

the work of the Department of Inter-American Affairs in Latin America with especial reference to Venezuela.

The attendance at all sessions of the thirty-ninth annual meeting was the largest in the history of the society.

THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

THE one hundred and twenty-sixth annual meeting of the New York Academy of Sciences was held on December 15. Dr. Horace W. Stunkard, of New York University, delivered the address of the retiring president. His subject was "How do Tapeworms of Herbivorous Animals Complete Their Life Cycles?" Vilhjalmur Stefansson spoke on "The Arctic Mediterranean." As already announced in *SCIENCE*, Dr. Duncan A. MacInnes, a member of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, was elected president of the academy.

Honorary life members were elected as follows: Professor Alexander Fleming, of the University of London and the Royal College of Surgeons, discoverer of penicillin; Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins, of the University of Cambridge; Professor The Svedberg, head of the Institute of Physical Chemistry, and Professor Arne Tiselius, biochemist, both of the University of Uppsala; Dr. Oswald T. Avery, bacteriologist, a member of the Rockefeller Institute, and Dr. Alfred L. Kroeber, director of the Museum of Anthropology of the University of California.

A. Cressy Morrison prizes of \$200 each for papers selected from eight submitted in competition were awarded to Dr. William Augustus Ritchie, archeologist of the Museum of Arts and Sciences at Rochester, N. Y., for his study of "aboriginal cultures in New York State prior to the dominion of the Iroquois tribes"; and to Dr. Arnold Grobman, of the University of Rochester, for his paper on the "Distribution of Salamanders of the Genus *Plethodon* in the Eastern United States and Canada."

THE INSTITUTE OF RADIO ENGINEERS

THE Institute of Radio Engineers will hold its 1944 winter technical meeting at the Hotel Commodore, New York City, on Friday and Saturday, January 28 and 29.

Hubert M. Turner, associate professor of electrical engineering at Yale University, has been elected president of the institute. He succeeds Dr. Lynde P. Wheeler, of the Federal Communications Commission.

The meeting will be devoted to the domestic, international and war aspects of radio and electronic engineering. In addition to technical papers, the program will contain several features, including participating activities by the Federal Communications Commission, a display of captured enemy radio equipment and a

discussion on the newly formed Radio Technical Planning Board.

Arrangements have been made with the American Institute of Electrical Engineers for a joint evening meeting on Thursday, January 27, to be held in the auditorium of the Engineering Societies Building. Major General R. B. Colton, of the Signal Corps, will talk about enemy communication equipment and will display some of the captured apparatus. This equipment will be at the Hotel Commodore on Friday afternoon, January 28.

The American Institute of Electrical Engineers is holding its technical meeting during the week of January 24, and, for the convenience of members of the Institute of Radio Engineers who desire to attend, their papers will be concentrated during the afternoon session of January 27.

Each year the Institute of Radio Engineers recognizes outstanding achievements in the field of radio communication by the bestowal of two awards. One recognizes, in general, an extensive service over a period of years, while the other is usually conferred for a more recent contribution.

The Institute Medal of Honor is given in recognition of distinguished service in radio communication. It is awarded to one who has been responsible for an important advance in the science or art of radio communication. This advancement may be a single development or it may be a series of developments which in the aggregate have resulted in substantial improvements in radio communication.

The Morris Liebmann Memorial Prize, to perpetuate the memory of the late Colonel Morris N. Liebmann, is made possible through the generosity of E. J. Simon, a fellow of the institute. The award consists of the income from a gift of \$10,000, and is not a stated amount, as it is the interest from the securities in which the principal is invested. The recipient is a member of the institute and has made public during the recent past an important contribution to radio communications.

At this meeting the 1943 Medal of Honor will be presented to Haraden Pratt and the 1943 Morris Liebmann Memorial Prize to W. L. Barrow.

THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMY MEDICAL SCHOOL

THE Army Medical School, founded in 1893 by Surgeon General George M. Sternberg, marked its fiftieth anniversary at the graduation exercises of the sixteenth class in military and tropical medicine on December 18. Major General Shelley U. Marietta introduced Major General Norman T. Kirk, the Surgeon General of the Army, who gave the address. Certificates were presented to the class of one hundred and

twenty-four by Colonel Richard P. Strong, director of tropical medicine of the school, assisted by Lieutenant Colonel Thomas T. Mackie, the executive officer of the course. Graduates of this class included officers of the United States, Canadian and Peruvian armies and officers of state health departments.

Colonel G. R. Callender, director of the Army Medical School, presided. A simple ceremony commemorating the fiftieth anniversary honored Colonel Deane C. Howard, U. S. A., retired, who ranked No. 1 in the first class to graduate. Members of the faculty signing this diploma were Assistant Surgeon General G. H. Alden, first officer to command the school; W. H. Forwood and John S. Billings, deputy surgeons general; Charles Smart and Walter Reed, surgeons, and J. M. Cabell, assistant surgeon. Colonel Howard has had a distinguished career in the Medical Corps of the Army and was the chief of the Division of Sanitation in the Office of the Surgeon General in World War I. It was announced that a brochure covering the history of the school is being prepared.

OFFICERS OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

DR. CARL SHIPP MARVEL, professor of organic chemistry at the University of Illinois, has been elected president of the American Chemical Society for 1945. He will take office as president-elect on January 1, when Dr. Thomas Midgley, Jr., vice-president of the Ethyl Corporation, becomes president, succeeding Dr. Per K. Frolich, director of the Chemical Division of the Esso Laboratories of the Standard Oil Development Company, Elizabeth, N. J. The new president-elect was chosen by the council from four nominees receiving the largest number of votes in a national mail ballot of the approximately 40,000 members of the society.

Dr. Robert E. Wilson, of New York, president of the Pan American Petroleum and Transport Company, and Professor Roger Adams, head of the department of chemistry of the University of Illinois, were elected directors of the society. Dr. Ernest H. Volwiler, of Abbott Laboratories, Chicago, was named director at large.

The following councilors at large were chosen: Dr. Henry B. Hass, Purdue University; Dr. Joel H. Hildebrand, University of California; Dr. Gustav E. F. Lundell, National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Linus C. Pauling, California Institute of Technology.

Dr. Marvel was recently awarded the 1944 William H. Nichols Medal of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society, one of the highest distinctions in chemical science. It is conferred annually to stimulate original research in chemistry.

The presentation will be made at a meeting of the New York Section on March 10.

Dr. Marvel was cited for outstanding organic chemical contributions to the structure of vinyl polymers, used as synthetic plastics, particularly in the production of transparent aircraft pieces; as rubber substitutes and as thickening and blending agents in the chemical manufacturing industry. The citation also stressed the importance of his research in the structure of polymers of sulphur dioxide and olefines.

Dr. Marvel has carried out notable investigations in the fields of synthetic and structural organic chemistry, including the development of practical methods for preparing amino-acids, which are becoming increasingly important in the preparation of synthetic diets for intravenous feeding. Other studies have dealt with the relationship of hydrogen bonding and solubility behaviors, which forms the basis for one method of electrical refrigeration operating at low pressure, minimizing explosion hazards; the identification of organic compounds; the effect of structure in hexaarylethanes; the synthesis and rearrangement of polyenes and polynes and the organo-metallic compounds.

AWARD OF THE EDISON MEDAL TO DR. VANNEVAR BUSH

DR. VANNEVAR BUSH, president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington and director of the Office of Scientific Research and Development of the Office of Emergency Management, Washington, D. C., has been awarded the Edison Medal for 1943 of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. The award goes to Dr. Bush "for his contribution to the advancement of electrical engineering, particularly through the development of new applications of mathematics to engineering problems, and for his eminent service to the Nation in guiding the war research program." The medal will be presented on January 26 at a general session of the winter technical meeting of the institute in the Engineering Societies Building, New York, N. Y.

The Edison Medal was founded by associates and friends of Thomas A. Edison and is awarded annually for "meritorious achievement in electrical science, electrical engineering or the electrical arts" by a committee of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

Dr. Bush joined the faculty of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1919 as associate professor of electric power transmission, and became professor in 1923. He was appointed vice-president and dean of the school of engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in 1932. He has been president of