

GENERAL SCIENCE

National Academy Elects

Twenty-nine distinguished American men of science, two Foreign Associates have been elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

► RUSSIA'S best-known physicist, Dr. Peter Leonidovich Kapitzka, noted for his researches on intense magnetic fields, was elected as one of two Foreign Associates at the spring meeting of the National Academy of Sciences. He is director of the Institute for Physical Problems of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR in Moscow.

The other new Foreign Associate of the Academy is a leading English mathematician, Dr. Sidney Chapman of the Imperial College of Sciences and Technology in London. Besides working in pure mathematics, Dr. Chapman has carried on researches in meteorology and terrestrial magnetism. During the war he was a scientific adviser to the British army.

Among the 29 American scientists who were elected to membership in the Academy are two directors of important industrial research laboratories. They are Dr. Elmer K. Bolton of the chemical department of E. I. duPont de Nemours and Company, and Dr. Chauncey Guy Suits of the General Electric research laboratory.

Two department heads in the Carnegie Institution of Washington were elected to Academy membership. They are Dr. Millislav Demerec, director of the Department of Genetics, and Dr. Merle Antony Tuve, director of the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism.

Chemists carried off the honors in number of new memberships. Among those elected are Prof. Rudolph J. Anderson of Yale University, Prof. Morris S. Karasch of the University of Chicago, Prof. Karl Paul Link of the University of Wisconsin, Prof. Joseph E. Mayer of Columbia University, Dr. Charles S. Piggot of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, Prof. George Scatchard of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dr. Roger J. Williams of the University of Texas and Dean Frank C. Whitmore of Pennsylvania State College.

Physics is represented by Dr. Samuel K. Allison, director of the Institute for Nuclear Studies of the University of Chicago, and Prof. Kenneth T. Bainbridge of Harvard University.

Two geologists were made Academy

members: Dr. Wilmot Hyde Bradley and Dr. Wendell Phillips Woodring, both of the U.S. Geological Survey. A professor of a related science, seismology, Dr. Perry Byerly of the University of California, was also chosen.

New Academicians whose work is in the life sciences include Prof. Ernest B. Babcock, University of California; Prof. Marcus M. Rhoades, Columbia University; Prof. Tracy M. Sonneborn, Indiana University, and Prof. Chester H. Werkman of Iowa State College. There are two psychologists, Prof. Clarence H. Graham of Columbia University and Prof. Stanley S. Stevens of Harvard University.

Three research fields are represented by one new member each: Prof. Jesse Douglas of Brooklyn College, mathematician; Prof. Leslie Spier of the University of New Mexico, anthropologist, and Prof. Frederick E. Terman of Stanford University, engineer.

The medical sciences claim three of the newly elected members: Prof. Paul R. Cannon of the University of Chicago, Prof. Robert F. Loeb of Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons, and Prof. Esmond Ray Long of the Henry Phipps Institute, University of Pennsylvania.

The Academy elected two new officers: Prof. D. W. Bronk of the University of Pennsylvania, who replaces the late Prof. W. B. Cannon as Foreign Secretary; and Prof. I. I. Rabi of Columbia University, Nobel Prizeman in Physics, who joins Prof. Bronk on the Council of the Academy.

Science News Letter, May 4, 1946

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Newspaperman Awarded Medal by National Academy

► A SMALLTOWN newspaperman received one of the major prizes in the gift of American science, when Stuart H. Perry, editor and publisher of the *Adrian Telegram*, of Adrian, Mich., was handed the J. Lawrence Smith medal at the meeting of the National Academy of Sciences. The award was made in recognition of Mr. Perry's original researches on me-

teorites. This recognition of a non-professional's scientific work by the body that has sometimes been called the Senate of American science emphasizes anew the solid values that are often found in the scientific work of serious amateurs. It is an American tradition that dates back as far as Benjamin Franklin.

In all, five medals were presented at the meeting.

The Mary Clark Thompson medal was given to Dr. T. Wayland Vaughan of Washington, D. C., former director of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, "in recognition of his outstanding achievement in such purposeful and ingenious coordination of observations and generalizations made in and bearing on the fields of stratigraphic geology and paleontology."

The Henry Draper medal, awarded for investigations in astronomical physics, was presented to Dr. Paul Willard Merrill, of the staff of the Mt. Wilson Observatory, for numerous important contributions, in particular those on stellar spectroscopy.

Two of the medals were in recognition of important published works. These were awards of the Daniel Giraud Elliot medal. One went to Sir D'Arcy Wentworth Thompson, of St. Andrews University in Scotland, for his book, "On Growth and Form." The other was presented to Prof. Karl Spencer Lashley of the Yerkes Laboratories of Primate Biology at Orange Park, Fla., in recognition of the merits of a paper entitled "Studies of Cerebral Function in Learning," published in the *Journal of Comparative Neurology*.

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PHYSICS

Passageway Opened For Bikini Atom Test

See Front Cover

► THE ATOMIC BOMB will not be dropped at Bikini until July, but the tropical quiet of that Marshall Islands atoll has already been rocked by lesser blasts.

The explosion, shown in the Joint-Army-Navy Task Force photograph on the front cover of this SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, knocked out a coral head just off shore to open a passageway into the beach for a boat landing.

Techniques used by the Seabees assigned to Joint-Army-Navy Task Force One were developed by them during the Pacific war.

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