end of the year, and (c) that a report on the work has not been previously announced and described before a scientific body or previously published. It is desirable, but not necessary, that those planning to work for the award send to the council before March 1, 1943, a statement of such intention. A report of the work and resulting conclusions must be submitted to the Research Council on Problems of Alcohol on or before February 15, 1944.

The Committee of Award will consist of five members—an officer of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and four representatives of the Scientific Committee of the Research Council on Problems of Alcohol.

If the committee is not convinced of the outstanding merit of the research done during 1943, as described in reports submitted, it may, at its discretion, postpone the award for another year, or until such time as work of such merit has been performed.

## THE NEW YORK MEETING OF THE OPTICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

THE mid-winter meeting of the Optical Society of America will be held at the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York, N. Y., on March 5 and 6. The Inter-Society Color Council will meet on Thursday, March 4, for a discussion in the morning and a business session in the afternoon. On Friday morning, March 5, there will be held a symposium of invited papers on "Vision" as follows:

"Factors in Human Visual Resolution," by Gordon L. Walls, Bausch and Lomb Optical Company.

"Some Physiological Aspects of the Eye as an Image-Forming Mechanism," by Kenneth N. Ogle, Dartmouth Eye Institute.

"Dark Adaption: Some Physical, Physiological and Clinical Considerations," by Charles Sheard, The Mayo Foundation.

"Some Factors and Implications of Color Constancy," by Harry Helson, Bryn Mawr College and The Foxboro Company.

An informal dinner will take place in the evening, followed by a lecture on "Visual Processes and Color Photography" by Ralph M. Evans, of the Eastman Kodak Company.

A second symposium on "Color-Blindness and Color-Blindness Tests" (arranged by the Inter-Society Color Council) will be held in the morning of March 6. The subjects of the papers and the authors are:

"Facts of Color-Blindness," by Deane B. Judd, National Bureau of Standards.

"Methodology of Test Preparation," by Forrest Lee Dimmick, Hobart College.

"The Evolution of Color Vision Tests," by Elsie Murray, Cornell University.

"The Red-Green-and-Yellow Equation for Normal and Color-Blind Observers," by Selig Hecht, Simon Schlaar and James C. Peskin, Columbia University.

"Hue Discrimination Test for Anomalous Color Vision," by David L. MacAdam, Eastman Kodak Company.

"A Method of Testing Color Vision Using Colored Transparencies and Standard Conditions of Observation," by Frederick W. Jobe, Bausch and Lomb Optical Company.

"The Farnsworth-Munsell 100-hue and Dichotomous Tests for Color Vision," by Dean Farnsworth, New York University.

"The ISCC Single Judgment Test for Red-Green Discrimination," by LeGrand H. Hardy, Institute of Ophthalmology.

Contributed papers will be presented in the afternoons of both days.

## ELEMENT NO. 85

RECENT press dispatches from Bern, Switzerland, report the identification of element 85 as a disintegration product of radium. The work was done by Dr. Walter Minder, director of the Radium Institute at Bern, and Dr. Alice Leigh-Smith, an English expert in nuclear physics who has been studying cancer at the institute. Among the disintegration products of radium, these workers found traces of a compound which appeared to contain a radioactive form of element 85. Their recent work has succeeded in increasing the amount available, and now the announcement is made of the photographic identification of the element. The name anglo-helvetium is proposed in honor of England and Switzerland.

It will be recalled that the discovery of element 85 was announced in 1931 by Professor Fred Allison, of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute. By using the magneto-optic apparatus he found traces of the element, which he named alabamine, in sea water, in samples of potassium bromide and in such minerals as kainite, apatite and fluorite.

# SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. A. W. HULL, of the General Electric Company, has been elected president of the American Physical Society in succession to Dr. P. W. Bridgman, Hollis professor of mathematics and natural philosophy at Harvard University. Other officers elected were Dr. Arthur J. Dempster, of the University of Chicago, *vice-president;* Dr. Karl K. Darrow, of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, *secretary,* and Dr. George B. Pegram, of Columbia University, *treasurer.*

PROFESSOR G. W. STEWART, of the State University