

VICTOR HAMBURGER, professor of zoology at Washington University, St. Louis, gave the Mellon lecture for the Society of Biological Research at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine on 16 March. His subject was "The life history of a nerve cell."

RALPH BOWN, a vice president of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, retired on 1 Mar. after 37 years of service. For the past year he has been vice president in charge of patent activities and of long-range planning of laboratories programs. Previously he had been vice president in charge of research.



Bown has been honored by numerous professional societies and by the Government. In 1955 he was appointed chairman of the U.S. Patent Office Advisory Committee. He is also chairman of a technical advisory committee on electricity and electronics for the National Bureau of Standards, and a member of the Army Scientific Advisory Panel.

Bown, who has been a pioneer in communications engineering, was awarded the 1926 Morris Liebmman memorial prize by the Institute of Radio Engineers for his research in wave transmission phenomena. He served as president of the IRE in 1927, and in 1949 received the institute's annual medal of honor for his leadership in institute affairs and for his extensive contributions to the field of radio.

Much of Bown's technical work has been concerned with various aspects of radio broadcasting, and overseas telephony and microwave radio relay systems. He directed the New York-Boston radio relay project, opened for experimental service in November 1947, which was the first link in the transcontinental radio relay system.

A native of Fairport, N.Y., Bown received the degrees of mechanical engineer, master of mechanical engineering, and doctor of philosophy from Cornell University. After serving as a captain in the Signal Corps during World War I, he began his telephone career in 1919 with the development and research department of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. There he specialized in various aspects of radio broadcasting and in ship-to-shore and overseas telephony.

In 1934 he was appointed assistant director of radio research at Bell Laboratories; in 1936, director of radio and television research; in 1944, assistant director of research; in 1946, director of research; and in 1951, vice president-research.

During World War II Bown served

with the National Defense Research Committee, specializing in radar, and in 1941 he visited England to study operations under combat conditions. He also served as a consultant to the Secretary of War. After his retirement Bown will be associated with the N.W. Ayer and Son advertising agency as a consultant in public relations in the field of science.

The recently organized Chemical Warfare Laboratories of the Army's Chemical Corps at the Army Chemical Center, Md., has announced the following appointments:

DONALD H. HALE has been placed in command of the laboratories. He received his doctorate in physics from the University of California and was formerly deputy commander of the Chemical Corps Research and Engineering Command.

L. WILSON GREENE, who formerly was technical director of the Chemical and Radiological Laboratories at the Army Chemical Center, has been appointed chief technical adviser to the Chemical Corps.

SEYMOUR P. SILVER has been appointed deputy for scientific activities. He has been associated with the Chemical Corps since 1938, and has served as consultant to civilian health organizations in air pollution problems.

The laboratories are divided into four directorates. WILLIAM H. SUMMERSON has been appointed director of research; ALBERT R. DREISBACH, director of medical research; DONALD E. YANKA, director of development, and JAMES P. MITCHELL, director of technical services.

LEONARD G. GINGER has been promoted to director of chemical research in the research and development division of Baxter Laboratories, Inc.

LEONARD REIFFEL has been appointed manager of the physics research department of Armour Research Foundation at Illinois Institute of Technology. He will direct research in acoustic design, sound and vibration control, nuclear physics, light and optics, physics of solids, and magnetism.

ALFRED C. REDFIELD, senior oceanographer at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and professor of physiology at Harvard University, and LAURENCE IRVING, biologist at the U.S. Public Health Service's Arctic Health Center, Anchorage, Alaska, and professor of biology at Swarthmore College, Pa., were among 12 scientists who received the honorary degree of doctor of philosophy at the graduation ceremony of the University of Oslo, Norway.

JACOB E. JANSEN, who has been with the B. F. Goodrich Company since 1938, has been named director of organic chemicals research in the company's Research Center, Brecksville, Ohio.

U. PENTTI KOKKO has joined the staff of the U.S. Public Health Service's Communicable Disease Center at Atlanta, Ga., as assistant chief of the center's laboratory branch. Prior to coming to Atlanta, Kokko was director of the division of local health services of the Kentucky State Department of Health.

A. J. HAAGEN-SMIT, professor of bio-organic chemistry at California Institute of Technology, has been appointed to head the air pollution control research program of Southern California Edison Company.

## Recent Deaths

FRANCIS BLOSSOM, New York, N.Y.; 80; engineer; former special consultant to the War Department; 12 Mar.

ARTHUR L. DUBUSCH, Elizabeth, N.J.; 90; pioneer submarine builder; 9 Mar.

PAUL J. KOLACHOV, Bogota, Colombia; 56; chemurgy expert; director of Colombia's Department of Technological Investigation; 29 Feb.

FRANK J. O'BRIEN, White Plains, N.Y.; 65; child psychiatrist; 13 Mar.

WILLIAM ROBERTSON, Philadelphia, Pa.; 85; professor emeritus at Temple University Medical School; 9 Mar.

OTTO ROSENDAHL, Minneapolis, Minn.; 80; emeritus professor of botany and former chairman of the department at the University of Minnesota; 4 Mar.

WALDO SHUMWAY, Hoboken, N.J.; 64; zoologist; provost of Stevens Institute of Technology; 8 Mar.

LUKAS TINBERGEN, Groningen, Netherlands; 39; professor on the faculty of sciences at the University of Groningen; 1 Sept. 1955.

## Education

■ The fourth annual Workshop for College Professors will be offered at the University of Michigan, 25 June-13 July. Further information may be obtained from Algo D. Henderson, Director, 242 U.E.S., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

■ Some 1000 Washington area scientists and engineers took over the classes of approximately 100 junior and senior high schools for 2 days, 15 and 16 Mar., leaving 400 regular teachers free to attend the convention of the National Science Teachers Association, and giving