

### THE ARGENTINE CITIZENS DECLARATION

MEMBERS of the Council of the American Physiological Society have signed a statement in appreciation of the declaration recently made by one hundred and fifty distinguished citizens of Argentina. This action caused the dismissal of Bernard A. Houssay, professor of physiology at the University of Buenos Aires, and of other well-known teachers of Argentina. The letter follows:

The undersigned, members of the Council of the American Physiological Society, deplore the action of the Argentine government in dismissing from public service those persons who signed the so-called Argentine Citizens Declaration (*SCIENCE*, 98: 467, 1943). The one hundred and fifty men who signed that manifesto were all men of distinction in many walks of life, and included in their number the professors of physiology in the three leading medical schools of the country. By their action, they have spoken valiantly and fearlessly for the cause of democracy and intellectual freedom. We admire their spirit and congratulate them for their self-sacrificing devotion to the cause of human liberty.

As free citizens of a sister American state, we desire to express publicly our sympathy for them in their present dilemma and our concern over this implied threat to the freedom of speech in the Americas. We are confident that these views are freely shared, almost without exception, by other members of the American Physiological Society to say nothing of the one hundred and thirty million other citizens of this country.

We hope that this letter may bring to our Argentine colleagues some well-deserved moral support and encouragement in their continuing championship of the cause of democracy and freedom for the sake of which, in this instance, they have been so cruelly victimized.

PHILIP BARD

C. H. BEST

HALLOWELL DAVIS

H. E. ESSEX

WALLACE O. FENN

W. F. HAMILTON

MAURICE B. VISSCHER

### AWARD OF THE WILLARD GIBBS MEDAL

DR. GEORGE O. CURME, JR., vice-president and director of research of the Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Corporation, New York, has been awarded the Willard

Gibbs Medal for 1944 of the Chicago Section of the American Chemical Society. The award is bestowed annually "in recognition of eminent work in and original contributions to pure or applied chemistry."

The citation reads in part: "More than any other individual Dr. Curme is responsible for the development of the Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Corporation and for its outstanding advances in the field of aliphatic chemistry. He may well head the list of those who have brought leadership in organic chemistry from Germany to the United States, particularly in the field of aliphatic chemistry."

Dr. Curme was born in Mount Vernon, Iowa, on September 24, 1888. He received the B.S. degree from Northwestern University in 1909 and the Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1913. He continued his graduate studies in Berlin, and from 1914 to 1920 he was a fellow at the Mellon Institute for Industrial Research, Pittsburgh. He became chief chemist of the Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Corporation in 1920, and since 1927 has been vice-president and director of research. He received the Chandler Medal in 1933, the Perkin Medal in 1935 and the Elliott Cresson Medal in 1936. He holds the honorary degree of doctor of science from Northwestern University.

The Willard Gibbs Medal, of which Dr. Curme is the thirty-third recipient, was founded in 1911 by William A. Converse, secretary of the Chicago Section from 1901 to 1909. It was named for Josiah Willard Gibbs, from 1871 to 1903 professor of mathematical physics at Yale University. The presentation will be made at a meeting of the Chicago Section on May 24.

Previous recipients of the medal include Dr. Vladimir N. Ipatieff, Svante Arrhenius, Mme. Marie Curie, Sir James Irvine, Dr. Richard Willstätter, Theodore W. Richards, Leo H. Baekeland, Ira Remsen, Arthur A. Noyes, Willis R. Whitney, Edward W. Morley, William H. Burton, William A. Noyes, F. G. Cottrell, Julius Stieglitz, Gilbert N. Lewis, Moses Gomberg, John Jacob Abel, William D. Harkins, Claude S. Hudson, Irving Langmuir, Phoebus A. Levene, Edward C. Franklin, Harold C. Urey, Charles A. Kraus, Roger Adams, Herbert N. McCoy, Donald Dexter Van Slyke, Robert R. Williams, Edward A. Doisy, Thomas Midgley, Jr., and Conrad Arnold Elvehjem.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. YANDELL HENDERSON, professor emeritus of applied physiology at Yale University, died on February 18 in his seventy-first year.

DR. CHARLES B. DAVENPORT, until his retirement in 1934 for thirty years director of the Station for Experimental Evolution of the Carnegie Institution at

Cold Spring Harbor, N. Y., died on February 18 in his seventy-eighth year.

THE William Freeman Snow Medal was presented at the annual dinner meeting of the American Social Hygiene Association to Dr. Hugh S. Cumming, director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, previously

surgeon general of the U. S. Public Health Service, in recognition of "outstanding service in the field of social hygiene."

SELWYN G. BLAYLOCK, president and managing director of the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada, Ltd., received a certificate of honorary membership at the annual meeting of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, which was held in New York City on February 23.

THE officers of the American Society of Zoologists elected for the year 1944 are: *President*, Dr. Sewall Wright, the University of Chicago; *Vice-president*, Dr. H. W. Stunkard, New York University; *Secretary*, Dr. L. V. Domm, the University of Chicago; *Treasurer*, Dr. H. W. Beams, the State University of Iowa; *Member of the Executive Committee*, Dr. T. S. Painter, University of Texas.

DR. GEORGE GREY TURNER, professor of surgery in the University of London, has been elected to deliver the Hunterian oration for 1945 of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

DR. A. H. GALE delivered the Milroy lectures of the Royal College of Physicians of London on February 22 and February 24. His subject was "A Century of Changes in the Mortality and Incidence of the Principal Infections Which Cause Death or Disability in Childhood."

COLONEL BLAKE RAGSDALE VAN LEER, dean of the Consolidated Colleges of Engineering of the University of North Carolina and North Carolina State College, has been elected president of the Georgia Institute of Technology to succeed Dr. Marion L. Brittain.

DR. CARL C. LINDEGREN, research associate at Washington University, St. Louis, has been appointed research professor on the staff of the Henry Shaw School of Botany. He will be assisted by Mrs. Gertrude Lindegren, Mrs. W. E. Pabor and others in directing research on the genetics of certain fungi, which is supported by an annual grant from Anheuser-Busch, Inc. He will also conduct a research course at the university on the genetics of fungi.

DR. STUART A. WALLACE, chairman of the department of pathology of the School of Medicine of Baylor University, has been appointed to the newly endowed Fulbright professorship of pathology. The endowment is a memorial to the late R. C. Fulbright founded by his widow, Mrs. Irene Fulbright.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR CHESTER RUSSELL, JR., acting head of the electrical engineering department of the Michigan College of Mining and Technology, has resigned to accept an industrial position. Resolutions

of regret were passed by the executive committee of the faculty and by the college branch of the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, whose secretary-treasurer he was. Professor George W. Swenson, head of the department, will return to the college after an eighteen-months leave of absence for service with the armed forces as special consultant.

APPOINTMENTS at the School of Medicine of Baylor University include Dr. Kenneth L. Burdon, of the School of Medicine of the Louisiana State University, professor of bacteriology; Dr. John H. Perry, of the Medical College of the State of South Carolina, assistant professor of anatomy; Dr. Paul A. Wheeler, assistant professor of pathology at Washington University, St. Louis, associate professor of pathology, and Dr. S. Earl Kerr, of the U. S. Army Medical Corps, instructor in pathology.

DR. W. H. NEWTON, since the outbreak of the war acting head of the department of physiology at University College, London, has been appointed George Holt professor of physiology in the University of Liverpool, in succession to Dr. Herbert Eldon Roaf, who is retiring at the end of March.

DR. MARTIN D. YOUNG, senior parasitologist of the National Institute of Health, has been commissioned as sanitarian (R) in the U. S. Public Health Service. Dr. Young is in charge of the Malaria Research Laboratory of the National Institute of Health at Columbia, S. C., and also of the newly organized "Imported Malaria Studies" program.

DR. WILTON L. HALVERSON, Los Angeles, director of the California State Department of Public Health, has been appointed a member of the board of scientific directors of the International Health Division of the Rockefeller Foundation.

DR. HAROLD E. JONES, professor of psychology and director of the Institute of Child Welfare of the University of California at Berkeley, has been elected a member of the board of directors of the National Social Science Research Council.

DR. WILLIS L. TRESSLER, of the department of zoology of the University of Maryland and the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, has leave of absence for the duration of the war to assist in the specialized equipment research program of the Federal Government.

DR. HAROLD W. WERNER, pharmacologist of the National Institute of Health of the U. S. Public Health Service, has been appointed head of the department of pharmacology of the research laboratories of the Wm. S. Merrell Company in Cincinnati.

DR. ELMER WALKER BRANDES, pathologist-in-chief in charge of the divisions of sugar-plant and rubber-

plant investigations of the Department of Agriculture, returned to the United States on February 14 after a visit to Africa. It is reported in the daily press that he brought back with him seeds of a sugar-bearing plant which he believes could be grown in the Gulf states.

AFTER his return to England from the Middle East to present to the British War Office and the Medical Research Council a report on the use of penicillin for war wounds, Professor H. W. Florey, of the University of Oxford, visited Russia to acquaint physicians there with his work on its development.

DR. FRANK A. BEACH, chairman and curator of the department of animal behavior at the American Museum of Natural History, addressed members of the faculty and graduate students of the departments of zoology and psychology at Indiana University on February 7. His lecture was entitled "The Neural and Hormonal Factors Involved in Reproductive Behavior."

DR. A. D. MACDONALD, dean of the Medical School of the University of Manchester, England, discussed plans for medical education in Great Britain after the war at the final session of a six-weeks symposium at the College of Medicine of New York University on "Medical Education in Relation to the Practice of Medicine of the Future."

A TWO-DAY symposium, on the industrial application of x-ray diffraction, sponsored jointly by the New York Section of the American Physical Society and the department of chemistry of the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, was held at the institute on February 25 and 26. Representatives of more than sixty industrial firms were in attendance.

THE second war conference of the American Ceramic Society, Inc., will be held from April 2 to 5 at the Hotel William Penn, Pittsburgh. On Sunday night, April 2, the Edward Orton, Jr., Memorial Lecture will be given by Professor Hoyt C. Hottel, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He will speak on "Radiant Heating."

THE International Association for Dental Research will hold its general meeting at the Drake Hotel, Chicago, on March 18 and 19 and the American Association of Dental Schools meets there from March 20 to 23.

It is stated in *Nature* that a lecture on a chemical engineering subject has been endowed by J. Arthur Reavell, and will be given under the auspices of the British Institution of Chemical Engineers. It will be known as "The J. Arthur Reavell Lecture" and will be delivered not less frequently than once in every four years.

THE British Colonial Office announces that plans have been made to spend another £500,000 this year on the health program of Trinidad, £100,000 more than in 1943. New specialists in the hospitals, higher salaries for nurses and the appointment of a new officer of health education to supervise the teaching of hygiene in schools are among the improvements planned.

It is reported that a British Scientific Film Association was formally constituted at a meeting held on November 20. Its primary aim is to promote the national and international use of scientific films in order to achieve the widest possible understanding and appreciation of scientific method and outlook, especially in relation to social progress. It will also collect, collate and distribute information on the scientific film, and publish comprehensive lists of films graded according to scientific merit and suitability for audiences. The association hopes to establish relations with government departments, public bodies and other organizations.

ACCORDING to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association the development of a rickettsia and virus laboratory in China by the Chinese National Health Administration is going forward with the cooperation of the American Bureau for Medical Aid to China and United China Relief. Dr. Chen-Hsiang Huang, instructor in medicine and virus research at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, fellow of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, is *en route* to China to direct the work as head of the department of experimental medicine in the National Institute of Health. According to a release from United China Relief, at the present time there is no medical school or institution in China equipped to carry on virus research, and the rickettsia and virus laboratory will be the first of its kind in that country.

## BOOKS RECEIVED

- BROUWER, DIRK, FREDERIC KEATOR and D. A. McMILLEN. *Spherographical Navigation*. Illustrated. Pp. xxiii + 200. Macmillan Company. \$5.00.
- DAUS, PAUL H., JOHN GLEASON and WILLIAM M. WHYBURN. *Basic Mathematics for War and Industry*. Illustrated. Pp. xi + 277. Macmillan Company. \$2.00.
- FREY, AUSTIN R. *Fundamentals of Radio Communications*. Illustrated. Pp. xii + 393. Longmans, Green and Co. \$4.00.
- MACCAULEY, C. B. F. *The Helicopters Are Coming*. Illustrated. xi + 165. Whittlesey House—McGraw-Hill Book Co. \$2.00.
- Practical Radio and Electronics Course*. Three Volumes. "Fundamentals of Radio and Electronics," "Receivers, Transmitters and Test Equipment" and "Applied Electronics and Radio Servicing." Pp. 267. Illustrated. Prepared under the direction of M. N. BETTMAN. Supreme Publications. \$3.95, set.