

The Committee on Professional Recognition, Professor Emeritus Charles F. Scott of Yale University, *chairman*, discusses the matter of engineering as a profession, and an appreciation of it as such. He strongly urges the various constituent organizations of the council to encourage emphasis on ethics, the teaching of ethics, and the professional spirit among engineering students, in order that they may acquire a full conception of the profession as early as possible.

The Engineering Council for Professional Development, which was founded in 1932, is an organization representing the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, the National Council of State Boards of Engineering Examiners and the Engineering Institute of Canada. Its purpose is to enhance the professional status of the engineer.

PROMOTIONS AND NEW APPOINTMENTS AT THE ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

THE Board of Scientific Directors of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research announces the following appointments and promotions on the Scientific Staff to take effect on or after July 1.

Promotions: Associate Member to Member, Dr. René J. Dubos, Dr. Rafael Lorente de Nó.

Assistant to Associate, Dr. Lindsay M. Black, Dr. Jorge Casals-Ariet, Dr. Max A. Lauffer, Jr., Dr. David P. C. Lloyd.

Fellow to Assistant, Dr. James A. Baker, Dr. Paul B. Hamilton, Dr. Margaret R. McDonald.

New Appointments, Member, Dr. Frank L. Horsfall, Jr. Assistants, Dr. Frederik B. Bang, Dr. Vincent P. Dole, Jr., Dr. George H. Hogeboom, Dr. Robert E. Shank.

Fellows, Dr. Robert A. Phillips, Dr. Sidney Rothbard.

Dr. Robert F. Watson has been appointed resident physician at the hospital.

HONORARY DEGREES CONFERRED BY PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

AMONG the honorary degrees conferred at the one hundred and ninety-fourth commencement of Princeton University were the degree of doctor of engineering on Dr. Harvey Clayton Rentschler; the degree of doctor of science on Professor Leonard Eugene Dickson, and the degree of doctor of laws on Professor Wesley Clair Mitchell.

In presenting the recipients, Professor Eisenhart gave the following citations:

Harvey Clayton Rentschler, director of the research laboratory of the Westinghouse lamp division; a Bachelor of Arts of Princeton and of the class of '03 and a Doctor of Philosophy in Physics of the Johns Hopkins Uni-

versity; after teaching at Princeton and the University of Missouri, he joined the staff of the laboratory of which he is now director, and for a quarter of a century has applied his talents to the investigation of photoelectric cells and of x-ray and electron tubes, which he has developed for commercial use. A brilliant and persistent seeker after nature's secrets, with a generosity toward his collaborators which wins their confidence and their cooperation, he has utilized for the welfare of others the knowledge which he has discovered.

Leonard Eugene Dickson, professor of mathematics emeritus of the University of Chicago; a graduate of the University of Texas and one of the first doctors of philosophy of the Department of Mathematics of the University of Chicago which set the high standard for the subsequent development of mathematical research in this country; a member of the National Academy of Sciences and corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences of the Institute of France; author of hundreds of papers in algebra, writer of many books for college students and research workers, chief of which is his three-volume "History of the Theory of Numbers." The leading American algebraist, whose researches have added much to the knowledge of his field, the inspirer and counselor of a host of young mathematicians, a historian of science whose writings are notable for their clarity and exact expression, for conciseness without loss of completeness.

Wesley Clair Mitchell, professor of economics in Columbia University and director of the National Bureau of Economic Research; a native of Illinois and graduate of the University of Chicago during its early years; deeply interested and competent in the formulation of policies of research leading to a more orderly functioning of the national economy, he has been chief of the Price Section of the War Industries Board, chairman of the President's Research Committee on Social Trends, member of the National Planning Board of the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works and of the National Resources Board; past-president of the American Statistical and Economic Associations and the Association for the Advancement of Science. Distinguished analyzer of the economic and social order with the phases of business cycles as guiding factor, a kindly and incisive critic, with singular objectivity in his approach to problems of group behavior, a widely sought public servant.

HONORARY DEGREES CONFERRED BY YALE UNIVERSITY

HONORARY degrees were conferred on June 18 at the commencement exercises of Yale University on Dr. Thomas Francis and on Dr. Henry Bryant Bigelow. The remarks were made by the public orator, Dr. Arnold Whitridge, professor of history, arts and letters and master of Calhoun College, and the citations by Dr. Charles Seymour, president of the university. Dr. Whitridge, a grandson of Matthew Arnold, succeeded this year Dr. William Lyon Phelps, who has been public orator at the university for more than twenty years.

The degrees were presented as follows:

Thomas Francis, of the New York University College of Medicine.

Dr. Whitridge:

Mr. President, I have the honor to present for the degree of Master of Science *Thomas Francis*. A graduate of Allegheny College and the Yale Medical School, Dr. Francis is now professor of bacteriology in the New York University College of Medicine. But New York is going to lose him, for he has just been called to the University of Michigan, where he has been appointed professor of epidemiology and chairman of the Department in the School of Public Health. He was chosen to fill this post on the strength of his invaluable research in the field of infectious diseases. During the last seven years he has devoted himself to the study of influenza, and he is to-day one of our leading authorities upon this scourge. Influenza was originally ascribed to the influence of the stars, but Dr. Francis has exonerated the stars and fixed upon a peculiarly elusive and malignant virus as the real culprit. He was the first man in America to isolate the virus of influenza. This was an achievement of signal importance as it points the way to preventive vaccination and immunity. Young as he is, Dr. Francis has already proved himself a benefactor of mankind.

President Seymour:

Already a master in your chosen field of scientific research, a field the development of which you have directed in the interest of human welfare. Your university confers upon you the degree of Master of Science and admits you to all its rights and privileges.

Henry Bryant Bigelow, of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University.

Dr. Whitridge:

Mr. President, I have the honor to present for the degree of Doctor of Science *Henry Bryant Bigelow*, pioneer in the science of oceanography. At an early age Dr. Bigelow succumbed irretrievably to the lure of the sea. Starting at Harvard as a marine zoologist, he soon became interested in the physics and chemistry of the sea itself and began his researches in oceanography as it is at present understood long before such investigations had been undertaken by any other individual or institution in the United States. Many of the activities of the United States Coast Guard, particularly the services of the Ice Patrol in forecasting iceberg conditions, may be credited to his initiative. During the last ten years he has guided the development and progress of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution to a leading position in the world of marine research. More than most men who go down to the sea in ships, Dr. Bigelow has seen the works of the Lord and His wonders in the deep, and he has recorded his observations, as the Psalmist would have approved, for the lasting benefit of his fellow men.

President Seymour:

Scholar and benefactor of mankind, for your studies that resulted in the protection of ships and men from the

menace of ice and in the protection of the fisheries, as well as for your guidance of young scientists in the field you have made yours, Yale University confers upon you the degree of Doctor of Science and admits you to all its rights and privileges.

ELECTIONS TO FELLOWSHIP IN THE ROYAL SOCIETY, LONDON

At a meeting of the Royal Society held on May 29 the following were elected to the Foreign Membership of the society:

Dr. James Bryant Conant: president of Harvard University. Distinguished for his researches in organic chemistry and the application of physical methods to the elucidation of the mechanism of organic reactions: also distinguished for researches in biochemistry.

Dr. Karl Landsteiner: member in pathology at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York. Distinguished for his work on immuno-chemistry which has established the dependence of the specificity of the antigen-antibody reactions on known chemical structures.

Under a statute of the Royal Society which provides for the election of persons who either have rendered conspicuous service to the cause of science or are such that their election would be of signal benefit to the society, the Right Honorable Winston S. Churchill was elected a fellow.

DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. MEYER BODANSKY, professor of chemistry in the department of public health and preventive medicine, Medical School, University of Texas, and director of Clinical Laboratories of the John Sealy Hospital and the John Sealy Memorial Research Laboratory, Galveston, Texas, died on June 14. He was forty-four years of age.

DR. ERNST TH. VON BRÜCKE died suddenly on June 12 in his sixty-first year. At the time of his death he was research associate at the Harvard Medical School. He was formerly professor of physiology at Innsbrück and was forced to retire from his professorship in 1938.

PROFESSOR FRANCES GERTRUDE WICK, chairman of the department of physics at Vassar College, with which she had been associated since 1910, died on June 15 at the age of sixty-five years.

A TABLET was unveiled on June 8 in the Sanders Laboratory of Chemistry at Vassar College in memory of *Dr. Charles William Moulton*, who taught chemistry there from 1892 to 1924, by his granddaughter *Katherine Moulton*, a sophomore. *Dr. Henry Noble MacCracken*, president of the college, paid tribute to *Dr. Moulton*.