

GENERAL SCIENCE

Societies Elect Members

► **DISTINGUISHED** American and foreign scientists have been added to the membership of two of America's most exclusive science societies, the National Academy of Sciences, and the American Philosophical Society.

Dr. Edwin Bidwell Wilson, emeritus professor of vital statistics at the Harvard School of Public Health, was elected vice president of the Academy for the next four years, beginning July 1. Other officers of the Academy are: Dr. Alfred N. Richards, president; Dr. Detlev W. Bronk, foreign secretary; Dr. Fred E. Wright, home secretary; and Dr. William J. Robbins, treasurer.

Elected to the Council of the Academy for a three-year term are: Dr. Joel H. Hildebrand, professor of chemistry, University of California; and Dr. Ernest W. Goodpasture, professor of pathology and Dean, School of Medicine, Vanderbilt University.

The following new members were elected to the Academy:

George W. Bartelmez, professor of anatomy, University of Chicago; Frank A. Beach, professor of psychology, Yale University; Robert B. Brode, professor of physics, University of California; Paul R. Burkholder, Eaton professor of botany, Yale University; Lowell T. Coggeshall, professor and chairman, department of medicine, and dean, division of biological sciences, University of Chicago; Max Delbruck, professor of biophysics, California Institute of Technology; Robert C. Elderfield, professor of chemistry, Columbia University; William F. Gibbs, vice president, Gibbs and Cox; William W. Hansen, professor of physics, Stanford University; Charles B. Huggins, professor of surgery, University of Chicago; Walter D. Lambert, U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey (Retired); Howard B. Lewis, professor and head of department of physiological chemistry, University of Michigan; Francis W. Loomis, professor and head of department of physics

University of Illinois; Thomas S. Lovering, U. S. Geological Survey; Samuel M. McElvain, professor of chemistry, University of Wisconsin; Saunders MacLane, professor of mathematics, University of Chicago; Nicholas U. Mayall, Lick Observatory; Otto Meyerhof, research professor of physiological chemistry, University of Pennsylvania; John S. Nicholas, Sterling professor of biology, Yale University; George B. Pegram, professor of physics and dean of graduate faculties, Columbia University; Kenneth S. Pitzer, professor of chemistry, University of California; Kenneth B. Raper, senior microbiologist, Northern Regional Research Laboratory, U. S. Department of Agriculture; John L. Savage, chief designer, U. S. Bureau of Reclamation; Carl F. Schmidt, professor of pharmacology, University of Pennsylvania; Julian Schwinger, professor of physics, Harvard University; Harry L. Shapiro, professor of anthropology, Columbia University; Oliver R. Wulf, professor, division of chemistry and chemical engineering, California Institute of Technology; Ralph W. G. Wyckoff, scientist director, National Institute of Health; Frederick W. H. Zachariasen, professor and chairman of the department of physics, University of Chicago.

New foreign associates elected are:

Élie Cartan, professor of geometry, University of Paris, Paris, France; Paul A. M. Dirac, Lucasian professor of mathematical physics, St. John's College, Cambridge, England; Bernard Lyot, astronomer, Meudon Observatory, Seine-et-Oise, France; Henri Piéron, director, laboratory of physiological psychology, The Sorbonne, Paris, France; Arne Tiselius, professor of biochemistry, University of Uppsala, Sweden; Ojvind Winge, director, department of physiology, Carlsberg Laboratory, Copenhagen (Valby), Denmark; Hideki Yukawa, department of physics, Kyoto University, Japan.

Other scientists elected new members of the American Philosophical Society include:

Edwin Joseph Cohn, professor of biological chemistry, Harvard University; Edward Uhler

Condon, physicist, National Bureau of Standards; William Vermillion Houston, physicist, Rice Institute; Saunders MacLane, mathematician, University of Chicago; Max Felix Theodor von Laue, physicist, Göttingen, Germany; John Farquhar Fulton, physiologist, Yale University; Glenn Lowell Jepsen, geologist, Princeton University; Cyril Norman Hugh Long, biochemist, Yale University and Burrhus Frederic Skinner, psychologist, Indiana University.

Dr. Edwin G. Conklin of Princeton was re-elected president of the American Philosophical Society.

Science News Letter, May 7, 1949

SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

VOL. 55

MAY 7, 1949

No. 19

49,000 copies of this issue printed

The Weekly Summary of Current Science, published every Saturday by SCIENCE SERVICE, Inc., 1719 N St., N. W., Washington 6, D. C., North 2255. Edited by WATSON DAVIS.

Subscription rates: 1 yr., \$5.50; 2 yrs., \$10.00; 3 yrs., \$14.50; single copy, 15 cents, more than six months old, 25 cents. No charge for foreign postage.

Change of address: Three weeks notice is required. When ordering a change, please state exactly how magazine is now addressed. Your new address should include postal zone number if you have one.

Copyright, 1949, by Science Service, Inc. Reproduction of any portion of SCIENCE NEWS LETTER is strictly prohibited. Newspapers, magazines and other publications are invited to avail themselves of the numerous syndicate services issued by Science Service. Science Service also publishes CHEMISTRY (monthly) and THINGS of Science (monthly).

Printed in U. S. A. Entered as second class matter at the post office at Washington, D. C. under the act of March 3, 1879. Established in mimeographed form March 18, 1922. Title registered as trademark, U. S. and Canadian Patent Offices. Indexed in Readers' Guide to periodical literature, Abridged Guide, and the Engineering Index.

Member Audit Bureau of Circulation. Advertising Representatives: Howland and Howland, Inc., 393 7th Ave., N.Y.C., Pennsylvania 6-5566 and 360 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago. STAtE 4439.

SCIENCE SERVICE

The Institution for the Popularization of Science organized 1921 as a non-profit corporation.

Board of Trustees—Nominated by the American Association for the Advancement of Science: Edwin G. Conklin, Princeton University; Karl Lark-Horowitz, Purdue University; Kirtley F. Mather, Harvard University. Nominated by the National Academy of Sciences: Harlow Shapley, Harvard College Observatory; R. A. Millikan, California Institute of Technology; L. A. Maynard, Cornell University. Nominated by the National Research Council: Ross G. Harrison, Yale University; Alexander Wetmore, Secretary, Smithsonian Institution; Rene J. Dubos, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research. Nominated by the Journalistic Profession: A. H. Kirchofer, Buffalo Evening News; Neil H. Swanson, Baltimore Sun Papers; O. W. Riegel, Washington and Lee School of Journalism. Nominated by the E. W. Scripps Estate: H. L. Smithton, E. W. Scripps Trust; Frank R. Ford, Evansville Press; Charles E. Scripps, Scripps Howard Newspapers.

Officers—President: Harlow Shapley, Vice President and chairman of Executive Committee: Alexander Wetmore, Treasurer: O. W. Riegel, Secretary: Watson Davis.

Staff—Director: Watson Davis. Writers: Frank Thone, Jane Stafford, A. C. Monahan, Marjorie Van de Water, Martha G. Morrow, Ron Ross, Lydia Schweitzer. Science Clubs of America: Joseph H. Kraus, Margaret E. Patterson. Photography: Fremont Davis. Sales and Advertising: Hallie Jenkins. Production: Priscilla Howe. In London: J. G. Feinberg.

Question Box

ASTRONOMY

What indication is there that one type of double star may be a planetary ancestor? p. 294.

MEDICINE

What basic mechanisms of diseases have been revealed by a body chemical? p. 295.

What chemical may make blood transfusions safer? p. 291.

METEOROLOGY

Of what are thunderstorms made up? p. 294.
What promises to give a sensitive test for radioactivity? p. 297.

Photographs: Cover, Bureau of Mines; p. 291, General Electric Research Laboratory; p. 293, Office of Naval Research; p. 295, Vacuum Oil Co.; p. 298, p. 299, Fremont Davis.

ORDNANCE

What was the status of Russian weapons in the war? p. 300.

PALEOBOTANY

What was the earth like in early times? p. 299.

TYPOGRAPHY

What new system of printing has been developed? p. 296.