

Presentation of Walter S. Gifford, president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, for the Verily Medal, Richard T. Nalle.

Address: "Industrial Management and Freedom from Want," Walter S. Gifford.

Reception and tea by the Hostess Committee.

The medal was awarded to Dr. Gifford "in recognition of outstanding contributions in the field of industrial management."

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

At the sesquicentennial commencement of Williams College, the doctorate of science was conferred on Dr. Alfred N. Richards, professor of pharmacology and vice-president in charge of medical affairs of the University of Pennsylvania, and on Professor Jerome C. Hunsaker, head of the department of mechanical and aeronautical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

At the celebration on October 27 of the centennial of the School of Medicine of Western Reserve University, honorary degrees were conferred as follows: the doctorate of science on Professor George H. Whipple, dean of the School of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Rochester, and on Dr. Reginald Fitz, of the Harvard Medical School; the doctorate of humanities on Dr. Frederick C. Waite, professor emeritus of histology at the university, and on Dr. William T. Corlett, Cleveland dermatologist, and the doctorate of laws on Dr. Torald H. Sollmann, dean of the School of Medicine at the university.

DR. SHERWOOD MOORE, director of the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology of Washington University, St. Louis, has been appointed by Surgeon General Parran a member of the National Advisory Cancer Council.

NEVIN E. FUNK, vice-president in charge of engineering of the Philadelphia Electric Company, was recently elected president of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

DR. A. C. FURSTENBURG, dean of the Medical School of the University of Michigan, was named on October 27, at the closing session of the fifty-fourth annual convention, president-elect of the Association of American Medical Colleges.

H. P. TREVITHICK, of the bureau of chemistry of the New York Produce Exchange, has been elected president of the Association of Consulting Chemists and Chemical Engineers.

THE title of professor emeritus has been conferred by the College of the City of New York on Dr. Frederick G. Reynolds, formerly professor of mathematics and chairman of the department, and on Dr. Axel L. Melander, formerly professor and head of the department of biology.

DR. JOSEPH C. AUB, since 1928 associate professor of medicine in the Harvard Medical School, has been appointed professor of research medicine.

DR. ERNST GELLHORN, professor of physiology at the College of Medicine of the University of Illinois, has taken up his work as professor of physiology at the Medical School of the University of Minnesota. He has been placed in charge of a special unit in neurophysiology for the study of infantile paralysis, sponsored by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

DR. HENRY G. FISK, who has been in charge of ceramic and mineralogical research at the Armour Research Foundation of the Illinois Institute of Technology, has been appointed director of the newly established Research Institute of the University of Wyoming. He took up his new work on November 1. The Research Institute is the first institution of its kind in Wyoming. In conjunction with the university, its purpose is to aid by scientific research in the discovery, development and exploitation of the natural resources of the state.

DR. I. A. MERCHANT, associate professor of veterinary hygiene at Iowa State College, has been appointed head of the department. Dr. Fay Farnum, of New York University, has been appointed assistant professor of mathematics.

DR. TEVFIK SAGLAM, professor of internal diseases in the faculty of medicine, has been appointed rector of the University of Istanbul.

It is reported in the *Journal* of the American Medical Association that as a result of the Ramirez government's order that all office holders who signed a recent pro-democratic manifesto be dismissed, professors of the highest standing in the universities of Argentina, including Dr. Bernardo A. Houssay and Professor Alejandro Ceballos, have been affected. Ramirez is understood to have stated that, besides being dismissed from public office, these men will not be allowed to leave the country.

DR. KARL F. HEISER, director of the laboratory of psychology at Norwich State Hospital, Connecticut, has been appointed research director for the State Public Welfare Council.

DR. LOUIS WALDBAUER has resigned as associate professor of analytical chemistry and head of the analytical division of the department of chemistry and chemical engineering of the State University of Iowa, to become an analytical research chemist at the Cen-

tral Research Laboratory of the General Aniline and Film Corporation at Easton, Pa.

DR. A. R. PATTON, head of research in the department of chemistry of the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station, has become a research chemist in the Biological Laboratory of E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company, New Brunswick, N. J.

ARTHUR W. GELBKE, for the past two years director of engineering for American Type Founders, Inc., has been appointed chief engineer of E. Leitz, Inc., makers of Leica cameras and technical instruments.

COLONEL EDGAR ERSKINE HUME, Medical Corps, U.S.A., has been named chief American Health Officer of the Allied Military Government of Occupied Territory in Sicily.

It is reported in *Chemical and Engineering News* that C. C. Concannon, chief of the Chemical Unit of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Department of Commerce, planned to leave for Santiago toward the end of October to act as consultant and adviser to the Chilean Government on matters relating to the development of various branches of the chemical industry in that country.

DR. J. F. G. WHEELER, lately director of the Bermuda Biological Station for Research, has been appointed marine biologist in Mauritius. *Nature* states that it is hoped that Dr. Wheeler's researches may be a prelude to the establishment as a permanent institution of a Fisheries Department for Mauritius. The development of the island's fisheries has been made possible by a grant up to £4,500 under the British Colonial Development and Welfare Act of 1940.

DR. HAMILTON H. ANDERSON, professor and head of the department of pharmacology at Peiping Union Medical College, Peking, is reported to be one of a group announced by the State Department as being repatriated by the Japanese.

DR. F. J. W. ROUGHTON, F.R.S., fellow of Trinity College, lecturer in physiology at the University of Cambridge, will deliver the second Harvey Society Lecture of the current series at the New York Academy of Medicine on November 18. The title of his address will be "Recent Work on the Respiratory Chemistry of the Blood."

DR. EDWARD A. STRECKER, professor and head of the department of psychiatry of the School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania and consultant in psychiatry to the Army, Navy and Air Forces, delivered the annual Walter L. Niles Memorial Lecture at Cornell University Medical College on October 19, under the auspices of the Tau Chapter of Nu Sigma Nu. His subject was "The Neuropsychiatry

of Global War." The lecture is given annually in memory of Dr. Niles, a former dean of the Medical College, where he was for many years professor of clinical medicine.

THE Johns Hopkins Medical History Club commemorated on November 1 the four-hundredth anniversary of the publication of Andreas Vesalius's *De Humani Corporis Fabrica Libri Septem*. Dr. George W. Corner was chairman of the program. An exhibit illustrating the life and work of Vesalius was displayed in the exhibition hall of the Institute of the History of Medicine.

COMMEMORATING the four-hundredth anniversary of Copernicus at Colby College, Dr. Harlan T. Stetson, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, gave on October 22 a lecture entitled "The Earth and the Sun, from Copernicus until To-morrow." He also addressed the College Assembly on "Science During the War and After."

THE two hundred and fifty-seventh meeting of the American Physical Society will be held in the Technological Institute of Northwestern University on November 12 and 13 under the presidency of Dr. A. W. Hull, of the General Electric Company. There will be a symposium on the physics of rubber and other high polymers on the morning of Friday. Special papers will be presented on Friday afternoon and all day on Saturday. The dinner of the society will be held at the Georgian Hotel, Evanston.

THE fifty-second annual meeting of the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education will be held in Cincinnati from June 22 to 25, 1944.

THE Association of Military Surgeons of the United States met in Philadelphia on October 21. The program, devoted to war medicine, included such subjects as aviation medicine, battle fatigue, use of penicillin, rescue work of hospital ships, organization of medical units, technic of self-preservation, treatment of parachute injuries, war dentistry, reduction of venereal infection, war neurosis, jungle and desert emergencies, booby trap injuries, evacuation of the wounded by air and the use of dried plasma.

THE School of Medicine of Western Reserve University celebrated its centennial on October 27 with a convocation, preceded by an academic procession in which representatives of one hundred and thirty-eight universities and colleges, delegates of twenty-one learned societies and the consuls of seven countries participated. The principal address was delivered by Dr. Alan Gregg, director for the medical sciences of the Rockefeller Foundation. Professor Howard Thomas Karsner, director of the Institute of Pathol-

ogy at the university, described the public service of the School of Medicine. The dinner address was given by Dr. Reginald Fitz, of the Harvard Medical School, who described the close relations during the last century between the Medical Schools of Harvard University and Western Reserve University.

THE centenary meeting of the Royal Anthropological Institute, London, was held on October 30 under the presidency of Professor J. H. Hutton. According to *Nature*, addresses were delivered by Sir John Myres on the work of the institute, and by Lord Hailey on "The Role of Anthropology in Colonial Development." There was a symposium on "The Future of Anthropology," in which Dr. G. M. Morant spoke on physical anthropology; Professor V. G. Childe on archeology; R. U. Sayce on material culture, and Professor R. Firth on social anthropology.

THE new home of the American Institute of Physics at 57 East 55th Street, New York City, it is hoped, if the exceptional obstacles of wartime can be overcome, can be opened at the time of the January meeting. The building, formerly a private house, will in the course of years become the headquarters of the offices of the institute and of some of its founder societies, the scene for conferences and committee meetings and generally the headquarters for Amer-

ican physics. The purchase price of \$70,000, a bargain due to the generosity of the former owner of the house, has already been met to the extent of \$51,000. The Building Fund Committee hopes to receive the contributions of those who intend to contribute but have not yet done so. Contributions should be addressed to the American Institute of Physics, 175 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

It is proposed to establish a medical center at the College of Medicine of Wayne University, Detroit. The plan of development involves the expenditure of \$50,000,000. A board of trustees has been incorporated, of which Dr. Edgar H. Norris, dean of the College of Medicine, is a member. Dr. Frank F. Tallman, Lansing, director of mental hygiene of the Michigan State Hospital Commission, has become adviser and consultant to the board, including the development of its Industrial Health Institute and psychiatric units. George F. Pierrot, director of the United Service Organizations in Metropolitan Detroit for the past seventeen months, has been appointed executive secretary of the finance committee. It is reported that an appropriation of \$10,000 to initiate plans for the development of the center have been approved by the ways and means committee of the County Board of Supervisors.

## DISCUSSION

### THE BOTANICAL NAME OF THE GIANT SEQUOIA

IN the April number of *Leaflets of Western Botany*, W. A. Dayton, of the U. S. Forest Service, has presented a discussion of "The Names of the Giant Sequoia," based principally upon excerpts from 29 replies from certain Californian botanists in response to a request for information made by Mr. Dayton. The conclusions drawn are that botanical opinion in California (1) favors retention of *Sequoia gigantea* as the name of the big tree, (2) favors amendment of the international rules to conserve this name, and (3) indicates a reluctance to accept the recently proposed generic name *Sequoiadendron*. Some of the statements upon which these conclusions are based are rather amusing. One writer says he has "never seen or heard any name except *Sequoia gigantea*." Another says that the name *Sequoia gigantea* will remain in use because "millions of visitors come to this State [California] to view that tree." Another says, "Any change in the name would produce a distinct shock among 'plant lovers.'" Only two or three of the replies contain any reference to truly scientific or botanical considerations. I should like, therefore, to point out that since this is essentially a technical botanical

question, it is to be decided on scientific grounds, without regard to the provincial enthusiasms of the residents of any particular part of the earth.

Clearly, there are only two fundamental points at issue. The first one is, Does the name selected conform to the International Rules of Botanical Nomenclature? The second question is, What are the basic biological facts? The first question I shall leave to the nomenclatural specialists, although it is worth while noting that the generally used name, *Sequoia gigantea* (Lindl.) Dene., being a homonym, is untenable under the international rules. *Wellingtonia* also is ruled out, and for the same reason. The second question, however, calls for comment, since, after all, taxonomic botany is a branch of the science of biology.

While it is not at all necessary to review here the important data presented by Buchholz in 1939,<sup>1</sup> it may be not altogether out of place to quote briefly from the recently published work of two other botanists, Looby and Doyle,<sup>2</sup> who, presumably, may be safely considered free from any motives ulterior to the spirit of scientific inquiry. These two botanists have come independently to the conclusion, on the

<sup>1</sup> *Am. Jour. Bot.*, 26: 535-538, 1939.

<sup>2</sup> *Sci. Proc. Roy. Dublin Soc.*, 23: 35-54, 1942.