

NEWS and Notes

The \$1000 Prize for "a notable contribution to science," established in 1923 by a generous friend of the AAAS who desires to remain anonymous and awarded at annual meetings of the Association, was presented in Chicago to 30-year-old Harrison S. Brown, assistant professor of chemistry at the Institute for Nuclear Studies, The University of Chicago. Dr. Brown's paper, "Elements in Meteorites and the Earth's Origin," was selected from over 2,000 papers by a Prize Committee consisting of Dean Fernandus Payne (zoology), Indiana University, chairman; A. J. Dempster (physics), The University of Chicago; Malcolm Dole (chemistry), Northwestern University; and William R. Taylor (botany), University of Michigan. This week's cover photo shows F. R. Moulton, administrative secretary of the Association, presenting the prize to Dr. Brown in the presence of Drs. Dempster and Dole.

To be eligible for consideration for the \$1,000 Prize, a paper need not be presented by a member of the Association, but it must not be an official address or an invited paper. The donor has expressed the wish that particular consideration be given to younger scientists and that the award be made to a single person rather than divided among several.

About People

Wallace Reed Brode, formerly professor of chemistry, Ohio State University, and widely known for his work in spectroscopy, is the new associate director of the National Bureau

of Standards. Dr. Brode succeeds Hugh L. Dryden, who was recently appointed director of aeronautical research, National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics. Dr. Brode will act as liaison between the Bureau and the Department of National Defense and will also coordinate Bureau research done for other Federal Departments.

Samuel W. Dudley, dean of the Yale School of Engineering and director of the University's Division of Engineering, will retire at the end of the current academic year. Walter J. Wohlenberg, Sterling professor of mechanical engineering and chairman of the Department, will succeed Dean Dudley.

Hans F. Mayer, former director of the Berlin laboratory of the Siemens & Halske electrical firm, has been appointed professor of electrical engineering at Cornell University. Dr. Mayer is internationally known in the engineering field through numerous technical publications.

Alfred M. Lee, executive director and treasurer of the Institute for Propaganda Analysis and currently on leave of absence as chairman of Wayne University's Sociology Department, is engaged in a research project on public opinion and opinion manipulation under a grant from the Marshall Field Foundation. The results of his research will be published in book form late this year.

Grants and Awards

A grant of \$6,000 has been made to the Biochemical Institute of the University of Texas by the Research Council on Problems of Alcohol to enable the staff to undertake fundamental research on individual patterns of metabolism in order to determine the possible relationship of body processes to susceptibility to alcoholism. All types of people will be subjects for the study, including members of Alcoholics Anonymous, identical twins, and men and women of Irish and Jewish ancestry who generally have very different patterns in drinking. Anton J. Carlson, president of the Council, explained that this research program will fill a definite gap in alcohol

studies, in determining whether there are "any unique physiological characteristics in various tissues of the body which make some individuals more prone to problem drinking than others." Earlier in the year a grant of \$30,000 a year for 5 years was made to Cornell University Medical College-New York Hospital for similar research.

A new center for the study of methods of collecting, organizing, and communicating knowledge will be established at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology under a \$100,000 grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York. Facilities will be provided for research and experimentation on aspects of printing, documentary reproduction, visual education, sound recording, and mechanical selection systems and for the training of technicians, librarians, and those working in allied fields.

The program, both national and international in scope, will profit by investigations already in progress at MIT. Microfilm and reading machines are already in use, and basic research in sound recording, applied acoustics, phonetics, and instruction through audio processes is under way in the new acoustics laboratory, the Departments of Modern Languages, English and History, and others. Mechanical selection is being studied in the Department of Electrical Engineering, and its application to the chemical literature being investigated by the Department of Chemistry under the sponsorship of the American Chemical Society.

Colleges and Universities

In the Department of Agronomy, State College of Washington, Pullman, several additions and changes have been made in both the teaching and research staffs in the past year.

Additions to personnel who serve on the staff of both the Agricultural Experiment Stations and the College of Agriculture include the appointments of L. P. V. Johnson, formerly assistant professor of agronomy, University of Florida, as assistant professor of agronomy and assistant geneticist in cereal investigations; W. Keith Ken-

nedy, Cornell University, as assistant professor of agronomy and assistant agronomist in forage investigations; **J. Roger McHenry**, formerly assistant professor of agronomy, University of Nebraska, as assistant professor of soils and assistant soil scientist to serve as soil physicist; **Lowell W. Rasmussen**, Iowa State College, as assistant professor of agronomy and assistant agronomist in weed research; and **John Unrau**, University of Saskatchewan, as instructor in farm crops and junior agronomist.

Appointments to the staff of the Agricultural Experiment Stations include **H. E. Dregne**, formerly assistant professor of agronomy, University of Idaho, as assistant soil scientist in charge of developing a soil testing program in the State of Washington; **Verne Comstock**, Washington State College, as assistant agronomist with the Division of Forage Crops and Diseases, USDA; **John J. Sturm**, Montana State College, as assistant agronomist and superintendent of the Adams Branch Experiment Station, Lind, Washington; **V. F. Bruns**, Hayes Field Station, Kansas, as assistant agronomist with the Division of Cereal Crops and Diseases, USDA, at the Irrigation Branch Experiment Station, Prosser, Washington; **Thomas L. Jackson**, Washington State College, as junior agronomist in charge of outlying field experiments; **Mrs. L. O. Cade**, Washington State College, as draftsman for soil survey; and **C. Grant Richins**, Brigham Young University, as assistant in soil survey.

R. A. McCreery, University of Georgia, has been appointed instructor in soils in the College of Agriculture.

Changes include the transfer of **H. D. Jacquot** from the position of superintendent and associate agronomist at the Adams Branch Experiment Station to the Agricultural Experiment Station at Pullman as associate agronomist, and the promotion of **C. D. Moodie**, instructor in soils, to assistant professor of soils.

The University of Cincinnati Observatory has published a 56-page star catalogue which lists 2,300 stars and supplements the first catalogue put out by the Observatory 25 years ago,

which lists 4,683 stars. Both catalogues record such data as precessions, secular variations, proper motions, and final positions for the nearly 7,000 stars. The publication of this final catalogue marks the completion of the Observatory's program of determining the proper motion of stars with a meridian circle which was begun 40 years ago by the late Elliott S. Smith of the Observatory staff, who was aided by the late Jermain G. Porter, then director of the Observatory, and Everett I. Yowell, another former director and now professor emeritus of astronomy. The most recent of the data were prepared for publication by Paul Herget, present director of the Observatory. The work was completed in 1940, but publication was delayed until now because of the war.

Meetings and Lectures

The 12th Annual Theobald Smith Memorial Lecture of the New York Society of Tropical Medicine will be given January 16 at 8:30 P.M. in the Auditorium of Cornell University Medical College, 1300 York Avenue, New York City. Cornelius B. Philip, principal medical entomologist, Rocky Mountain Laboratory, U. S. Public Health Service, will speak on "Scrub Typhus (Tsutsugamushi Disease) in World War II." All who are interested are invited to attend.

The First International Congress of Physiology and Pathology of Animal Reproduction and of Artificial Insemination has been scheduled for June 23-30, 1948, in Milan, Italy, to enable participants to take part also in the International Congress of Genetics, July 7-14, in Stockholm, and the International Congress of Zoology, July 21-27, in Paris. A preliminary conference will be held June 21 under the auspices of UNESCO, at which a limited number of Italian and foreign specialists will discuss "Interacting Substances of Eggs and Sperm and Parthenogenesis." Full sessions of the Congress will cover topics of general interest in the fields of biological problems of animal reproduction, breeding problems of animal reproduction, pathological problems of animal reproduction, methodological and

practical problems of artificial insemination of animals, and legislative and organizational problems of artificial insemination and of animal reproduction. Those desiring to present papers at the Congress should submit them before March 31. Both papers and inquiries for further information should be sent to the Secretary General of the Congress, Prof. T. Bonadonna, Via Bronzetti 17, Milan, Italy. The Congress is open to all who are interested at a subscription fee of \$8 for active members, and \$4 for associate members. An International Exhibition and livestock shows are also being organized in connection with the Congress.

The American Institute of Electrical Engineers will hold its winter general meeting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, January 26-30, with headquarters at the William Penn Hotel. The program includes about 50 different sessions on many varied topics, and a general session, Wednesday morning, at which the Edison Medal will be presented to Joseph Slepian, associate director of research, Research Laboratories, Westinghouse Electric Corporation, and an address on "Solar Radiation and Its Effect Upon Power Transmission and Radio Communication" will be given by Jack T. Wilson, physicist, Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company. Fourteen inspection trips have also been arranged to various industries and institutions. The Eta Kappa Nu recognition dinner will be held Monday evening in the Urban Room, with W. J. Lyman, of Duquesne Light Company, as chairman. Registration should be made in advance to B. M. Jones, Chairman, Registration Committee, Winter General Meeting, Duquesne Light Company, 435 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh 19, Pennsylvania.

Elections

The Institute of Medicine of Chicago has announced the election of the following new officers for 1948: William F. Petersen, chairman of the Board of Governors; Henry T. Ricketts, vice-chairman of the Board; Dallas B. Phemister, president; Fred C. Koch, vice-president; George H.

Coleman, secretary; and Grant H. Laing, treasurer.

At the annual meeting of the Institute on December 2, citizen fellowship was conferred on Martin H. Kennelly, Mayor of the City of Chicago, and on Chauncey B. Borland, trustee of St. Luke's Hospital.

Harry M. Gehman, professor of mathematics, and chairman, Department of Mathematics, University of Buffalo, has been elected secretary-treasurer of the Mathematical Association of America for a 5-year term, succeeding Walter B. Carver, professor of mathematics, Cornell University.

The Conference of Professors of Preventive Medicine, at its recent annual meeting, elected as its president Henry E. Meleney, Hermann Biggs professor of preventive medicine, New York University College of Medicine. A mimeographed directory of persons engaged in teaching preventive medicine and public health in the 88 medical schools in the United States and Canada was issued at the meeting. Copies of this directory may be obtained by writing to Thomas D. Dublin, Secretary, 248 Baltic Street, Brooklyn 2, New York.

Deaths

Winfred E. Allen, 73, formerly a biologist at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, California, died September 17 at Santa Paula, California.

Maurice A. Blake, 65, head of the Department of Horticulture, College of Agriculture, Rutgers University, died at New Brunswick, New Jersey, December 14 of a heart attack. Prof. Blake, during the course of his work, had developed more than 30 varieties of peaches.

Of interest not only to systematic zoologists but to specialists in tropical diseases is an announcement made by Francis Hemming, secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (On the status of the generic name *Schistosoma* Weinland, 1858 (Class Trematoda, Order Digenea) in relation to Opinion 77.

Bull. zool. Nomenclature, 1947, 1, Pt. 9, 195-196). In 1922, in Opinion 77, the name *Schistosoma* was placed by the Commission on the Official List of Generic Names. As Dr. Hemming points out, when such action is taken, that name and no other is the correct name for the genus in question. It was at that time believed that the name *Bilharzia* was first published by Cobbold in 1859; subsequently it has come to light that the name *Bilharzia* (misspelled *Bilharzia*) was proposed by Meckel von Hemsbach in 1856 as a generic name for the trematode described by Bilharz as *Distomum haematobium*. Two alternative steps are now open to the Commission; these have been stated by Dr. Hemming as follows:

“(a) The International Commission could delete the invalid name *Schistosoma* Weinland, 1858, from the *Official List* and could insert in its place the valid name *Bilharzia* Meckel von Hemsbach, 1856, or

“(b) The International Commission, if satisfied that the strict application of the rules as applied to the present case would clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity, could use their plenary powers (i) to suppress the name *Bilharzia* Meckel von Hemsbach, 1856 and (ii) to validate the name *Schistosoma* Weinland, 1858, thereby giving retrospectively valid effect to the entry regarding the last-mentioned name in Opinion 77.

“Specialists are, therefore, invited to inform the International Commission which, in their view, of the alternative courses indicated above is the one to be preferred.”

Communications should be sent to Dr. Hemming at 83 Fellows Road (Garden Flat), London, N. W. 3, England.

The name *Schistosoma* has been widely used for species of importance in human and veterinary medicine. The disease produced in man has received considerable attention in the Western Hemisphere in recent years and here, as in Asia, has been termed schistosomiasis; the parasites are widely known as *Schistosoma mansoni* and *Schistosoma japonicum*. It is hoped that persons concerned with these investigations will express their

views to the Commission. (ELOISE B. CRAM, *National Institute of Health, Bethesda, Maryland.*)

A Department of Research in Physical Chemistry has recently been established at Mellon Institute, according to Director Edward R. Weidlein. Under the headship of John R. Bowman, physical chemist and chemical engineer, who since 1935 has been at the Institute on the multiple fellowship of the Gulf Research and Development Company, the Department will conduct fundamental investigations in its domain for professional and public benefit and will also act in an advisory capacity to other Institute members.

The Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, U. S. Department of Agriculture, reports that common names for two insecticidal chemicals have been filed in the Trade-Mark Division of the Patent Office for recordation. After consultation with representatives of several scientific associations, the Federal Government, and industry, “methoxychlor” has been selected as the common name for 2,2-bis(p-methoxyphenyl)1,1,1-trichloroethane, the methoxy analog of DDT, and “parathion,” for 0,0-diethyl 0-p-nitrophenyl thiophosphate, an ester of thiophosphoric acid.

Make Plans for—

American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, January 24-29, Chicago, Illinois.

American Institute of Electrical Engineers, Winter General Meeting, January 26-30, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

American Council of Learned Societies, January 29-30, Westchester Country Club, Rye, New York.

American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers, February 2-5, New York City.

American Philosophical Society, February 13-14, 104 South 5th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.