

# THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST

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## THE REMSEN MEMORIAL LECTURE

The fifth Remsen Memorial Lecture will be delivered on Friday, May 26, by Dr. Edward C. Kendall of the Mayo Foundation. The importance and worth of Dr. Kendall's present investigations on cortisone match in value his earlier work on thyroxin. Maryland chemists have an unusual opportunity in hearing Dr. Kendall, and his address should have great interest for chemists, for physicians and all whose work touches the medical field, and for the general public. The speaker will be introduced by Dr. William Mansfield Clark, a past chairman of the Maryland Section, who himself ranks as one of America's outstanding chemists.

The subject of Dr. Kendall's lecture will be "Studies Related to the Adrenal Cortex". Several hormones of the adrenal cortex were isolated in crystalline form fifteen years ago but only limited amounts could be secured from the adrenal glands of beef and hogs. The application of these hormones to human beings was not possible until methods of preparation by partial synthesis from abundant starting materials could be devised. This aim was not achieved until 1948, when the preparation from desoxycholic acid of 11-dehydrocorticosterone and 11-dehydro-17-hydroxycorticosterone (first known as compound E and now designated cortisone) was completed. Recently modifications have been made in the method for preparation of cortisone.

Application of cortisone to patients who had rheumatoid arthritis was begun in 1948. The clinical results in a study of patients who had rheumatoid arthritis and rheumatic fever have been encouraging and extension of the use of cortisone to others of the collagen diseases, some of which have not been influenced by any other agent, has shown that cortisone exerts a favorable effect throughout a wide range of pathological conditions.

A large number of steroids closely related to cortisone have been given to patients who have previously responded (to page 3

## Section Officers

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Editor: Belle Ottó, Goucher College, Baltimore 18, Maryland.

## THE NATIONAL MEETING

The Meeting of the Council The meeting of the Council of the ACS, held in Philadelphia on April 10, was attended by Duncan MacRae, Giles Cooke and Belle Otto for the Maryland Section. Your councillors were impressed with the thought given to many problems in advance of the meeting by the Council Policy Committee and by individual councillors; thought which resulted in active and direct discussion of all controversial matters from the floor. They were impressed likewise by the thorough prior consideration which the Council Committee on Constitution and Bylaws and the cooperating Standing Committees had given to all proposals for amendment of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society. Full reports of the Council meeting will be found in Chemical and Engineering News during May.

Honor to Dr. Reid Dr. E. Emmet Reid, a distinguished and beloved member of the Maryland Section, was one of two to receive a diploma certifying fifty continuous years of membership in the ACS. The presentation was made by ACS President Volwiler at the general meeting in Philadelphia.

Detroit Meeting The Symposium on Coagulation Fundamentals held by the Division of Water, Sewage and Sanitation Chemistry was planned and conducted by Edward S. Hopkins of the Maryland Section.

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## SMALL GROUP MEETINGS ON TECHNICAL SUBJECTS

Dr. George P. Hager, of the School of Pharmacy at the University of Maryland, is serving as chairman of a Section Committee to determine whether the Maryland Section should sponsor special meetings for small groups with common subject matter interests within the field of chemistry. Such sessions might take the form of small meetings following the general section meeting, usually with speakers from our own section. Division might be made into such branches of chemistry as analytical, organic and biological, industrial and engineering, physical and inorganic, or other special groups. This practice is followed by some of the larger sections. Other sections, like Philadelphia's, sponsor series of lecturers (ten or more) dealing thoroughly with one topic, for which the lecturer receives a fee paid by those attending. Similar (or different) meetings may be of interest and value to members of the Maryland Section. Dr. Hager would like to have your opinions and suggestions, which may be sent to him at the School of Pharmacy, University of Maryland, Baltimore 1, Maryland.

from page 1) The Remsen Memorial Lecture to cortisone. The results of this investigation have indicated that the physiologic effect of cortisone is highly specific. All other compounds except 17-hydroxycorticosterone have failed to produce the effects afforded by cortisone.

The lecture will be preceded by a dinner in honor of Dr. Kendall. The dinner will be held at the Johns Hopkins Club at Homewood at 6:30, and will be open to section members and their guests. Those attending the dinner will assemble downstairs in the Game Room of the East Wing of the clubhouse. Formal dress is optional. Since space in the dining room is limited, only the first fifty reservations will be accepted. Reservations should be made by Wednesday, May 24, with Dr. Charles E. Brambel, Mercy Hospital, Baltimore 2, and should be accompanied by a remittance of \$2.25 for each dinner.

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## WILLIAM MANSFIELD CLARK

Dr. William Mansfield Clark, who will introduce the speaker at the Remsen Memorial Lecture, is a scientist of distinction whom Maryland chemists delight to honor. Dr. Clark has, since 1927, been DeLamar Professor of Physiological Chemistry in The Johns Hopkins Medical School. His scientific reputation is based upon his long interest in the fundamental processes underlying biological oxidation. This has led him to important investigations of oxidation-reduction equilibria and acid-base equilibria. His studies of buffer solutions and indicators for determination of hydrogen ion concentration have resulted in his frequent identification as "pH Clark". For some years now he has been studying the integration of the energy of oxidation-reduction, the energy of acid-base reactions, and the energy of metallo-coordination compounds as an approach to understanding the equilibria of metallo-porphyrins and the processes involved in the functioning of blood pigments.

Dr. Clark has won many honors in his career. The Johns Hopkins University awarded him a Ph. D. in 1910. Williams College, where he did his undergraduate work, awarded him an honorary D. Sc. degree, and he received another from the University of Pennsylvania. He has received the Nichols Medal (1936), the Borden Award (1944) and the President's Certificate of Merit for his war services (1949). During the war he played a prominent part in the development of antimalarial drugs. He was president of the American Society of Biological Chemists (1933-1937) and of the American Society of Bacteriologists (1933). He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and was Chairman of the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Technology of the National Research Council from 1941 to 1946. He has been a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Biological Chemistry since 1933. Along the way Dr. Clark has found time to write three books - "The Determination of Hydrogen Ions", "Studies on Oxidation-Reduction" and "Topics in Physical Chemistry".

The Maryland Section is honored by Dr. Clark's consent to introduce the fifth Remsen Memorial Lecturer.

## THE REMSEN MEMORIAL LECTURE

LECTURER Dr. Edward C. Kendall  
SUBJECT Studies Related to the Adrenal Cortex  
PLACE Room 1, Remsen Hall, Johns Hopkins, Charles & 34th Sts.  
DATE Friday, May 26 TIME 8:45 P.M.  
The meeting is open to anyone who is interested in attending.  
DINNER Open to members of the Section and their guests.  
6:30 at the Johns Hopkins Club. See page 3 for details.

## EDWARD C. KENDALL

Dr. Kendall is a native of Connecticut and received all his university training in chemistry at Columbia University, from which he received the degrees of B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. In 1922 the University of Cincinnati awarded him the honorary Doctor of Science degree. From 1910 to 1911 Dr. Kendall was research chemist for Parke, Davis and Company at Detroit, making investigations concerning the thyroid, and this work he continued at St. Luke's Hospital in New York from 1911 to 1914. In February of the latter year he entered the Mayo Clinic as head of the Section on Chemistry. At present he is Professor of Physiological Chemistry, Graduate School, The Mayo Foundation.

Dr. Kendall's contributions to science have been numerous and outstanding. His is the distinction of being the first to isolate the active constituent of thyroid, to crystallize glutathione and establish its chemical structure, and to produce a series of crystalline substances from the suprarenal gland and establish their chemical nature. His continuing investigations of the hormones of the adrenal cortex have led to preparation of dehydrocorticosterone and, in cooperation with Merck and Company, to preparation of cortisone. The effects of cortisone and ACTH on rheumatoid arthritis and on rheumatic fever were first investigated by Drs. Hench, Kendall, Slocumb and Polley.

Dr. Kendall has received many honors in the course of his scientific career. The John Scott Prize and Premium were awarded to him in 1921 by the city of Philadelphia for his researches on thyroxin. In 1925 Columbia University awarded him the Chandler Medal for his contributions to science. He received the Squibb Award in 1945 jointly with Dr. Philip S. Hench. In 1949 he was a recipient of a Lasker Award, and in 1950 he received the John Phillips Medal from the American College of Physicians. Dr. Kendall delivered the Edgar Fahs Smith Lecture before the Philadelphia Section in March of this year. In June, at the meeting of the American Medical Association, he and Dr. Hench will receive the \$5000 Passano Foundation Award, established by the Williams and Wilkins Company, Publishers, of Baltimore. This award was set up to aid in the advancement of medical research, especially that which bears promise of clinical application. The American Society of Biological Chemists made him their president in 1925, he served as president of the Association for the Study of Internal Secretions in 1931, and has been an active member of numerous scientific and honorary societies.