

erties A or B of fetal blood, non-secretor type, (2) the Hr factor and (3) finer differences of the Rh factor. The report to the clinician in the exceptional Rh positive mothers can be worded as an incompatibility detected by a particular reagent. In any event, it will be necessary for these bloods to be referred to a serologic specialist who may or may not have on hand

potent anti-Hr and the other two varieties of anti-Rh sera. So far as the clinician is concerned, one may recommend the simple genetic theory based on the behavior of the diagnostic (anti-Rh<sub>0</sub>) serum, which contains but a single antibody. A more detailed analysis which requires the use of other anti-Rh sera or anti-Hr serum can be supplied by the specialist in the field.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### THE IPATIEFF HIGH PRESSURE AND CATALYTIC LABORATORY OF NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

THE funds for the founding of the High Pressure and Catalytic Laboratory came from Northwestern University and private sources. A part of the apparatus was contributed by the Universal Oil Products Company. The idea for such a laboratory was sponsored by Professor W. V. Evans, of the department of chemistry, and permission to establish such a laboratory was obtained from the president of the university. The aims of the laboratory have been:

1. To study catalytic reactions under normal and high pressures because of their theoretical as well as their industrial importance.
2. To give students in chemistry and engineering not only theoretical but practical knowledge of the main types of catalytic reactions and the properties of catalysts.

During the first five years of the existence of the laboratory the work has dealt mainly with the application of catalysts in the field of terpenes, as follows:

1. A method for obtaining terpenes from solutions of terpene alcohols by dehydration in the presence of very dilute inorganic salts such as magnesium chloride, ammonia chloride, etc.
2. A new method of determining the presence of three, four and five methylene rings in di-cyclic terpenes.
3. A study of alkylation of terpenes with aromatics in the presence of various catalysts.
4. A new cyclic isomerization of limonene into a new di-cyclic terpene.
5. A study of the transfer of hydrogen in the terpene series in the presence of no hydrogenation catalyst.

From the student's point of view the following programs are in progress:

- A. Students perform experiments on hydrogenation, oxidation, isomerization, polymerization, alkylation, etc.
- B. They become acquainted with and prepare the main types of catalysts.

The equipment of the laboratory consists of the following:

1. Ipatieff type bombs of various sizes and models

which can withstand pressures up to 400 atmospheres at 500° C. temperature.

2. Special type bombs for the study of the solubility of gases and critical temperatures, which allow the removal of small portions of the reactants during the reaction for study.

3. Turbo mixer type bombs which rapidly mix the reactants during a reaction.

4. Special apparatus for the study of continuous reactions under pressures up to 130 atmospheres.

5. Special bomb-proof units where these high pressure reactions can be carried out.

The laboratory is under the control of Dr. V. N. Ipatieff, an authority on high pressure reactions and a pioneer in the field of catalysis.

Dr. Ipatieff is assisted by Professor Pines, who gives lectures on catalysis in the department of chemistry. Professor Pines has been associated with Professor Ipatieff in his major discoveries of the past fifteen years.

The war has interfered with the development of this laboratory both by taking away prospective students and by making it impossible to secure needed apparatus. As soon as it is possible to do so, the laboratory will be enlarged, and its accommodations increased. A large number of students and research associates taking graduate work along the lines of catalysis and high pressure are expected to take part.

### NEW LECTURE ROOM VISUAL AIDS AT COLORADO AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE

EIGHTEEN mural paintings depicting the epochs of geologic time through representations of various plants and animals from the pre-Devonian period through succeeding epochs to modern times have been painted on 500 square feet of the walls of the botany building lecture room at the Agricultural and Mechanical College, Fort Collins, Colo.

Since they were painted during the summer of 1944, the murals have continued to attract increased attention and have been accorded growing favorable comment by students, faculty and visiting botanists and geologists.

The 7-foot panels done in oil by Dr. L. W. Durrell,

member of the college staff for the past twenty-one years and recently appointed dean of the division of science and arts after being head of the department of botany and plant pathology since 1924, picture the giant tree ferns, horsetails and other plants of the coal measures. These are followed by representations of cycads and pines. Of the extinct animals, dinosaurs, pterodactyls, three- and four-toed horses, four-tusked elephants and woolly mammoths, the saber-toothed tiger and the great bison are represented.

Dr. Durrell harmonized his murals with a predominance of greens and tans. His compliance with color perspective and with psychological perspective added depth to the scenes he portrayed.

Intended for a teaching device, Dr. Durrell credits his inspiration for the murals to those of Charles R. Knight, who has done large mural paintings of prehistoric men and animals for the American Museum of Natural History, New York City; the Los Angeles Museum, the Field Museum, Chicago, and the National Museum, Washington, D. C.—G. E. F.

#### THE NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF CHEMISTRY TEACHERS

THE seventh annual summer conference of the New England Association of Chemistry Teachers is planned for August 9 to 13 at the Massachusetts State College at Amherst.

The subject of the annual symposium will be "Chemical Equilibrium." It will be conducted by Professor A. R. Davis, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and a group of secondary school teachers of chemistry.

Although the summer conference is held principally for the benefit of members of the association, any one interested will be welcome. Housing will be available at the college. Families of teachers will find Amherst an interesting spot, since it is in one of the most picturesque sections of the Connecticut Valley. The Massachusetts State College, founded by the Morrill Act of 1862, was opened to students in 1867. The campus consists of 700 acres, about a mile from the center of Amherst. There is also a demonstration forest of 750 acres six miles north on Mt. Tobey. Amherst is eighty-eight miles from Boston and may be reached by the Central Vermont Railroad or by bus connections from Northampton, Holyoke, Greenfield and Springfield.

Details concerning fees and the program will be included in the report of the association to be published in the July issue of *The Journal of Chemical Education*. All communications concerning the conference should be addressed to the secretary, Miss Dorothy W. Gifford, Lincoln School, Providence 6, R. I.

#### WARE CATTELL VS. THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE SETTLED FOR \$7,500 BY CONSENT JUDGMENT

ON July 12, 1943, Ware Cattell was dismissed by the Executive Committee of the American Association for the Advancement of Science from his position as Editor of *The Scientific Monthly*. Mr. Cattell brought suit alleging breach of contract, asking damages for the remaining three and one-half years of that contract in the amount of \$17,500.

The case came on to trial on January 8, 1945. Mr. Cattell testified on his own behalf and rested his case. The following officers testified on behalf of the Association: Dr. Isaiah Bowman, President in 1943; Dr. Otis W. Caldwell, General Secretary; Mr. Sam Woodley, Assistant Secretary. The Captain of the Guard of the Smithsonian Institution also testified.

On the fourth day of the trial, settlement negotiations were initiated. Following several conferences among the Court, the parties and their counsel, a settlement was agreed upon whereby the Court awarded a consent judgment to Mr. Cattell in the amount of \$7,500.

It was part of the agreement between the Association and Mr. Cattell that Mr. Cattell waived all further legal claims with reference to his dismissal as Editor of *The Scientific Monthly*.

The following Stipulation of Settlement was entered in the cause:

It is hereby stipulated by and between the parties to this action, by their attorneys, that this action be finally settled upon the following basis:

1. That in full payment, settlement and discharge of all claims and damages, actions and causes of action for, upon, or by reason of any damages, costs, expenses and compensation which have been or which hereafter may be sustained by the plaintiff, Ware Cattell, on account of or in any way growing out of it, resulting from or to result from any acts or actions of the defendant corporation, American Association for the Advancement of Science, or any of its officers, agents, servants or employees, to the date of the execution of this Stipulation of Settlement, intending to include herein among all other claims and demands, actions and causes of action for, upon or by reason of the act and actions of the defendant corporation, American Association for the Advancement of Science, and any of its officers, agents, servants and employees, in the matter of the termination as of July 12, 1943, of the appointment of the plaintiff, Ware Cattell, as Editor of *The Scientific Monthly*, and in all other employment capacities whatsoever, and in full settlement, payment and discharge of this action, Civil Action No. 21,508, the defendant, American Association for the Advancement of Science, agrees to pay the plain-