

IN HONOR OF DR. TREAT B. JOHNSON

A TESTIMONIAL dinner to Dr. Treat B. Johnson, Sterling professor of chemistry at Yale University, honoring his long service at the university, was given on the evening of June 7 at the New Haven Lawn Club by his university colleagues in the department of chemistry and a group of his former students, who had received their Ph.D. degree for research in organic chemistry under his direction. Professor Johnson is retiring from active service this year with appointment to a Sterling professorship emeritus.

Dr. Johnson has been connected with Yale University continuously since 1894, when he registered as a freshman in the Sheffield Scientific School. He has completed forty-three years of active teaching service

at the university, having received his Ph.D. degree in chemistry in 1901.

Speakers at the dinner were Dr. Charles H. Warren, dean of the Sheffield Scientific School and professor of mineralogy; Dr. Elmer V. McCollum, professor of biochemistry at the School of Hygiene and Public Health of the Johns Hopkins University; Dr. William T. Read, professor of chemistry at Rutgers College, and Dr. Arthur J. Hill, Whitehead professor of chemistry at the university.

In recognition of his long and outstanding work at Yale and his contributions to the fields of organic chemistry and biochemistry, Professor Johnson was presented with a complete Shaeffer writing desk equipment and a G.-E. Mazda fluorescent lamp.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. HERMAN LOUIS KRETSCHEMER, of Chicago, was chosen president-elect of the American Medical Association to succeed next year Dr. James E. Paullin, of Atlanta, at a meeting in Chicago from June 7 to 9, of the House of Delegates. Dr. John J. Amesse, of Denver, was elected vice-president, and Dr. Josiah J. Moore, of Chicago, was elected to succeed Dr. Kretschmer as treasurer.

MAJOR GENERAL NORMAN T. KIRK has succeeded Major General James C. Magee as Surgeon General of the Army.

At the commencement exercises of New York University on June 9, the doctorate of laws was conferred on Dr. George Dinsmore Stoddard, professor of psychology at the State University of Iowa for seventeen years, director of the Iowa Child Welfare Research Station and dean of the Graduate School. Dr. Stoddard is now New York State Commissioner of Education and president of the University of the State of New York. The doctorate of laws was conferred also on Dr. Herman H. Horne, professor of education emeritus. The degree of doctor of engineering was conferred on Lieutenant General Brehon Burke Somervell.

JOHN T. ZIMMER, curator of the department of birds of the American Museum of Natural History, New York, editor of *The Auk*, on May 24 received the honorary degree of doctor of science at the annual commencement of the University of Nebraska.

As announced in the proceedings of the North Carolina Academy of Science, Dr. H. S. Perry, of Duke University, has won the first prize award of the academy for a paper on "The Control of Starchy Contamination in Sweet Corn by the Use of the 'Gamete' Gene." This paper will be placed in the Inter-academy Contest for the Southeastern States, to be judged

by a committee of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

DR. MAX M. STRUMIA, of Bryn Mawr, Pa., has been awarded the Ward Burdick gold medal of the American Society of Clinical Pathologists for his work in connection with methods of preparing blood plasma.

THE Howard Taylor Ricketts Prize of the University of Chicago has been divided between Dr. Howard C. Hopps, instructor in pathology, and Dr. Leo R. Melcher, formerly assistant in immunology in the department of bacteriology and parasitology, now a student at Northwestern University Medical School.

THE Albert Gold Medal of the Royal Society of Arts, London, has been awarded to Sir John Russell, director of Rothamsted Experimental Station, which this year celebrates its centenary.

DR. A. HARDISTY SELLERS, medical statistician, Department of Health, Ontario, squadron leader, Royal Canadian Air Force, has been awarded the Professional Institute Medal of the Professional Institute of the Civil Service of Canada in recognition of the important contribution made by him in the study of hospital statistics in Ontario in connection with the cost of medical care.

THE following officers of the Stanford Chapter of Sigma Xi for the year 1943-44 were elected at a meeting of the chapter on May 13: *President*, Professor George W. Beadle, biology; *Vice-president*, Professor Hubert Schenck, geology; *Secretary-treasurer*, Professor H. M. Bacon, mathematics; *Assistant Secretary-treasurer*, Professor Willis H. Johnson, biology. New members and associates were initiated at a meeting on May 28, at which time an address on "Plant Distribution" was given by Dr. Douglas H. Campbell, emeritus professor of botany.

At the final meeting of the Pittsburgh Physical Society for the 1942-43 season, which was held on June 3 at the Mellon Institute, the following officers were elected for next year: *President*, Dr. Sigmund I. Hammer; *Vice-president*, Dr. Sidney L. Siegel, and *Secretary-Treasurer*, Dr. Mary E. Warga. An address was delivered by the retiring president, Dr. O. Stern, on the "Corpuscular and Wave Properties of Molecular Rays."

THE National Association of Science Writers, meeting at the American Medical Association convention in Chicago on June 9, elected as president Robert D. Potter, of New York, science editor of the *American Weekly*.

At the recent annual meeting of the Supervisory Board of the American Year Book, an organization composed of delegates from forty-five learned societies, Professor Marston Taylor Bogert, of Columbia University, the representative of the American Chemical Society, was reelected to the presidency of the board, and Rear Admiral George H. Rock, the delegate from the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, was reelected to the vice-presidency.

DR. DONALD B. KEYES, chief of the chemical industries branch of the Office of Production, Research and Development of the War Production Board, and Raymond E. Kirk, of the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, have been elected to three-year terms as councilors of the American Institute of Chemists, Chicago. Frederick A. Hessel, president of the Montclair Research Laboratories, has been named treasurer.

THE following officers for 1943-1945 of the Cincinnati Chapter of the Society of Sigma Xi were installed at a meeting of the chapter on May 28: *President*, John L. Rich, professor of economic geology; *Vice-president*, Dr. Hoke S. Green, associate professor of organic chemistry, and *Secretary-Treasurer*, Dr. Paul B. Arenson, professor of inorganic chemistry. Dr. C. A. Elvehjem, professor of agricultural chemistry at the University of Wisconsin, delivered the annual lecture. He spoke on "The Present Status of the Vitamin B Complex."

DR. MARION FAY, professor of physiological chemistry at the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, has been appointed acting dean for the duration of the war to fill the vacancy caused by the commissioning of Dr. Margaret D. Craighill as major in the Medical Corps, U. S. Army.

DR. ESTHER CARPENTER, holder of the Elizabeth Clay Howald Scholarship at the Ohio State University, will return in July to Smith College where she has been appointed associate professor of zoology. She has been studying the effect of temperature on thyroid grown in tissue cultures.

DR. HERBERT S. BREYFOGLE, a fellow in legal medicine at Harvard Medical School, has been appointed instructor in pathology at the Washington University School of Medicine and pathologist to the St. Louis County Hospital. He will serve also as pathologist to the coroner of St. Louis County.

DR. CARL VOEGTLIN, first director of the National Cancer Institute, which was established in 1937, will retire from the U. S. Public Health Service on July 31. He has been with the service since 1913; was commissioned medical director in 1931, and has been in charge of all cancer research since 1937.

DR. EDWARD A. STRECKER, professor and head of the department of psychiatry at the Graduate School and the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania, president of the American Psychiatric Association, has been named special consultant to the Secretary of War for the Air Forces of the United States Army. In this capacity, Dr. Strecker will act as adviser to War Secretary Henry L. Stimson on all questions relating to psychiatry in the Air Forces. Serving as a civilian adviser he will be on call at all times by the War Department.

THE California Central Fibre Corporation has appointed Dr. Dorothy Day plant physiologist in its department of plant research at Pismo Forest, N. C.

JOHN A. FAUST has joined the staff of the Bakelite Corporation, unit of Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation, at the Research and Development Laboratories in Bloomfield, N. J.

DR. PHILIP S. WINNEK has become director of research of Pitman-Moore Co., Indianapolis, pharmaceutical and biological manufacturers.

DR. J. BEN ROBINSON, president of the American Dental Association, was the guest of Mexican dentists at the fourth Medico-Dental Convention in Mexico City in March. At the request of the State Department Dr. Robinson extended his trip to visit dental groups in the leading cities of Mexico. Dr. Daniel F. Lynch, chairman of the Pan American Relations Committee of the American Dental Association, accompanied Dr. Robinson.

DR. HUBERT G. SCHENCK, professor of geology, has been granted an indefinite leave of absence from Stanford University in order to accept a commission as major in the Army.

DR. RICHARD A. HOWARD has been appointed Second Lieutenant in the Army of the United States. He has been assigned to duty with the Army Air Forces as an aviation physiologist.

DR. PEYTON ROUS, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, writes: "All admit and most admire

the wild genius shown by the printer in his errors. Yet surely he should not have stated, in *SCIENCE* of June 4, page 505, that the castration of patients with inoperable prostatic cancer is followed by 'dramatic happiness.' The word was "happenings'."

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association reports that Dr. Walter B. Cannon, professor emeritus of physiology of the Harvard Medical School, is the president of the American-Soviet Medical Society, a new group founded to meet an increasing demand for information about the results and achievements of Soviet medicine. Dr. Henry E. Sigerist, director of the Institute of the History of Medicine at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, is the editor of a journal to be published by the society, to be known as the *American Review of Soviet Medicine*. Temporary offices of the society are at 130 West 46th Street, New York. Through meetings, the publication of a journal and the establishment of a library of information, the society keeps physicians of America and members of the allied professions informed on what problems Soviet colleagues are working and what is being done to solve these problems. The society will also send American medical books and periodicals to the Soviet Union to keep the Russians informed of scientific developments in this country and to stimulate closer cooperation between the medical corps of the two countries. As soon as conditions permit after the war, the society hopes to promote the exchange of students and to sponsor study hours in the two countries.

THE University of Rochester ultimately will receive an estimated \$1,784,275 for use as a research fund through the will of Mrs. Bertha H. Buswell, of Buffalo. Her will directed that the money be used to establish the "Bertha H. Buswell and Dr. Henry C. Buswell Memorial" for research work by the department of internal medicine of the School of Medicine. This amount represents the residue of her estate and is subject to a life interest by her brother. The late Dr. Buswell bequeathed \$900,000 for the use of the department of urology in the medical school.

THE Texas Dental College, Houston, Texas, has been made a part of the University of Texas and is now officially known as the School of Dentistry of the University of Texas.

THE Bausch and Lomb Optical Company has announced the successful casting of the largest prism

ever made—an optical disc twenty-six inches in diameter, graduated in thickness from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches and weighing 260 pounds. It was made for the Burrell telescope in the Warner and Swasey Observatory of the Case School of Applied Science at Cleveland.

THE editor of *Chronica Botanica* states that word has been received from a trustworthy Swedish correspondent that the herbarium and library buildings of the Botanical Museum in Berlin-Dahlem were completely destroyed during an air raid on the night of March 1 and 2. Practically nothing had been evacuated. With the exception of the fern herbarium and part of the fungi everything is gone. According to an official statement, publication of *Die Natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien* and *Das Pflanzenreich* will be discontinued.

THE foundation by the Royal College of Surgeons, London, of a research chair in ophthalmology, tenable at the Royal Eye Hospital, Southwark, has been announced. It is the first chair of its kind in England and the hospital has undertaken to raise £40,000 for its permanent endowment. The holder of the chair (the appointment has yet to be made) will devote the whole of his time to clinical research at the hospital and laboratory work at the Royal College of Surgeons.

A CABLE to *The New York Times* states that two more historic houses have been given to Great Britain in trust for preservation, Sir Isaac Newton's birthplace, Woolsthorpe Manor, near Grantham, Lincolnshire, and St. John's Jerusalem in Sutton-at-Hone, Kent. The gift of Woolsthorpe Manor was made possible through the generosity of the Pilgrim Trust, whose purchase of the property a few months ago to turn it over to the nation had already been announced. Many of the original features of the Newton birthplace have been preserved.

THE *Times*, London, reports that tunnellers of the Royal Engineers who continue blasting and boring their way into the heart of the Rock of Gibraltar have discovered a cavern which may have been sealed for 20,000 years. The cavern is of extraordinary beauty, glimmering white, gray and red stalactite columns, resembling a cathedral with pulpit, chancel and organ-pipes. The chamber contains a lake of fresh water nearly forty yards long and from seven feet to twenty feet deep. The largest column is seven feet in diameter and forty feet high.

DISCUSSION

THE SCIENCE MOBILIZATION BILL

IN reply to the letter of Dr. L. C. Dunn appearing in *SCIENCE* for June 4 attacking the statements, "95

per cent. of our scientific and technical manpower and facilities are now highly organized and coordinated to the single end of advancing the war effort" and