
News and Notes

Dr. John W. T. Spinks, professor of physical chemistry at the University of Saskatchewan, has rejoined the staff after two and a half years of operational research with the Royal Canadian Air Force and nuclear research at the laboratories of the National Research Council of Canada.

Dr. H. R. Gault, formerly of the U. S. Geological Survey, has been appointed an assistant professor of geology at Lehigh University.

Announcements

The Geological Society of Washington, comprising the professional geologists in the Washington area, adopted the following resolution at a meeting on 13 March, 1946:

We, the 400 members of the Geological Society of Washington, D. C., unanimously endorse the McMahon Bill, S. 1717, in its original form. We believe that no bill will provide a satisfactory domestic policy on atomic energy that does not provide for: 1. Full control over atomic energy development in this country by the Federal Government; 2. Complete civilian control through a Federal agency—the role of the military to be restricted to liaison in the field of weapons; 3. A policy of free publication and dissemination of scientific information, restricted only by the provisions of the Espionage Act.

We further believe that a bill lacking any of these features will stifle scientific progress and will, consequently, irreparably harm our civilization and greatly weaken the national defense.

The resolution was addressed to the President and the Congress. It marks a departure in the policy of the Society which has never heretofore concerned itself with legislative matters.

An annual award of \$1,000 and a bronze medal for outstanding research in enzyme chemistry has been added to the list of awards administered by the American Chemical Society, according to Alden H. Emery, national secretary of the Society. The new award is sponsored by the Paul-Lewis Laboratories, Inc., of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and will be known as the Paul-Lewis Laboratories Award in Enzyme Chemistry. The first award will be presented by the Society in April to one of a group of candidates now under consideration by a special committee.

McGill University has announced a recently created Department of Anaesthesia. The chief objectives are to improve the teaching of anaesthesia to the undergraduate students in Medicine; to increase the opportunities for learning anaesthesia among the in-

ternes of the hospitals connected with the University; to conduct a three-year Diploma Course in Anaesthesia; and to develop investigation in anaesthesia in the clinic and in the laboratory from the point of view of interrelationship, and in an interdependent fashion with the University's other departments. This development comes on the centenary of the discovery of anaesthesia.

Dr. F. A. Vening Meinesz, professor of geophysics at the University of Utrecht, director of the Royal Netherland Meteorological Institute, and recent recipient of the Penrose Medal of the GSA, gave a series of four lectures at the invitation of the University of Cincinnati Chapter of Sigma Xi and the Departments of Geology and Physics. The subjects discussed were: "Gravity Anomalies in the East and West Indies," "Tectonic Patterns of the Ocean Floor and Their Interpretation," and "Newer Conceptions of Isostasy and Crustal Structure in the Light of Gravity Determinations." The illustrated public lecture on "Weighing the Earth From a Submarine" was followed by informal talks to faculty and student groups on "The Resistance Movement in Holland During the Occupation" and "The Danger of a Spiritual Vacuum in a Scientific Age."

Additional AAAS Meeting Notes

Headquarters for the Press will be in the Kiel Memorial Auditorium. Dr. Sidney S. Negus, Medical College of Virginia, Richmond, will be in charge.

The National Association of Science Writers will meet in Private Dining Room No. 7 of the Jefferson Hotel at 7:45 P.M., 27 March.

The St. Louis housing situation is still desperate. The most recent development is that a request from Dr. F. R. Moulton in the name of the Association to the Secretary of War for 1,500 berths in the Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, has been denied.

Recent Deaths

Ulphian Carr Loftin, 55, for the past 15 years assistant head of the Division of Cotton Insect Investigations in the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, died on 16 January in Washington, D. C.

Dr. Charles Theodore Burnett, 72, professor of psychology at Bowdoin College, died at Brunswick, Maine, on 31 January. He had retired in 1944, but had continued to teach to augment a war-depleted faculty.