

Ramiro Robles Ramos, Geólogo de la Comisión Nacional de Irrigación. This committee has recently been allotted a substantial fund by the Mexican Government.

The support of the State Department's Interdepartmental Committee for the Cooperation with Latin American Republics has made possible two of the major projects which were submitted by the U. S. Geological Survey and the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey. The Geological Survey has assigned Howel Williams to map the region with the assistance of Kenneth Segerstrom as topographer, and thus to supplement the record of Ordóñez, Foshag and others, while the Coast and Geodetic Survey is having seismic and magnetic observations made by their volcanological geophysicist, Austin E. Jones, who will have as a background the recently published report of the preliminary studies made by that governmental agency during 1943.

The Geological Society of America has generously allotted a grant from The Penrose Fund to Fuller, as chairman, for the accession, construction and maintenance of shelters, trails and other physical facilities at the volcano, and has very substantially earmarked additional funds for other projects that may be recommended by the Paricutin Committee and approved by the project and executive committees of the society. The physical improvements have been made increasingly necessary owing to the difficulties imposed by the continued activity of the volcano, which in recent months has erupted extensive flows in various directions. They are also required for the installation of instruments in a region where throughout the year one usually contends with either rain or dust, and, incidentally, with the depredations of tourists.

Through the cooperation of the Carnegie Institution, E. G. Zies, volcanological chemist of the Geophysical Laboratory, visited Paricutin during November and December in order to become better equipped to serve the committee as counselor and adviser. He was also helpful in defining feasible and potentially diagnostic geophysical projects. Although some of these phases of investigation have to be carried on during the course of the eruption, others can only be successfully pursued after the activity has largely subsided. The committee is also sponsoring studies of related biological problems in the hope of correlating all critical data concerning the eruption.

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS

THE National Nominating Committee of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, consisting of members from various parts of the country, has nominated the following official ticket of candidates for the offices becoming vacant on August 1, 1945:

For President: W. E. Wickenden, president, Case School of Applied Science, Cleveland, Ohio.

For Vice-Presidents (Middle Eastern District): Ernest S. Fields, vice-president, Cincinnati Gas and Electric Co. (Southern District): Herman B. Wolf, superintendent of maintenance, Duke Power Co., Charlotte. (North Central District): L. M. Robertson, transmission and station engineer, Public Service Co. of Colorado, Denver. (Pacific District): F. F. Evenson, consulting engineer, San Diego. (Canada District): F. L. Lawton, assistant chief engineer, Aluminum Company of Canada, Montreal.

For Directors: John M. Flanigen, distribution engineer, Plant Accounting, Georgia Power Co., Atlanta. J. R. North, assistant electrical engineer, Commonwealth and Southern Corporation, Jackson, Mich. W. C. Smith, Pacific district engineer, General Electric Co., San Francisco.

For National Treasurer: W. I. Slichter, professor emeritus of electrical engineering, Columbia University.

These official candidates, together with any independent nominees that may be proposed later in the manner specified by the Constitution and By-laws, will be voted upon by the membership at the coming election this spring.

AWARDS OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE AERONAUTICAL SCIENCES

A MEETING of the Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences was recently held in The Engineering Societies Building, New York City, under the presidency of R. H. Fleet.

Honorary fellowships were awarded to Dr. Edward P. Warner, vice-chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board, and to Sir Frederick Handley Page. Colonel Sir Vivian Gabriel, of the British Air Commission to Washington, accepted for Sir Frederick.

Fred E. Weick, chief engineer of the Engineering and Research Company of Riverdale, Md., received the Sylvanus Albert Reed Award for a contribution to aeronautical science in recognition of his development of the two-control, non-spinnable Ercoups in the small plane field.

The John Jeffries Award for contributions to aeronautical medicine went to Air Marshal Sir Harold E. Wittingham, director general of medical sciences of the Royal Air Force.

The Octave Chanute Award was conferred on Colonel Benjamin S. Kelsey, of the Army Air Forces, for his work in testing high-speed aircraft.

The Robert M. Losey award was conferred on John Cary Bellamy, special consultant to the Weather Service of the Air Forces, who is now in the Pacific, for his contributions to meteorology during the year. The award was accepted for Mr. Bellamy by Dr. Horace R. Byers, of the University of Chicago.

The Lawrence Sperry Award for the best contributions of a young man to aeronautical science was given

to William H. Phillips, head of the stability and control flight section at Langley Field.

A number of fellowships and honorary memberships in the institute were conferred.

AWARD OF THE GOLD MEDAL OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMISTS

THE gold medal of the American Institute of Chemists, presented annually for "noteworthy and outstanding service to the science of chemistry or the profession of chemist in America," was awarded on February 2 to John W. Thomas, chairman and director of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company. The medal was given in recognition of his leadership in rubber research for four decades and for achievements under his direction in the development and production of synthetic rubber.

Former recipients of the medal include Dr. Willard H. Dow, president of the Dow Chemical Company; Andrew W. Mellon, the late Secretary of the Treasury, and his brother, the late Richard B. Mellon, of Pittsburgh; James Bryant Conant, president of Harvard University, and the late George Eastman, founder of the Eastman Kodak Company.

Formal presentation of the medal will be made on May 11 at Columbus, Ohio, during the twenty-third annual meeting of the institute. The chairman of the committee arranging the conference is E. L. Luáces, president of the Chemical Developments Corporation, Dayton, Ohio, and chairman of the Miami Valley Chapter of the institute. Dr. James R. Withrow, head of the department of chemical engineering of the Ohio State University, is honorary chairman.

During the last year, Mr. Thomas has supervised the designing and construction of a \$2,000,000 rubber research laboratory which is one of the most modern and complete in the world. This laboratory will be dedicated within the next few months.

The jury of chemists making the award was composed of Dr. Gustav Egloff, petroleum technologist of the Universal Oil Products Company; Dr. Harry L. Fisher, director of research for U. S. Industrial Chemicals, Inc.; Dr. Robert J. Moore, manager of the Development Laboratory of the Bakelite Corporation; Dr. Maximilian Toch, president of Toch Brothers, Inc., and chairman of Standard Varnish Works, and Howard S. Neiman, secretary of the institute.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. THOMAS M. RIVERS, director of the Hospital of the Rockefeller Institute, has been elected to honorary membership in the Royal Medical Society of Edinburgh.

THE twenty-first Duddell Medal of the Physical Society, London, has been awarded to Dr. F. W. Aston, fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, in recognition of his invention and development of the mass spectrograph.

THE Alfred Noble Prize of \$500, awarded for an "outstanding paper in electrical engineering," was presented on January 27 at a joint meeting of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and the Institute of Radio Engineers to W. R. Wilson, engineer with the General Electric Laboratories at Pittsfield, Mass.

THE Medalla Oficial, National Order of Merit, Carlos Manuel de Cespedes, has been conferred on Dr. J. C. Geiger, director of public health of the City and County of San Francisco. The citation refers to Dr. Geiger as "a talented physician and scientist, humanitarian and loyal friend of Cuba and other Spanish American countries."

THE 1944 awards of the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation, \$500 in cash with a plaque and scroll, were presented, on January 24, to Dr. John MacLeod, of the department of anatomy of the Cornell Univer-

sity Medical College, and to Dr. Felix J. Underwood, executive officer of the Mississippi State Board of Health, at a dinner in New York City given at the annual meeting of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

THE Mineralogical Society of America has elected the following officers: *President*, K. K. Landes, University of Michigan; *Vice-president*, George Tunell, Geophysical Laboratory, Washington, D. C.; *Secretary*, C. S. Hurlbut, Jr., Harvard University; *Treasurer*, Earl Ingerson, Geophysical Laboratory, Washington, D. C.; *Editor*, Walter F. Hunt, University of Michigan; *Councilors*, R. E. Grim, Illinois Geological Survey, Urbana, and Michael Fleischer, U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C.

DR. EDWIN B. FRED, since 1943 professor of bacteriology and dean of the College of Agriculture of the University of Wisconsin, dean of the Graduate School, has been named president of the university. He succeeds Clarence A. Dykstra, who has become the provost of the University of California at Los Angeles.

DR. WILLIAM H. TALIAFERRO, Eliakim Hastings Moore distinguished service professor of parasitology and dean of the Division of the Biological Sciences of the University of Chicago, has been made adviser to the president in the biological sciences. Dr. Roland W. Harrison, professor of bacteriology,