

and the American Social Hygiene Association shows that in 1955 25 states and 14 major cities had increases in the attack rate of syphilis or gonorrhea, or both. The record was published in an effort to persuade the Congress to appropriate a minimum of \$5 million to combat venereal disease in 1957. The current budget requests \$3.5 million, which is the same as the amount authorized for 1956.

■ The Franklin Institute Laboratories for Research and Development are constructing an especially long infrared cell and spectrometer to be used for studies of air pollution and smog in the Los Angeles area. The infrared equipment will be housed in a special mobile laboratory. It is hoped that construction work will be completed by September, when Edgar R. Stephens, group leader for air pollution research at the institute, plans to direct field studies.

■ Gerard P. Kuiper of Yerkes Observatory, Williams Bay, Wis., reported recently that the solar system has eight planets, not nine. Kuiper says that Pluto, regarded as the ninth planet, "in reality is only one of Neptune's satellites or moons, which broke away untold millions of years ago." He bases his conclusion on his own findings and on those of Merle Walker and Robert Hardie of the Lowell Observatory at Flagstaff, Ariz. Pluto differs from genuine planets in its small size, its eccentric orbit, and its comparatively slow rotation.

■ A technique for soldering aluminum, stainless steel, glass, and ceramics without special equipment has been developed at the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory. The new method of joining these materials is expected to be much more economical than the ultrasonic method that is now in use.

■ For the general use of science, industry, and administration, a computation center is to be opened this spring in Frankfurt, Germany. A Remington Rand UNIVAC, the first in Europe, will be installed in the Battelle Institute.

■ Acheson Industries, Inc., New York, has announced that 9 Mar. is the 100th anniversary of the birth of Edward G. Acheson, known internationally for his discovery of methods for producing silicon carbide, synthetic graphite, and colloidal graphite, which revolutionized industry. Acheson, who died in 1931, was a fellow of the AAAS.

Another centennial celebration is that of the discovery of the first synthetic dye. In 1856 William Henry Perkin produced crystals of mauve, a development that proved to be the foundation upon which the existing aniline dye industry was

built. Lead by the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists and supported by 27 chemical, technical, and scientific societies, the centennial will be observed by chemists throughout 1956.

■ Creation of the American Sanitary Engineering Intersociety Board has been announced by representatives of several major national engineering and public health organizations. They constitute a Joint Committee for the Advancement of Sanitary Engineering, under the chairmanship of Earnest Boyce, head of the University of Michigan Department of Civil Engineering.

The new body has been organized and incorporated "to improve the practice, elevate the standards and advance the cause of sanitary engineering; to grant and issue to engineers, duly licensed by law to practice engineering, certificates of special knowledge in sanitary engineering or in any field thereof." Headquarters have been opened in the Engineering Societies Building, 33 W. 39 St., New York.

### Scientists in the News

The annual report of the Borden Company Foundation, Inc., lists the recipients of the \$1000 research awards for 1955 and the organizations that administer them: American Dairy Science Association, CLIFFORD W. DUNCAN, Michigan State University, for contributions in the area of biochemistry and nutrition in dairy animals, and FRANK V. KOSIKOWSKI, Cornell University, for studies in the area of cheddar cheese ripening; American Chemical Society, FRED HILLIG, Food and Drug Administration, for his role in the development of chemical methods of analysis for dairy products; American Institute of Nutrition, ALBERT G. HOGAN, University of Missouri, for research on vitamin requirements and the discovery of vitamin B<sub>6</sub>; American Academy of Pediatrics, L. EMMETT HOLT, JR., New York University College of Medicine, for contributions to infant nutrition; Association of American Medical Colleges, CHARLES HUGGINS, University of Chicago, for research on the relationship between the endocrine glands and cancer; American Veterinary Medical Association, HARRY E. KINGMAN, Wyoming Hereford Ranch Foundation (retired), for contributions to the knowledge of fertility and disease in cattle; Poultry Science Association, MARLOW W. OLSEN, U.S. Department of Agriculture, for studies of hatchability and fertility in poultry; American Home Economics Association, PEARL P. SWANSON, Iowa State College, for fundamental studies of the basic problems of human nutrition.

SYLVAIN J. PIRSON, who since 1949 has been a special research associate for the Stanolind Oil and Gas Company, Tulsa, Okla., and a special lecturer in petroleum engineering at the University of Tulsa, has joined the faculty of the University of Texas petroleum engineering department.

GEOFFREY W. RAKE, medical research consultant to the E. R. Squibb and Sons Division of the Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation and research professor of microbiology at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine, has been appointed scientific director of the International Division of Olin Mathieson. In his new post Rake becomes responsible for all pharmaceutical, medical, and veterinary research conducted outside of the United States by the company's Squibb International Division.

The following ten physicians and surgeons have each received *Modern Medicine's* citation for distinguished achievement in medicine: I. S. RAVDIN and PAUL GYORGY of the University of Pennsylvania; STANLEY COBB and JOHN F. ENDERS of Harvard University; WARREN H. COLE of the University of Illinois; FRANK H. KRUSEN of the Mayo Clinic; IRVINE H. PAGE of the Cleveland Clinic; JONAS E. SALK of the University of Pittsburgh; GEORGE H. WHIPPLE of the University of Rochester; and IRVING S. WRIGHT of Cornell University.

JOHN C. GRIFFITHS, professor of petrography in the College of Mineral Industries at Pennsylvania State University, has succeeded P. D. KRYNINE as head of the department of mineralogy.

NORMAN W. KARR, for the past 3 years director of clinical research at Riker Laboratories, Los Angeles, Calif., has joined the Squibb Institute for Medical Research, New Brunswick, N.J., as an assistant to the director of the research and development laboratories.

BYRON T. SHAW, administrator, Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, has been designated United States member of the Technical Advisory Council of the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences. CLAUD L. HORN, agricultural attaché, American Embassy, San José, Costa Rica, has been named alternate U.S. member of the council.

The purpose of the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences is "to encourage and advance the development of agricultural sciences in the American Republics through research, teaching and extension activities in the theory and practice of agriculture and related arts

and sciences." The institute carries on its program through (i) demonstration of modern agricultural techniques, (ii) research and field projects carried on by resident and visiting scientists, (iii) instruction at the graduate level of students who are selected with a view to their returning to their own countries to occupy scientific and administrative positions, and (iv) inter-American technical meetings.

OWEN H. WAGENSTEEN, professor of surgery at the University of Minnesota, will deliver the ninth annual Rudolph Matas lecture at Tulane University on 12 Mar. The lecture is presented each year by the Beta Iota chapter of Nu Sigma Nu.

PAUL WEISS of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research delivered the 20th annual Adam M. Miller memorial lecture at the State University of New York College of Medicine on 2 Feb. He discussed "Prospecting in the field of growth and differentiation."

HERBERT J. STACK, director of the Center for Safety Education at New York University, delivered the 31st Hermann M. Biggs memorial lecture of the New York Academy of Medicine on 2 Feb. He discussed the "Psychology of drivers."

BERNARD DAVIDOW, former chief of the acute toxicity branch in the Division of Pharmacology of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, has been appointed director of pharmacology for the newly established laboratories of the New Drug Institute, 130 E. 59 St., New York. The institute serves industry in all phases of drug research and development. Davidow will direct pharmacological and toxicity investigations on new drugs, food additives, and cosmetic ingredients.

The following are among those who have recently received honorary doctoral degrees.

Wayne University: JACK A. MORTON, director of Device Development, Bell Telephone Laboratories.

University of Pennsylvania: HUGO THEORELL, head of the Biochemistry Department of the Nobel Institute in Stockholm.

Birmingham Southern College: ERNEST V. JONES, consultant to Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

ELMER W. ENGSTROM, senior executive vice president of the Radio Corporation of America who is in charge of the concern's research laboratories at Princeton, N.J., received the 1956 John Ericsson gold medal on 11 Feb. at the

68th annual dinner of the American Society of Swedish Engineers in New York. The medal is awarded every other year to a Swedish citizen, or to an American citizen of Swedish descent, in recognition of technological or scientific contributions.

LORIN E. HARRIS, professor of animal husbandry and chairman of the Institute of Nutrition at Utah State Agricultural College, left this month for Australia, where he will conduct research on sheep nutrition under a Fulbright fellowship.

Another Utah Fulbright scholar is DATUS M. HAMMOND, chairman of the department of zoology, entomology, and physiology, who is at present in Germany at the University of Munich studying trichomoniasis in cattle. He is scheduled to return to the United States early next fall.

LESTER E. KLIMM, professor of geography at the University of Pennsylvania, received the Henry Grier Bryant gold medal of the Geographical Society of Philadelphia at the society's annual dinner on 14 Feb. The medal is given for distinguished service to geography.

HAROLD CHATLAND, now dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and professor of mathematics at Montana State University, became acting dean of the faculty on 1 Feb. A. S. MERRILL, who has been both dean of the faculty and vice president, will continue as vice president.

F. W. BLAIR, director of research and development for the Procter and Gamble Company, retired on 1 Jan. after 38 years of service. Blair received his undergraduate training in chemistry at Amherst College and his graduate training at Princeton University.

He began his career with Procter and Gamble at the Ivorydale factory in Cincinnati in 1917, and 3 years later went to Kansas City as plant superintendent. In 1921, he returned to Cincinnati to take charge of the work of standardizing factory operations and laboratory control; later he directed process development, and started and directed the products service department in the newly created chemical division.

He was made chemical director in 1928 and served in that capacity until 1953, when the chemical division was absorbed into the new research and development department, at which time he became director of research and development. Under Blair's direction Procter and Gamble's research and development program has grown from a comparatively small operation into a major division of the company.

## Recent Deaths

HENRY BEEUWKES, St. Petersburg, Fla.; 74; director of the West Africa Yellow Fever Commission, 1924-34; formerly conducted research on tuberculosis at Cornell University Medical College; World War II organizer and commander of the Valley Forge General Hospital; 31 Jan.

EMILE BOREL, Paris, France; 85; professor of mathematics at the University of Paris 1909-41; vice-president of the International Council of Scientific Unions, 1946; 4 Feb.

HENRI CHRETIEN, Washington, D.C.; 77; optical engineer; codesigner of the telescope for the United States Naval Observatory in Washington, D.C.; inventor of the anamorphic lens used as a basis for the CinemaScope film process; 6 Feb.

WALTER C. COFFEY, St. Paul, Minn.; 80; authority on animal husbandry; president emeritus of the University of Minnesota; vice president AAAS Section O in 1930; 31 Jan.

REUBEN FRIEDMAN; Philadelphia; 63; internationally known dermatologist and author; professor of clinical dermatology at Temple University Hospital; 4 Feb.

FRANK C. HOCKEMA, Lafayette, Ind.; 63; mechanical engineer; vice president of Purdue University; 3 Feb.

DAVID LAZARUS, St. Petersburg, Fla.; 72; former professor of obstetrics and gynecology at New York Polyclinic Medical School; 6 Feb.

MALCOLM T. MAC EACHERN, Chicago, Ill.; 74; associate professor of medicine at Northwestern University, Medical School, 1943-48, and founder of the program in hospital administration at the school; 3 Feb.

ERICH A. MARX, Troy, N.Y.; 81; professor of physics at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; former professor of science at the University of Leipzig; 31 Jan.

GEORGE OENSLAGER, Akron, Ohio; 82; research authority on rubber chemistry; 5 Feb.

LLOYD M. SALISBURY, Montville, N.J.; 66; civil engineer; 1 Feb.

GROVER C. SAYER, Hillside, N.J.; 69; former engineer for Esso Research and Engineering Company; 5 Feb.

## Education

■ The University of Rochester is establishing a computing center. Its facilities will include one of the new Burroughs E 101 machines, which is to be installed soon, and an IBM 650 electronic computer, to be received next summer. The university is organizing a new computing group and training program. The project