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DALLAS

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DALLAS--Dr. Morton F. Mason, Professor of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology in Pathology at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School has been named the first recipient of the new Wilfred T. Doherty Award by the Dallas-Fort Worth Section of the American Chemical Society.

The award, established by the chemical society to honor one of the four original trustees of the Robert A. Welch Foundation of Houston, will be bestowed at an awards banquet at 6 p.m. Wednesday in the Meadows Building Cafeteria in Dallas.

Dr. Mason's award address will be "Clinical Analytical Toxicology in the Support of Delivery of Health Care."

The new award was established to recognize the contribution of scientists who have made meritorious advances in chemistry or chemical engineering in the area of the Dallas-Fort Worth Section. It will be bestowed by Dr. Herman Custard, chairman of the section.

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W.O. Milligan, director of research for the Welch Foundation, will represent friends of the late Mr. Doherty.

Dr. Mason is director of the Dallas County Criminal Investigation Laboratory and also of Parkland Memorial Hospital's Chemistry Laboratory. He has been engaged in toxicology work in this capacity since 1944.

He is senior consultant in biochemistry and physiology for the Veterans Administration Hospital in Dallas.

Dr. Mason, who was recipient of the "Analyst of the Year" award of the Dallas Society of Analytical Chemists in 1969, is the author of scores of scientific papers dealing with kidney and liver physiology, hypertension, analytical toxicology and electrolyte distribution.

A native of Pasadena, Calif., Dr. Mason received his doctorate in biochemistry from Duke University in 1934. He served on the faculties of Duke University and Vanderbilt University schools of medicine before coming to Dallas in 1944. He has been director of the criminal investigation laboratory here since 1955.

The chemical society award recalls that Doherty's deep interest in science and particularly chemistry was a cohesive force for many years. "He devoted much of his time to the cultivation and enhancement of higher education and chemistry in the State of Texas," the citation reads.

APRIL 18, 1972

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