

abound in much of the recent literature in history of science. The book is amply illustrated with both photographs and line drawings, though some of the former are of rather poor quality.

Though chemistry is not discussed, the volume is recommended to those interested in the history of Oriental science and in the larger question of how science both reflects and impacts on the culture of which it is a part. Chemists may wish to read it in conjunction with the detailed account by Shilhara and McBee of the introduction of chemistry into Japan which appeared in *Chemical & Engineering News* in 1988 (Oct. 31, pp. 26-40).

Svante Arrhenius. Yu. I. Solovyov, Nauka Publishing, Moscow, 1990 (in Russian). 320 pp. Cloth (Typeset). NPG.

Directed at a general audience interested in the history of science, rather than just at physical chemists, this short biography of Arrhenius deals not only with his work on the ionic theory of dissociation and the temperature dependency of reaction rates, but with his later sorties into the fields of immunology and cosmology. The book is properly footnoted and contains a complete bibliography of Arrhenius' publications. It isn't apparent to what extent this volume derives from the earlier biography of Arrhenius by Solovyov and Figurovski published in 1959.

From Chuit & Naef to Firmenich. S.A. Roger Firmenich, Firmenich Incorporated, Geneva, 1990. 139 pp. Paper (Typeset). NPG.

This lavishly illustrated volume traces the history of this well-known Swiss-based perfume and flavor company from its founding by Philippe Chuit and Martin Naef in 1895 to its present status as an international operation employing more than 2000 persons in 18 different countries. The volume traces not only the administrative aspects of the company's history but its involvement in research and development, including its interactions with such famous chemists as Léopold Ruzicka and Max Stoll.

LETTERS

Lavoisier's Instruments

The apparatus and instruments used by Lavoisier are discussed by a number of authors in the Winter 1989 (No. 5) issue of the *Bulletin*. However, contrary to what is commonly believed, much of his extant equipment was known to exist well before the 20th century. The first modern notice of Lavoisier's apparatus is probably the publication of Truchot in 1879 ("Les Instruments de Lavoisier", *Ann. Chim. Phys.*, 1879, 18, 289-

319). This paper provides an account, in somewhat embellished style, of a visit to the château of M. Étienne de Chazelles, a descendent of Madame Lavoisier, near Aigueperse, Puy-de-Dôme and, in addition, mentions other items then in the Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers. Truchot describes the balances and other pieces of equipment preserved by the family of Madame Lavoisier. The famous painting of Lavoisier and his wife by David is also mentioned as being viewed during the visit to the château.

Ronald K. Smeltzer, Princeton, New Jersey

AWARDS

The Dexter Award

The 1991 Dexter Award for outstanding accomplishment in the history of chemistry has been awarded to Dr. Owen Hannaway of Johns Hopkins University. The award, which consists of a cash prize of \$2000 and an engraved plaque, was presented to Dr. Hannaway at the Fall National ACS Meeting in New York City.

Born in Scotland, Dr. Hannaway received his B.Sc. in chemistry from the University of Glasgow in 1961. This was followed by a Ph.D. in 1965 for a thesis on "Early University Courses in Chemistry" with particular emphasis on the 17th century. After one year as a postdoctoral fellow under Aaron Ihde at the University of Wisconsin, Dr. Hannaway went to Johns Hopkins in 1967 as an Assistant Professor in the History



Owen Hannaway

of Science Department. He became Professor of History of Science in 1977 and has since served several terms as chairman of the department.

Author of numerous articles and reviews, Dr. Hannaway is perhaps best known for his 1975 monograph, *The Chemists and the Word: The Didactic Origins of Chemistry*, which contrasts the 16th century texts of Oswald Croll and Andreas Libavius and their importance in the rise of modern chemical education.

The Division would at this time also like to solicit nominations for the 1992 Dexter award. Nominations should include a complete vita for the nominee, consisting of biographical data, educational background, awards and honors, publications, presentations and other services to the profession; a nominating letter summarizing the nominee's achievements in the field of the history of chemistry and citing unique contributions which merit a major award; and at least two seconding letters. Copies of no more than three publications may also be included, if available. All nominations should be sent in triplicate to Dr. James Traynham, Chairman of the Dexter Award Committee, Department of Chemistry, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803 by 1 January 1992. It should be emphasized that the award is international in scope and that nominations are welcomed from all quarters. Previous winners have included historians and chemists from Germany, France, Holland, Hungary, and Great Britain.

The Outstanding Paper Award

The 1990 Outstanding Paper Award has been given to Dr. Reynold E. Holmen of White Bear Lake, Minnesota for his paper, "Kasimir Fajans (1887-1975): The Man and his Work", which appeared in two parts in the Fall 1989 (No. 4, pp. 15-23) and Spring 1990 (No. 6, pp. 7-15) issues of the *Bulletin*, and the 1991 Outstanding Paper Award has been given to the late Denis Quane of East Texas University for his paper, "The Reception of Hydrogen Bonding by the Chemical Community: 1920-1937", which appeared in the Fall 1990 issue (No. 7, pp. 3-13).

The award, which consists of \$100, a plaque, and \$150 worth of books from Kluwer Academic Publishers, was presented to Dr. Holmen at the Fall National ACS Meeting in New York City. Dr. Quane's award was accepted on his behalf by his sister, Anna Desharnais. All papers published in the *Bulletin* are automatically considered for the award for up to three years after the date of their publication.

The Edelstein Fellowship

The 1991-1992 Edelstein Fellowship in the History of Chemical Sciences and Technology has been awarded to Dr. Peter J. T. Morris of Britain's Open University. Dr. Morris will divide his fellowship year between the Beckman Center for the

History of Chemistry in Philadelphia and the Edelstein Center for History and Philosophy of Science, Technology and Medicine in Jerusalem.

The Partington Prize

The 1990 Partington Prize has been awarded to Marco Beretta of Uppsala University for his essay "The History of Chemistry in the Eighteenth Century". The prize of £100 is awarded every three years by The Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry for the best original unpublished essay on history of chemistry by a scholar under the age of 30.

EVENTS OF INTEREST

* The Oesper Museum of Chemical Apparatus has received donations of several artifacts related to recent articles in the *Bulletin*. William D. Williams of Harding University has sent in a sodium basket similar to the one discussed in the article "Reinventing the Hofmann Sodium Spoon", which appeared in the Fall 1990 issue (pp. 38-39). The Chemistry Department of the College of Saint Thomas in Saint Paul, Minnesota, has donated an example of one of the first Becker chainomatic balances as discussed by John Stock in the Winter 1990 issue (pp. 12-15). The balance carries an acquisition date of 1920 and the original 1916 patent number. Alex and Hortense Berman of Cincinnati have donated an original lithograph of the Honoré Daumier caricature of the French chemist, Jean-Baptiste Dumas, which was used on the cover of the same issue. The caricature originally appeared in the 4 March 1850 issue of the journal *Le Charivari* and was intended to satirize Dumas' performance as Minister of Agriculture. Dr. Berman has also provided a translation of the original caption:

New prodigy of chemistry: Dumas has managed to produce a ministerial portfolio from his retort. Since coming to the ministry, the chemist Dumas has always been careful to avoid the podium, on the pretext that he is always occupied in analyzing the speeches of other orators.

* Several activities of the Division have received publicity in recent issues of *Chemical & Engineering News*. The paper, "A Reevaluation of Dalton's Data on Combining Proportions: Were his Results Fraudulent?", given by Melvyn C. Usselman and K. D. Watson of the University of Western Ontario at the Spring 1991 National ACS Meeting in Atlanta, was highlighted in the 6 May issue (pp. 43-44), and the Faraday Symposium held at the same meeting, and organized by Derek Davenport of Purdue University, was the cover article for the 23 September issue. The papers given at this symposium will appear as a special Winter issue of the *Bulletin* which will be published in early March.