

director of the Fleischmann Laboratories, Standard Brands, Inc., New York, were elected to membership on the Board of Trustees of *Biological Abstracts, Inc.*, at the annual meeting held in Philadelphia on February 3.

Approximately 3,000 collaborators assist in the preparation of abstracts; 1,100 of them have assignments for abstracting one or more journals in entirety. Arrangements are made for abstracting about 1,925 journals. The abstracts are edited by 157 section editors and assistants. A full-time staff with fourteen members is maintained in the Philadelphia office.

Twenty-three thousand, three hundred abstracts were published last year. This number is expected to increase in 1945, with a great post-war increase anticipated when accumulated literature becomes available from abroad.

Present officers of the Board of Trustees were re-elected as follows: *President*, Dr. A. F. Blakeslee, Smith College; *Vice-president*, Dr. E. G. Butler, Princeton University; *Treasurer*, Dr. D. H. Wenrich, University of Pennsylvania; *Secretary*, Dr. Robert Gaunt, New York University.

Present board members re-elected were: Howard P. Barss, U. S. Department of Agriculture; Dr. R. E. Cleland, Indiana University; and Dr. E. G. Butler, Princeton University.

THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE war's weather problems, particularly those related to flying, held the spotlight during the twenty-fifth annual meeting of the American Meteorological Society, which was held at Kansas City on January 24, 25 and 26. High ranking meteorological officers of the Army and Navy were among those in attendance. Canada, Latin America and Russia were also represented. The free-for-all discussion of problems facing forecasters for aviation the world over not only resulted in a general appreciation of the diverse demands on meteorological service, but also brought out helpful suggestions on how to adapt successful experience in one theater to another. The general tenor of the meeting was that of an official international, yet completely informal, round table conference.

Significant of the relation of meteorology to the war is the fact that it was the increased interest in the subject generated by World War I that led to the demand for an American Meteorological Society. In 1919, Sergeant P. W. Etkes, a graduate of the School of Meteorology of the Signal Corps, wrote to his former instructor, Dr. Charles F. Brooks, expressing the generally felt need for a meteorological society. Dr.

Brooks carried this idea forward¹ to the organization of the society and its affiliation with the American Association for the Advancement of Science at the St. Louis meeting in December, 1919.

The demand of the present war for meteorological services has led to a great expansion of the membership and activities of the society. In 1920 the society completed its first year with about 900 members. The membership dropped to about 600 by 1927, but with the growth of airways, climbed back to 900 by 1937 and reached 1,200 in 1939. The war has carried the membership to 1,600 in 1943 and over 2,500 in 1944. So strong a professional group has grown up that the society has just instituted a professional class of membership, and is developing postwar expansion of meteorological opportunities, chiefly industrial applications.

In 1920, the society began the publication of its monthly *Bulletin* which at first included less than 200 pages a year of articles, notes, news, announcements, reviews, etc. The *Bulletin* has grown gradually to some 430 pages a year. The editors have been Charles F. Brooks, sixteen years; B. M. Varney, one year; R. G. Stone, eight years. The *Bulletin* now has a paid circulation of more than 4,000.

For some time the need had been felt for a journal devoted entirely to the publication of more or less advanced meteorological research, and in 1944 the society, under the leadership of its president, Professor C.-G. Rossby, director of the department of meteorology of the University of Chicago, undertook the publication of a quarterly *Journal of Meteorology*. This is being edited by Professor Victor P. Starr, of the department of meteorology at Chicago.

Beginning in 1934 with a series of articles by Jerome Namias in the *Bulletin*, editor R. G. Stone brought out a publication called "Introduction to the Study of Air Mass Analysis," which went through five editions, giving students of meteorology nearly 20,000 low-priced books expounding the air mass analysis methods which had developed since World War I.

From its first year, the society has fostered the distribution of meteorological publications not its own. It now has a Book Service which obtains for its members meteorological publications from all over the world, both purchases and library loans. Readers of the *Bulletin* are kept informed of what is being published by a bibliographical department where current publications together with abstracts are listed in classified form.

The society from its beginning has been hemispherical in scope, always having a considerable number of Canadian and Latin-American members. Two of its

¹ SCIENCE, August 22, 1919.

presidents have been Canadians; and Canada and Latin America have been continuously represented on the council. Occasional articles in Spanish have been published in the *Bulletin*, and there are local branches of the society in Latin America.

In large measure the continued functioning and development of the society during these first twenty-five years have been due to the efforts of its secretary, Charles F. Brooks.—R. W. B.

AWARDS OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF MINING AND METALLURGICAL ENGINEERS

THE James Douglas Gold Medal of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers was awarded on February 20 at the New York meeting to Dr. Robert Franklin Mehl, director of the metals research laboratory of the Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh, and head of its department of metallurgical engineering, in recognition of "disting-

uished achievement in physics and physical metallurgy and especially for his development of gamma-ray radiography and for conspicuous success in his metallurgical investigations involving diffusion and crystal structures."

The Robert W. Hunt Silver Medal and Certificate for 1945 was awarded to E. Chester Wright, chief metallurgist of the National Tube Company, Pittsburgh, for improving the process of making Bessemer steel.

The J. E. Johnson, Jr., award was conferred on Carl Gustav Hogberg; assistant to the chairman of the Blast Furnace Committee of the U. S. Steel Corporation, in recognition of "his contributions to the science and art of smelting iron ores in the blast furnaces."

William Marsh Baldwin, Jr., chief metallurgist of the Chase Brass and Copper Company, Euclid, Ohio, received the 1945 award of the Institute of Metals Division for research work leading to the improvement of methods of production of brass cartridge cases.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

BRIGADIER GENERAL DAVID SARNOFF, president of the Radio Corporation of America, made the principal address at a dinner in New York City on February 18 in honor of Wendell Willkie. On this occasion he was presented with the "One World" award in recognition of his "expansion of radio as a medium for popular education and entertainment, his work on the final reparations settlement in 1929, his contributions to television and his overseas services as special consultant to the Communications Branch of the Public Relations Office, Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Expeditionary Force."

DR. CLIFFORD COPLAND PATERSON, F.R.S., has been awarded the Faraday Medal by the British Institution of Electrical Engineers, in recognition of conspicuous services in the advancement of electrical science.

THE award for outstanding service to chemistry of the Pittsburgh Section of the American Chemical Society "for work worthy of note toward increasing chemical knowledge, promoting industry, benefiting humanity or advancing the Pittsburgh Section" was presented on February 15 to Dr. Leonard Harrison Cretcher, assistant director of the Mellon Institute and head of the department of research in pure chemistry.

THE St. Louis Section of the American Chemical Society has awarded its gold medallion to Dr. Lucas P. Kyrides, research director of the Division of Organic Chemicals of the Monsanto Chemical Company. The medallion is awarded annually for the most "meritorious contribution to the advancement of pure or applied chemistry or of chemical education." The

presentation will take place at a dinner to be given on March 5.

DR. THOMAS A. JAGGAR has been awarded the Franklin L. Burr Prize of \$1,000 of the National Geographic Society. This prize was established under a bequest of the late Mary C. Burr, of Hartford, Conn., who bequeathed a fund to the society in memory of her father. It provides for cash prizes to members of the expeditions of the society considered by its Board of Trustees to have accomplished especially meritorious work in the field of geographic science. The award was made to Dr. Jaggar, now a resident of Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands, for his part in the development of the first "Duck" or amphibian mobile boat in 1927, which was used by him in 1927 and 1928 to carry on researches in Alaska in the region of the Pavlof Volcano.

PROFESSOR MARSTON TAYLOR BOGERT, emeritus professor of organic chemistry of Columbia University, president of the International Union of Chemistry, has been elected to honorary membership in the American Institute of Chemists.

DR. FRANCIS CARTER WOOD, professor emeritus of pathology at Columbia University, director of pathological laboratories and of radiotherapy at St. Luke's Hospital, in recognition of his fifty years of service as a member of the hospital staff was the guest of honor at a tea given at the hospital on February 14. On this occasion his portrait, painted by Leonibel Jacobs, was unveiled by Lincoln Cromwell, president of the hospital.