

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.

UNDER the auspices of the C. W. M. Poynter Foundation of the College of Medicine of the University of Nebraska, an oil portrait of Dr. Poynter, since 1929 dean of the college, painted by Edgar Miller, of Chicago, was unveiled on February 14 and presented to the university. At this time announcement was made of the Poynter Fellowship in the Medical Sciences, also sponsored by the foundation. Following the presentation there was an informal reception honoring Dr. and Mrs. Poynter.

AT a recent meeting in New York City of the American Division of the Club for Research on Ageing the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: *Chairman*, Dr. Wm. deB. MacNider; *Secretary*, Dr. Edward J. Stieglitz; *Executive Committee*, Dr. E. V. Cowdry, *chairman*, Dr. Joseph C. Aub and Dr. A. Baird Hastings.

DR. MARGARET CAMMACK SMITH, since 1925 head of the department of human nutrition in the Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Arizona, will retire from active service on June 30.

DR. E. A. CULLER, of the University of Rochester, who is retiring as chairman of the department of psychology, will continue his work as professor of psychology and director of the Hearing Laboratory.

A. I. LEVORSEN, research geologist of Tulsa, Okla., and past president of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, has been appointed professor of geology and executive head of the department at Stanford University.

DR. WALTER L. HARD, of the department of histology of the School of Medicine of the University of Maryland, has been appointed assistant professor of anatomy at the Medical College of the State of South Carolina.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL B. G. MAEGRAITH, in charge of the British Army Malaria Research Unit, has been appointed Alfred Jones professor of tropical medicine at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. He succeeds the late Professor Warrington Yorke.

WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY has received from Wyeth, Incorporated, of Philadelphia, pharmaceutical and biological manufacturers, a gift of \$12,600 to conduct studies of toxins and antitoxins in order to determine more closely their active principles. The work will be carried on by Dr. Louis Pillemer, research immunologist of the Institute of Pathology of the university, under the direction of Dr. E. E. Ecker, professor of immunology.

*Nature* reports that Dr. Eric Ashby, professor of botany in the University of Sydney, has been appointed scientific attaché, with the rank of counsellor, to the Australian Legation in Moscow. Professor

Ashby's appointment, which is for about a year, has been made in order to establish contact with leaders of science in the U.S.S.R., and particularly with those working on problems of mutual interest to that country and Australia.

DR. W. P. MARTIN, since 1937 assistant professor of biochemistry at the University of Arizona, has resigned effective on March 1 to become associate soil chemist at the U. S. Regional Salinity Laboratory at Riverside, Calif.

DR. R. K. LARMOUR, professor of chemistry at the University of Saskatchewan, has been appointed director of the Prairie Regional Laboratory of the Canadian National Research Council which is to be built in Saskatoon. The laboratory will be concerned primarily with investigations into the utilization of agricultural crops and will be provided with facilities to undertake all phases of laboratory and pilot investigations in this field.

MAJOR G. J. DAMMIN, M.C., has returned to the continental United States. He has completed a mission in the India-Burma theater as executive officer for the Dysentery Commission of the Army Epidemiological Board and now has been assigned to direct the Division of Laboratories in the Surgeon General's Office.

DR. L. J. STADLER, geneticist of the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station, spoke on February 19 at Iowa State College on "Gene Mutation." The lecture was given under the auspices of the Research Council.

THE annual lecture of the Wayne University Chapter of the Society of the Sigma Xi was delivered on February 27 by the Reverend Dr. James B. Macelwane, S.J., director of the Institute of Geophysical Technology of St. Louis University. The subject of the lecture was "The Interior of the Earth."

DR. PAUL J. FLORY, of the research laboratory of the Goodyear Rubber Company, addressed the South-eastern Pennsylvania Section of the American Chemical Society on February 22.

THE Office of Defense Transportation has refused authorization to hold the annual meeting of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology on May 8, 9 and 10, 1945. Therefore the meeting will be cancelled. The federation is composed of the American Physiological Society, the American Society of Biological Chemists, the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, the American Society for Experimental Pathology, the American Institute of Nutrition and the American Association of Immunologists.

APPLICATIONS for grants from the Cyrus M. Warren Fund of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences should be received by the chairman of the committee, Professor Frederick G. Keyes, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge 39, Mass., not later than April 16. Grants are made in aid of chemical research—generally for apparatus or supplies or for the construction of special facilities needed for research in chemistry or in fields closely related to chemistry. Grants are not awarded for salaries, and, on account of limited resources, the amount to an individual is seldom in excess of \$300. Application blanks may be obtained from the chairman upon request.

Six fellowships for graduate students, each calling for a stipend of \$1,200 annually, have been established at the University of Chicago in honor of William Rainey Harper, its founding president. The fellowships are open to any student with a master's degree or its equivalent, who wishes to work for the degree of doctor of philosophy, either at the University of Chicago or elsewhere.

THE Canadian National Research Council has installed the latest type of electron microscope in its laboratories at Ottawa. This instrument and one developed in the department of physics of the University of Toronto are the first electron microscopes to be used in Canada. A third microscope will be installed at McGill University. The council plans to make the microscope as widely available as possible to all government laboratories and to those industries having suitable problems. The Electron Microscope Society of America has been formed to aid in the exchange of information on microscope techniques and experimental results.

THE Seventh Addendum to the British Pharmacopoeia, 1932, was published under the direction of the General Council of Medical Education and Registration of the United Kingdom on January 30, and became official from that date.

DATA for maps, secretly moved from Manila to Corregidor and then picked up by a submarine for delivery to an American base, were used in the prepa-

ration of the new map of the Philippines of the National Geographic Society, which will be a supplement to the March issue of the *National Geographic Magazine*. Printed in seven colors, the map shows most of the 7,083 islands and isles. Three thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven places are named, and railroads, highways, mountain heights and swamplands are indicated.

MRS. MARY-RUSSELL F. COLTON, one of the trustees of the Museum of Northern Arizona, on the occasion of the seventeenth annual meeting, presented the institution with about ten acres of land on which are a number of masonry and frame buildings. The gift adjoins other property owned by the museum and brings the total holdings to seventy acres. When the new buildings are remodelled, they will provide greatly increased space for research. The Museum of Northern Arizona is situated three miles north of Flagstaff, at the base of the San Francisco Peaks (altitude 12,640 feet). In the past the museum has provided, each summer, research facilities for a few advanced students in geology, anthropology and biology. In the post-war period it is hoped that this service may be greatly increased.

ACCORDING to the daily press, Washington University, St. Louis, will receive under a decision of the Appellate Court \$1,250,000 for a geophysical technological institute from the estate of Henry E. Sever, Chicago publisher. The decision reverses a ruling by Judge Joseph A. Graber, of the Cook County Superior Court, that the money should go to St. Louis University.

THE University of Rochester plans to expand its program for engineering students under a newly established Division of Engineering in the College of Arts and Science. The new division is a development of the Department of Engineering and will have much of the freedom of action usually associated with a separate school. It is being set up in anticipation of a greatly increased demand for engineering training after the war, as well as to meet present needs. A new four-year course in electrical engineering is planned in addition to the present accredited programs in chemical and mechanical engineering.

## DISCUSSION

### THE TORQUE OR ROTATING ACTION IN A BEAM OF LIGHT

RECENTLY before the American Physical Society in New York, Felix Ehrenhaft gave a paper in which he claimed that he had proved that a beam of natural (unpolarized) light produces a rotating action on matter on which it falls; that the idea was entirely

new, never before entertained by physicists and never demonstrated. As he regarded himself to be a lone pioneer in this topic he naturally gave no historical references.

Here are some facts connected with this topic. In my text, "An Elementary Survey of Modern Physics" (Macmillan, 1936), pages 57, 424, 425, I have dis-