

Dr. Bramlette receives NAS Award

April 24, 1964

The National Academy of Sciences will award its Mary Clark Thompson medal for services in geology and paleontology to Dr. Milton Nunn Bramlette of the University of California's Scripps Institution of Oceanography, it was announced today.

Dr. Bramlette, the 25th Thompson medalist since the establishment of the award in 1921, will be honored in absentia on Monday evening, April 27, during the 101st Annual Meeting of the National Academy of Sciences. A fellow member of the Academy, Dr. James Gilluly, of the U. S. Geological Survey, will accept the medal on his behalf.

The award to Dr. Bramlette cites his contributions to the development of sedimentary petrology, the geological discipline that deals with the rocks comprising the lithosphere or "crust" of the earth.

He has won recognition for investigations of the origin of the silica containing rocks of the Monterey formation of California for examinations of bottom samples from various parts of the Atlantic Ocean, which resulted in the first trans-oceanic correlation of glacial deposits; and for work on the origin of Arkansas bauxite deposits which stimulated exploration for new sources of aluminum ore.

Work by Dr. Bramlette on the constituents of marine sedimentary rocks, including the abundant and widespread calcareous nannoplankton, has demonstrated the value of these minute fossils for determining the ages of ancient strata.

Dr. Bramlette attended the University of Wisconsin and Yale University, receiving the Ph.D. degree from the latter institution in 1936. He came to the University of California, Los Angeles, in 1940, following almost 18 years with the U. S. Geological Survey and four years with the Gulf Oil Corporation.

In 1950, Dr. Bramlette joined the faculty of the University's Scripps Institution of Oceanography. He is now Professor of Geology Emeritus at the University of California, San Diego.

Dr. Bramlette last year received the Distinguished Service Medal of the U. S. Department of Interior, the highest honor bestowed by that agency.