

tal cavities in the trap rock region of the Watchung Mountains of New Jersey. Dr. Schaller has also made a particular study of the interesting and beautiful minerals of pegmatites and their mode of origin.

PAUL F. KERR,  
*Secretary*

#### MEDALS OF THE AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY FOR 1938

THE Charles P. Daly Gold Medal for 1938 of the American Geographical Society of New York has been awarded to Dr. Alexander Forbes, professor of physiology in the Harvard Medical School.

Early in 1931, largely at the suggestion of Sir Wilfred Grenfell, Dr. Forbes undertook a geographical survey in northern Labrador, and expeditions to that region were made under his leadership in 1931 and 1935 and under his direction in 1932. Dr. Forbes saw the possibilities in a new method of surveying from the air that was being developed by the American Geographical Society. Through his expeditions the opportunity was offered the society of thoroughly testing the method in the field and of demonstrating its practicability, and as a consequence, the northernmost end of the Labrador peninsula, previously almost wholly unknown, has been accurately mapped.

Louise A. Boyd, explorer and geographer, who returned on November 30 from her sixth expedition to the Arctic, has been awarded the Cullum Gold Medal for 1938 in recognition of her achievement in Arctic geographical research. She is the second woman to receive one of the awards of the society.

According to the official announcement made public by the society, Miss Boyd is the only woman to achieve an outstanding position in Arctic exploration. This past summer she penetrated the berg-infested waters off the coast of Greenland to a point further north than had been reached by ship by any other American, and to within thirty miles of the northernmost latitude (78 degrees 16 minutes N., 16 degrees 21 minutes W.) reached by the Duc d'Orléans in 1905. With her were a scientific staff consisting of a surveyor, a geologist, a hydrographer and a radio operator to carry on research on short wave transmission. This was her fourth expedition conducted under the auspices of the American Geographical Society.

Among other explorers who have received the Cullum

medal in the past are: Peary, Nansen, Scott, the Duke of the Abruzzi, Shackleton, Prince Albert of Monaco and Bertram Thomas.

#### RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. WILLIAM McDougall, since 1927 professor of psychology at Duke University and from 1920 to 1927 professor of psychology at Harvard University, previously reader in mental philosophy at the University of Oxford and a fellow of Corpus Christi College, died on November 28 at the age of sixty-seven years.

DR. ALCAN HIRSCH, president of the Hirsch Laboratories, New York, and consulting chemical engineer, died on November 24 at the age of fifty-three years.

DR. DAVID ROBERT COKER, a plant breeder and cotton expert, died on November 28 at the age of sixty-eight years. Dr. Coker was the originator of staple cotton varieties. He was a trustee of the University of South Carolina.

M. GEORGES URBAIN, French chemist, died on November 5 at the age of sixty-six years. He was a professor at the Institute of Biology in Paris and for several years professor of theoretical chemistry and chairman of the section of chemistry of the School of Advanced Study at the University of Paris.

*Nature* reports the death of Dr. P. A. Murphy, professor of plant pathology in the Albert Agricultural College, University College, Dublin, on September 27, aged fifty-one years, and of Paul Helbronner, the geodesist, "free member" of the Paris Academy of Sciences, on October 18, aged sixty-seven years.

THE fortieth anniversary of the discovery of radium and the seventy-first anniversary of the birth of Madame Curie were commemorated on November 6 in New York by Polish-Americans and representatives of Poland and France, under the auspices of the New York State Conference of Polish Clubs and the United St. Stanislaus Societies. Dr. Francis Carter Wood, director of the Crocker Cancer Research Institute of Columbia University, made the principal address.

THE British Society of Chemical Industry celebrated on November 24 the centenary of Sir William Perkin, the discoverer in 1856 of the first aniline dye-stuff, mauve.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

A DINNER in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the department of biology at Western Reserve University and the fifty years of service there of Dr. Francis H. Herriek, now professor emeritus of biology, was held on December 3.

President Winfred G. Leutner served as toastmaster. Dr. E. G. Conklin, executive vice-president of the American Philosophical Society and professor emeritus of biology at Princeton University, gave the principal address.