

beginnings, though hopeful projects are on foot. Beginnings in botany were made by Coulter in 1872, and Nelson later carried on further explorations and collections; but much remains to be done. Mammalogy, ornithology and entomology still afford wide opportunities. And what is perhaps the most fascinating of all, the ecology of the geyser basins, with their unique combination of thermal, chemical and altitudinal factors, is a field still absolutely virgin.

Hitherto the park area has been inaccessible to most scientists, for, although the National Park Service has always made it a part of its policy to assist scientific work in every way possible, the aid so given has been of necessity limited because the main efforts of the Park Service must be expended for the benefit of the traveling public in general. A project is now on foot, however, involving cooperation between the National Park Service and private generosity, that promises to establish at Yellowstone National Park an important center for research and field study in the geological and biological features of this region.

The National Park Service, through Director Stephen T. Mather and Superintendent Horace M. Albright, is offering the use of a large stone building in good repair and needing only minor alterations to make it into an excellent laboratory and class room building, with room to spare for the housing and feeding of approximately one hundred persons. With the building go grounds of sufficient extent for the development of ornamental planting and for a botanical garden in which to arrange a collection representative of the flora of the park. The present park museum and library will be moved into the new quarters, and will be available for the use of students. This building has been made available without cost and upon conditions characteristic of the generosity and public-spirited policy of the National Park Service.

The institution will be known as the Yellowstone School of Natural History and Biological Station. Funds for its operation during the initial quinquennium are now being collected. Scientists interested in the facilities to be gained by this station are requested to give assistance by sending for use in its library copies of their publications in botany, zoology, geology, paleontology, forestry, ecology and related subjects. Funds for the endowment of research, either as gifts or as fellowships from universities, are desired. It is expected that the school will be operated on an expense basis until further endowment for research is obtained.

Communications should be addressed to Dr. R. B. Harvey, acting director, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

FRANK THONE, R. B. HARVEY,
WM. J. CRIBBS, H. S. CONARD

THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL PRIZE

THE Allied Chemical and Dye Corporation in 1922 instituted an annual prize of \$25,000 to reward the chemist, residing in the United States, who in the opinion of a properly constituted jury has contributed most to the benefit of the science and of the world, and on August 30 requested the American Chemical Society to administer the award. At the Milwaukee meeting of the society on September 10, the following vote was passed:

The American Chemical Society received at its last annual meeting the announcement of a monumental gift for the promotion of chemistry in America—an annual prize of \$25,000, founded by the Allied Chemical and Dye Corporation. The council reaffirms its acceptance of this gift with deep appreciation of its importance. The committee to whom this matter was referred having agreed that the name of the prize shall be The American Chemical Prize (Founded by the Allied Chemical and Dye Corporation) the council heartily concurs in this recommendation. The committee also recommends that the jury of the award be a self-perpetuating body consisting of seven members, five of whom shall represent the American Chemical Society and two shall be named by the Allied Chemical and Dye Corporation. This the council also approves and empowers its committee, composed of Edgar F. Smith, Charles F. Chandler, Ira Remsen, Frank P. Venable and Theodore W. Richards, to select the initial five members representing the American Chemical Society.

The council further approves the following supplemental recommendations of the committee:

The prize shall be awarded annually to that chemist, man or woman, a citizen or a resident of the United States of America at the time, who in a certain year or through a period of years has made a contribution of high merit or in some marked way has promoted the betterment of society through the science of chemistry.

Chemists engaged in any division of their science, including the teaching of chemistry, shall be eligible for the prize.

The jury of award shall select the recipient of the prize. It shall formulate the rules and regulations governing the award of a prize.

The prize shall be presented at an annual meeting of the American Chemical Society. The recipient of the prize will be expected to receive the prize in person and shall be invited to deliver an address before the society, his expenses in attendance at the meeting to be defrayed by the Allied Chemical and Dye Corporation.

The following correspondence is now published in *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*:

ALLIED CHEMICAL AND DYE CORPORATION
61 Broadway, New York

April 16, 1924

Office of Chairman

Dear Dr. Smith:

We are writing you pursuant to the understanding

which you, Mr. Weber, and the writer had when you were last here, on February 28th, that we would let you know before the 21st of this month our conclusion as to availing ourselves of the American Chemical Society's good offices in connection with the administration of our proposed award for outstanding accomplishment in the field of chemistry, first called to your attention a year ago last September.

As you know, we have had in mind from the outset that, in view of the society's mutual interest with us in the encouragement and reward of unusual technical achievement in the science of chemistry, the society's active cooperation in connection with our contribution to that end would be helpful. We face the fact, however, that, in the rather long course of our approaches toward such cooperation, your own splendidly earnest and understanding work as the society's representative has, unfortunately, not resulted, as we had hoped, in the society's formulation of a plan of administration which could appropriately be put into effect; and, being anxious to have the award made effective as promptly as practicable, we have concluded that, under the circumstances, this can best be accomplished by withdrawing our original suggestion to you that the society share with us the responsibility of creating the method of procedure and organization for administration thereof.

Please, therefore, accept this letter as such withdrawal, and at the same time rest well assured of our thorough appreciation of your most generous and conscientious efforts in the matter.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) WM. H. NICHOLS, *Chairman*

DR. EDGAR F. SMITH, PRESIDENT,
American Chemical Society,
Care of University of Pennsylvania,
Philadelphia, Pa.

TO THE PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL OF THE
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY:

Your committee appointed last September to consider the status of the prize offered to the American Chemical Society by the Allied Chemical and Dye Corporation begs to submit the following recommendation:

In consultation with the officials of the Allied Chemical and Dye Corporation, we have found that this corporation no longer desires the cooperation of the American Chemical Society in the administration of the prize which they have recently announced. That being the case, we suggest that the American Chemical Society should pass a vote relinquishing the acceptance of the administration of this prize. At the same time we hope that the society will express deep appreciation of the purpose of the corporation in establishing a prize intended to redound to the good of chemistry in America and to the welfare of American chemists.

CHARLES F. CHANDLER,
IRA REMSEN,
THEODORE W. RICHARDS,
FRANCIS P. VENABLE,
EDGAR F. SMITH, *Chairman*

April 19, 1924

THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON THE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES OF THE UNITED STATES

THE Seventeenth Annual Conference on the Weights and Measures of the United States was held at the Bureau of Standards May 26, 27, 28 and 29. The attendance numbered about 175, of whom 100 were weights and measures officials, and the remainder manufacturers, railroad officials and others interested in weights and measures work. A number of matters were considered, among them that of the uniform marking and filling of milk bottles, specifications and tolerances for vehicle tanks used for measuring such materials as gasoline, and standards for bread loaves.

Resolutions of appreciation and a gold medallion were presented to Dr. S. W. Stratton, former director of the Bureau of Standards, and president of the conference, and now its honorary president.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: *President*, George K. Burgess, of the Bureau of Standards; *first vice-president*, I. L. Miller, of Indiana; *second vice-president*, Thomas F. Egan, of Connecticut; *secretary*, F. S. Holbrook, of the Bureau of Standards; *treasurer*, George F. Austin, of Detroit, Michigan.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

SIR WILLIAM J. POPE, professor of chemistry in the University of Cambridge, has been elected a corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences of the Institut de France.

THE Royal Academy of Sciences, of Bologne, has awarded the international prize in physiology to Professor Otto Loewi, of the University of Graz, for his work on the innervation of the heart.

THE gold medal of the Royal Astronomical Society has been awarded by the council to Professor A. S. Eddington and was presented at the meeting of the society on June 13.

PROFESSOR R. A. MILLIKAN, of the California Institute of Technology, delivered the Faraday lecture given in connection with the chemical societies, London, on June 12, his subject being "Atomism in modern physics." Afterward Dr. Millikan was presented with a medal bearing the effigy of Faraday which had been especially made to commemorate the occasion.

DR. SHIRO TASHIRO, an associate professor of biochemistry in the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, will leave soon for Japan to receive the Gakushiin prize from the Imperial Academy of Arts and Sciences. The bestowal of this prize in Japan is considered a national event.