Research, a physical chemist who has made notable contributions to knowledge of the mechanism of catalyst polymerization and of the theory of solutions.

Dr. C. H. Lea, of the Low Temperature Research Station, Cambridge, author of many publications containing valuable contributions to the chemistry of fats. Among these, his "Rancidity in Edible Fats", first published in 1938 and now being revised, is a standard work. Just before and during the Second World War, he did work of much practical value on the prevention of deterioration in full-cream milk powders.

## Royal Geographical Society: Awards for 1950

H.M. THE KING has approved the award of the Royal Medals of the Royal Geographical Society as follows: *Founder's Medal* to Mr. George F. Walpole, director, Department of Lands and Survey, Kingdom of the Jordan, for his contributions to the mapping of the Western Desert of Egypt; *Patron's Medal* to Prof. Harald Sverdrup, director of the Norwegian Polar Institute, for his contributions to polar exploration, and for his oceanographical investigations.

The Council of the Society has made the following awards: *Victoria Medal* to Prof. Emmanuel de Martonne, honorary director of the Geographical Institute, University of Paris, and honorary president of the International Geographical Union, for his studies in physical and regional geography; *Murchison Grant* to Surgeon-Commander E. W. Bingham, for his services to Antarctic exploration as leader of the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey Expedition, 1945–47; *Back Grant* to Mr. R. G. Goodchild, deputy director of the British School at Rome, for his archæological reconnaissances and surveys of the Roman frontier zone of Tripolitania, 1946–49; *Cuthbert Peek Grant* to Mr. R. F. Peel, lecturer in geography at the University of Cambridge, for work on the ethnology and morphology of parts of the Libyan Desert, and on the morphology of northern English rivers; *Gill Memorial* to Dr. E. C. Willatts, senior research officer, Ministry of Town and Country Planning, for his work for the Land Utilization Survey of Great Britain and for geographical studies in Palestine with the Anglo-American Commission, 1946.

## Institute of Metals: W. H. A. Robertson Medal

THE first award of the W. H. A. Robertson Medal of the Institute of Metals has been made to Mr. W. J. Thomas and Mr. W. A. Fowler, assistant managing director and production manager (manufactured materials), respectively, of the British Aluminium Co., Ltd., for their paper on "Some Technical Problems Influencing Production Economy in the Rolling of Aluminium" (*J. Inst. Metals*, **75**, 921; 1949). The Medal is open to persons of any nationality and is awarded annually to the author or authors of the paper adjudged to be of the highest merit contributed to the *Journal of the Institute of Metals* on engineering aspects of non-ferrous metallurgy.

The Institute has received from Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., a sum of money sufficient to found a medal to be awarded as a memorial to the late Dr. Walter Rosenhain, a past-president of the Institute. The medal, which is now being designed, will be awarded annually for outstanding contributions to knowledge in the field of physical metallurgy and will be open to individuals less than forty-five years of age, irrespective of sex and nationality.

## Technical Committee for Pest Control Products

GREAT advances have been made in the development of chemicals for pest, disease, weed and rodent control, and during the past ten years, in particular, many new compounds have been marketed on a world-wide scale for use in the medical, veterinary, agricultural and industrial fields. The chemical names of these compounds have, in many instances, been too complicated for common use, and shortened forms and trade names have been devised. As there may be several of these applied to one chemical compound, confusion has arisen in commercial descriptions of products and also in the scientific literature. The problem was discussed at the Commonwealth Entomological Conference in 1948, and a resolution passed urging the appointment of a committee to agree on common names for established compounds. The executive council of the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux referred the recommendation to the British Standards Institution, which has now appointed a Technical Committee for Nomenclature of Pest Control Products, with terms of reference "To prepare standards for the nomenclature for insecticidal and fungicidal chemicals and other pest control products". The Committee wishes the interested public to suggest common names and to submit information regarding new products for which a common name is required. With the ultimate hope of arriving at international agreement on nomenclature, it is working in close collaboration with the standards organisations in Commonwealth and other countries, and with the Inter-Departmental Committee on Pest Control in the United States. The Committee includes representatives of Commonwealth countries, government departments, scientific societies and manufacturers' organisations, and is under the chairmanship of Mr. H. J. Jones, who is also chairman of the Pest Control Products Industry Standards Committee of the Institution, with Dr. Catherine Tinker as secretary.

## British Standard for Steel-Pipe Flange Fittings in the Petroleum Industry

BRITISH Standard 1560 (1949) is one of a series concerned with specialized equipment for the petroleum industry. It is, in effect, a companion document to British Standard 1575 (cast-iron pipe flanges and flanged fittings, Class 125) and British Standard 1576 (cast-iron pipe flanges and flanged fittings, Class 250), which are also concerned with oil production and refining. Close co-operation between the British Standards Institution, Council of British Manufacturers of Petroleum Equipment, Institute of Petroleum, Ministry of Fuel and Power, Oil Companies Materials Committee and the British Iron and Steel Federation, on one hand, with the American Petroleum Institute, American Society for Testing Materials and the American Standards Association, on the other, has resulted in this urgently required specification. It has therefore been prepared in a manner to ensure interchangeability in practice between equipment produced by American and British manufacturers. This specification concerns essentially design and construction of flanges and flanged fittings; details of dimensions; materials; and pressure-temperature ratings, marking and threading of pipe. This, and the other specifications mentioned, presage in the near future the important British Standard schedule of steels for the petroleum industry which is long overdue and which we are