

Dr. Cretcher was born at DeGraff, Ohio, in 1888, and received his A.B. from the University of Michigan and his Ph.D. from Yale. He taught at the Universities of Michigan and Tennessee and was associated with the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, where he worked with the great biochemist, P. A. Levene. During World War I he served in the chemical service branch of the National Army in France and became a Captain in the Chemical Warfare Service. He has had a distinguished career as a research and industrial chemist.

In 1920, Dr. Cretcher became assistant chief chemist for the National Aniline Company and later became research chemist. His first association with Mellon Institute was in 1922 as senior fellow in pure research. Some 25 patents and 70 technical papers have resulted from the investigations of Dr. Cretcher and his co-workers on fundamental phases of specialized fields in organic chemistry in this period. Of particular importance has been his study of quinine derivatives and other cinchona alkaloids as drugs for curing pneumonia caused by the pneumococcus; this investigation culminated in the discovery of the value of hydroxyethylapocupreine as an antipneumococcal drug. Dr. Cretcher's career has been characterized by exceptional ability in the selection and supervision of research personnel.

Dr. Cretcher, the eleventh recipient of the Pittsburgh Award, has been active in the affairs of the American Chemical Society. He served as chairman of the Pittsburgh Section in 1931 and has been a counselor of the section since 1932.

#### MEDALS OF THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE

THE annual Medal Day ceremonies of the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, will be held on April 18. As already announced in *SCIENCE*, the Elliott Cresson Gold Medals for 1945 "for discovery or original research, adding to the sum of human knowledge, irrespective of commercial value" will be presented to Rear Admiral Stanford Caldwell Hooper, U.S.N., retired, for his work in radio for the U. S. Navy, and to Professor Lewis F. Moody, of Princeton University, for his work on the design and development of hydraulic turbines and pumps.

The Frank P. Brown silver medal given annually "for inventions and discoveries involving meritorious improvements in the building and allied industries" will be presented to Gilmore David Clarke, dean of the College of Architecture, Cornell University, "in consideration of his technical ability, foresight, initiative and outstanding leadership in the field of town and city planning."

Dr. Zay Jeffries, a vice-president of the General Electric Company, will receive the Francis J. Clamer silver medal "for his meritorious contributions to the science of metals, which he has placed on a new and more intelligible basis."

#### PREDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS IN THE NATURAL SCIENCES OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

THE National Research Council announces that it is the recipient of a grant of \$335,000 from the Rockefeller Foundation for the establishment of a temporary, nation-wide program of predoctoral fellowships for graduate study in the natural sciences. The fellowships are designed to encourage resumption of graduate study by young men who have had to interrupt their education to engage in war work, by enabling them to devote essentially full time to the completion of their work for the doctor's degree. In view of the uncertainty of the duration of the war it is not expected that the program can be inaugurated immediately. This preliminary announcement is made so that young men now in war work will realize that perseverance in their present important tasks will not prejudice their opportunity to pursue their formal education later, and that it may be inadvisable to make commitments at present for postwar employment.

Plans for administration of the fellowships and methods for the selection of candidates are not yet worked out in detail, but it is intended that stipends will be fixed at rates to compare favorably with most other fellowships at this stage of training.

The council and the foundation have developed this program to help to alleviate the very serious set-back to American scientific competence resulting from the war's interference with normal educational processes. The almost complete cessation of consecutive professional training which has occurred in scientific fields will make impossible for some time the normal accession of additional highly trained personnel. These losses, in the face of sharply increasing demands for such personnel, will inevitably retard to the danger point the resumption of scientific progress after the war. The resulting handicap to postwar industrial recovery, public health and military security is a matter of national concern.

It should be realized, however, that this generous grant is sufficient to furnish financial assistance to only a moderate fraction of all graduate students who should resume study for advanced professional degrees in the natural sciences and that, therefore, other types of assistance heretofore available should not be curtailed. The program is planned also not to divert too many qualified candidates from part-time teaching positions, since it is expected that colleges and universities will, after the war, be overburdened with undergraduate students in these fields.

The National Research Council will continue to administer its postdoctoral fellowship program, which

has been such an outstanding factor in building up the scientific competence of the country, and which

has thereby contributed essentially to the effort in meeting the present crisis.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

IN recognition of outstanding achievements in research in the nutrition of infants and children, Dr. S. Z. Levine, professor of pediatrics at Cornell University Medical College, and Dr. Henry Gordon, assistant professor, are joint recipients of the first annual Borden Award to be presented under the auspices of the American Academy of Pediatrics. The award carries with it a gold medal and the sum of \$1,000.

THE Herty Medal of the State College for Women at Milledgeville, Ga., has been awarded to Dr. Paul N. Gross, head of the department of chemistry of Duke University, in recognition of research on tobacco.

THE Nicholas Appert Medal of the Institute of Food Technologists has been conferred on Dr. A. W. Bitting, of Lafayette, Ind., in recognition of his work as food technologist for the Bureau of Chemistry of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and for the National Canners Association, as director of research for the Glass Container Association and as a consulting food technologist.

DR. E. EMMET REID, professor emeritus of chemistry of the Johns Hopkins University, has been elected an honorary member of the American Institute of Chemists, in recognition of "his contribution to organic chemistry and his outstanding services to the profession of chemist."

AMONG the degrees conferred by the University of California at Berkeley, on the occasion of its Charter Day exercises on March 23, were the doctorate of laws on Dr. J. N. LeConte, professor of mathematics emeritus, and on Dr. Wilbur A. Sawyer, director emeritus of the International Health Division of the Rockefeller Foundation.

THE sixtieth birthday of Dr. Carl L. A. Schmidt, professor of biochemistry and chairman of the division of the University of California, was celebrated by a tea held on March 9. In honor of the occasion, a portrait of Professor Schmidt was unveiled and he was presented with a bound volume of congratulatory letters from his students and associates.

ON the occasion of his seventy-third birthday, distinguished colleagues, students and Resistance members gathered in the Sorbonne to pay tribute to Professor Paul Langevin, of the University of Paris. Gustave Roussy, rector of the university, and Professor Lablanié, president of the National Front of Universities, spoke in praise of their colleague as

"the embodiment of French freedom of thought." Langevin's achievements in the scientific field, which include research on the electron and magnetism and the discovery of principles concerning modern submarine detection, were reviewed by Dr. Amié Cotton and Professor Frédéric Joliot-Curie of the Academy of Sciences.

A MEMORIAL volume has been issued in Sweden in honor of the sixtieth birthday of Dr. The Svedberg, professor of chemistry at the University of Uppsala and director of the Institute of Physical Chemistry.

A CHAPTER of the Society of the Sigma Xi was installed at the Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C., on March 12. Dr. Harlow Shapley, national president of the society, and Dr. George A. Baitsell, executive secretary, were the installing officers. Dr. Shapley gave the installation address and the charge to the chapter. The following officers were elected: Karl F. Herzfeld, *President*; Edward G. Reinhard, *Vice-president*; W. Gardner Lynn, *Secretary-Treasurer*. After a reception and dinner the National Sigma Xi Lecture was delivered by the Reverend James B. Macelwane, S.J., dean of the Institute of Geophysical Technology of Saint Louis University, who spoke on "The Interior of the Earth."

NEW officers for 1945 of the Society of Economic Geologists are O. E. Meinzer, *President*; T. B. Nolan, *First Vice-president*; J. T. Singewald, Jr., *Treasurer*; C. H. Behre, Jr., *Secretary*.

DR. CLAY B. FREUDENBERGER, professor and head of the department of anatomy of the University of Utah, is spending the spring quarter as visiting professor of anatomy at the School of Medicine of the Louisiana State University.

GERALD M. CLEMENCE has been appointed director of the Nautical Almanac Office, U. S. Naval Observatory. He is succeeded as assistant director by Dr. Paul Herget.

DR. R. P. ANDERSON, member *ex-officio* of the Board of Directors of the American Standards Association, past-chairman of the Standards Council and secretary of the Division of Refining of the American Petroleum Institute, has retired from active duty after serving the association for eleven years.

DR. LLOYD PRESTON SMITH, professor of physics at Cornell University, has been appointed associate research director of the laboratories of the Radio Cor-