THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

PRESENTATION OF THE AGASSIZ MEDAL TO FRANK RATTRAY LILLIE

In these times of exaggerated nationalism it is fortunate that we can still emphasize the internationalism of science. The Murray Fund of the National Academy of Sciences is peculiarly international in its foundation and purpose. It was established in 1911 by Sir John Murray, Canadian by birth, Scot by adoption, internationalist in science, to honor the memory of Alexander Agassiz, Swiss-born American, cosmopolitan as the ocean in his research work. Of the seventeen awards of the Agassiz Medal which have been made hitherto, fourteen were given to foreign oceanographers, three to American. Of the foreign awards, five went to Norwegians, two to Swedes, two to Danes, two to Britons and one each to oceanographers of Holland, Germany and Monaco.

The eighteenth award of this medal is to one who is a Canadian by birth, American by adoption and an internationalist in his sympathies and services, Frank Rattray Lillie, thirteenth president of the National Academy of Sciences. For twenty-six years he was director of the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, Mass., and he was president of that institution from 1926 to 1939. During nearly half a century his research activities have been largely associated with marine biology and particularly with normal and experimental embryology and cytology, problems of fertilization and parthenogenesis, and during all these years he has stimulated or directed the research work of many hundreds of investigators. The Marine Biological Laboratory, one of the greatest institutions of its kind in the world, in large part owes its physical plant, its financial endowments and, best of all, its stimulating and cooperative atmosphere to his wise guidance and friendly supervision.

1 Meeting at Washington, D. C., April 22 and 23.

2 The presentation of medals was made at the annual dinner, April 23.
Editor's Summary

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