included past president, Professor-emeritus Charles P. Berkey, of Columbia University; Professor William O. Hotchkiss, of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; Dr. A. I. Levorsen,