

THE MONTH AT CALTECH

Morgan Memorial

ON FEBRUARY 23 the Biology Division of the Institute dedicated a Thomas Hunt Morgan Memorial Plaque in the library of the Kerckhoff Laboratories.

At the same time Dr. A. H. Sturtevant, Professor of Genetics and a former student of Dr. Morgan's, was appointed the first Thomas Hunt Morgan Professor of Biology at the Institute. And Philip S. Thayer was named as the first recipient of the Morgan Award, which is to be given annually to a graduate student who is completing his Ph. D. requirements in biology.

Dr. Morgan, the great experimental biologist who founded Caltech's Biology Division, was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1933 for his work with fruit flies (*Drosophila*) which led to the chromosome theory of heredity, and thereby revolutionized genetic research. His widow, Mrs. Lilian V. Morgan, still helps to carry on his work at the Institute, where she is a Research Associate in Genetics.

Dr. Sturtevant has been at the Institute since 1928, when the Biology Division was founded. Working with *Drosophila*, he first established that the genes, which control heredity, are distributed in the chromosomes like beads on a string. He holds honorary Sc.D. degrees from Princeton and the University of Pennsylvania for his work.

Funds for the Morgan memorial were contributed by colleagues, students and friends of Dr. Morgan, and by trustees of the Institute. The plaque, cast in bronze, was designed by Dr. Albert Stewart of Scripps College, who

incorporated in his design all the various plants and animals with which Dr. Morgan worked. It has been set up in the Kerckhoff library above a shelf containing all the books written by Dr. Morgan.

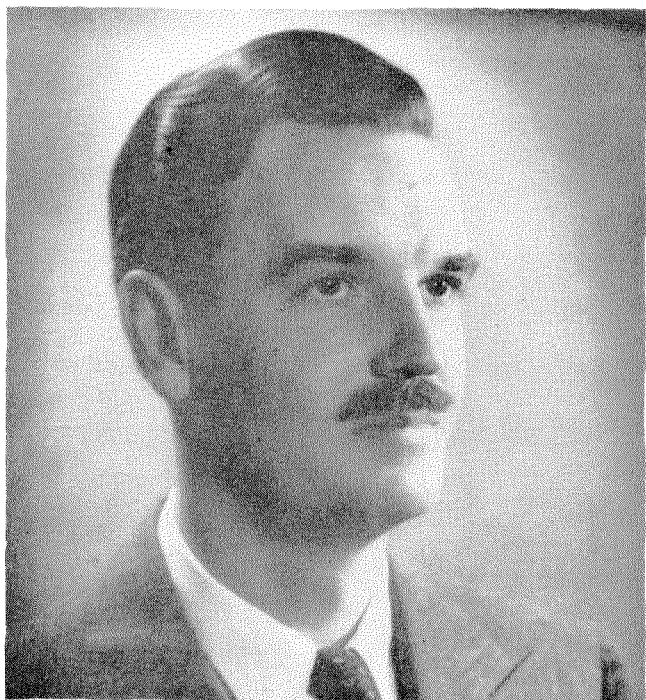
Science Advisor

DR. JOSEPH B. KOEPFLI, Research Associate in Chemistry, took leave of absence from the Institute this month to accept the newly-created post of Science Advisor to the Secretary of State. As Special Assistant to the Secretary of State he will head a Science Office, which will help shape U. S. foreign policies and advise on the administration of programs in their science aspects.

In assuming this responsibility, Dr. Koepfli's office will seek to bring about the closest teamwork between American scientists and government officials in policy formation. Top-flight American scientists will be placed in important foreign service posts to keep the Office of Science Advisor abreast of scientific developments abroad, and to facilitate the flow of scientific information between this country and friendly nations.

Dr. Koepfli, a graduate of Stanford University, went to Oxford University for graduate study in chemistry and received his Ph.D. in 1928. He was a Research Fellow in Chemistry at the California Institute in 1928-29, and Instructor in Pharmacology at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in 1930-32. Since 1932 he has been Research Associate in Chemistry at Caltech,

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Dr. J. B. Koepfli, State Department Science Advisor

where his fields of special interest are organic chemistry, chemotherapy, plant hormones and alkaloids.

During the recent war Dr. Koepfli served as Special Assistant to the Chairman of the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering of the National Research Council. In 1923-43 he was a member of the Caltech research group which developed oxypolygelatin, a substitute for blood plasma. And from 1942 to 1946 he was administrator of a contract between Caltech and the Office of Scientific Research and Development for research on the synthesis of antimalarial drugs.

In 1947-48, Dr. Koepfli took leave of absence from the Institute to serve as science attaché of the United States Embassy in London.

Kirkwood to Yale

DR. JOHN GAMBLE KIRKWOOD, Arthur Amos Noyes Professor of Chemistry at the Institute, will resign at the end of the academic year to accept an appointment as Sterling Professor of Chemistry and Chairman of the Department of Chemistry at Yale University. He takes up his new duties on July 1.

Dr. Kirkwood came to Caltech in 1947 from Cornell University, where he had been Todd Professor of Chemistry. He is particularly noted for his work in the field of statistical mechanics, and its application in the problems of chemistry. In the field of protein chemistry he recently developed a new method of separating proteins known as electrophoresis.

Dr. Kirkwood was graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1929. In 1936 he was one of the youngest men ever to receive the American Chemical Society Award in Pure Chemistry. Last year he won the A.C.S. Richards Medal, one of the highest awards in the field of chemistry, for "conspicuous achievement."

Haynes Lectures

DR. C. E. KENNETH MEES, vice-president in charge of research at the Eastman Kodak Co., will deliver the 1951 Haynes Foundation lecture series at the Institute next month. The three lectures, on "Science, Technology and Civilization," will be given at the Athenaeum on the evenings of April 2, 4 and 6.

Dr. Mees, a native of England, received his Sc.D. degree from the University of London. He came to this country as research director for Eastman Kodak in 1912, and has been a vice-president of the company since 1934. His contributions to the theory of the photographic process have brought him honors and awards from many European and American scientific organizations.

Dr. Mees' lectures will be sponsored by the Haynes Foundation, created in 1926 by Dr. John Randolph Haynes and his wife, Dora, to extend and continue their work for the betterment of California and the Los Angeles region "in everything tending to promote civic and economic progress; in assisting to improve the physical and educational standards of our people; and in helping in matters designed to better the conditions under which working people live and labor."



Dr. C. E. Kenneth Mees, Haynes Foundation Lecturer