

John D. Rockefeller and others, has recently entered upon a new stage of its development. A board of scientific directors has been organized, comprising Dr. Alexander Graham Bell, chairman; Dr. William H. Welch, professor of pathology, Johns Hopkins University, vice-chairman; Professor Irving Fisher, Yale University; Professor Lewellys F. Barker, of the Johns Hopkins University; Professor E. E. Southard, of Harvard University and director of the Psychopathic Hospital, Boston, and Dr. C. B. Davenport, secretary of the board and resident director. The board met at Cold Spring Harbor on March 21, and organized its work. The aim of the Eugenics Record Office was defined to be as follows. First, to promote researches in eugenics that shall be of utility to the human race. This part of the program includes: the study of America's most effective blood lines; and the methods of securing the preponderance and relative increase of the best strains; the study of the origin of and the best methods of restricting the strains that produce the defective and delinquent classes of the community; the study of the method of inheritance of particular traits; the study of the consequences of the marriages of close kin; the study of miscegenation in the United States; the study, both in this country and abroad, of the family histories of permanent immigrants. Second, to publish the results of these researches. Third, to provide a fireproof building for the preservation of eugenical records, including genealogical works and town-histories. Fourth, to provide an administrative office and staff to carry out the work. The fireproof building that is to form the new home of the office is being rapidly pushed to completion.

The board of scientific directors of the Eugenics Record Office will meet each spring at Cold Spring Harbor to consider the projects most worthy of support during the ensuing year, which begins October first, and it will meet again in November to receive a report of the work of the office in the preceding fiscal year. The resident director has general charge of the plant and its operations and is authorized to ask for and receive, in the name

of the board, funds to carry on the work of the office. The board voted in favor of the organization of a Eugenics Research Association, of which a meeting will be called early in June.

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

THE National Academy of Sciences will celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of its foundation at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington April 22-24 inclusive. Following is the preliminary program:

Tuesday, April 22

- 9:30 A.M. Business meeting of the Academy in National Museum.
 11:00 A.M. Opening Session, National Museum.
 Welcome by the President of the Academy.
 Addresses:
 "The Relation of Science to Higher Education in America," President Arthur T. Hadley of Yale.
 "International Cooperation in Research," Dr. Arthur Schuster, Secretary of the Royal Society of London.
 3:00 P.M. Address:
 "The Earth and Sun as Magnets," Dr. George E. Hale, Director of the Mount Wilson Solar Observatory.

- 9:00 P.M. Reception by the Secretary and Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to the Members of the Academy and their Guests at the National Museum.

Wednesday, April 23

- 10:30 A.M. Morning Session.
 Addresses:
 "On the Material Basis of Heredity," Dr. Theodor Boveri, University of Würzburg.
 "The Structure of the Universe," Dr. J. C. Kapteyn, Director of the Astronomical Laboratory, University of Groningen.
 3:30 P.M. Reception at the White House and Presentation of Medals by the President of the United States.
 9:00 P.M. Reception by the Trustees of the Carnegie Institution of Washington to the Members of the Academy and Guests.

Thursday, April 24

- 9:00 A.M. Meeting of the Council at the National Museum.

- 9:30 A.M. Business meeting of the Academy at the National Museum.
- 10:00 A.M. During the business meeting of the Academy, opportunity will be given to guests to visit the scientific bureaus and laboratories of Washington. Automobiles will be provided.
- 2:00 P.M. Excursion to the Home of Washington at Mount Vernon by the U. S. Despatch Boat *Dolphin* (by courtesy of the Secretary of the Navy).
- 8:00 P.M. Dinner at the New Willard Hotel.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Bruce medal of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific has been awarded to Professor J. C. Kapteyn, of Groningen, for his work on the proper motions of the stars.

It is reported that Professor Czerny, of Heidelberg, will give up next year the direction of the institute for cancer research, which was founded by him.

DEAN RUSSELL H. CHITTENDEN, of the Sheffield Scientific School at Yale, is recovering from the effects of a recent operation, but he will be unable to resume his duties for the remainder of the academic year.

By action of the board of regents of the University of Michigan, the name of the Museum of Natural History has been changed to the Museum of Zoology, and Professor Alexander G. Ruthven has been promoted from the position of head curator to that of director.

DR. ELIZABETH REBECCA LAIRD, Ph.D. (Bryn Mawr, '01), professor of physics at Mount Holyoke College, has been awarded the Sarah Berliner Research Fellowship.

THE Yale corporation has voted to appoint Professors Pirsson, Barrell, Lull, Irving and Schuchert as the university's representatives to the twelfth International Geological Congress, to be held in Canada this coming August.

PROFESSORS A. G. CHRISTIE, R. C. Disque and H. J. Torkelson, of the college of engineering of the University of Wisconsin, will accompany the American Society of Mechanical Engineers on their trip to Europe this summer.

PROFESSOR M. M. METCALF, head of the department of zoology, at Oberlin, has been granted leave of absence for the second semester for travel and scientific research in California. His classes are being continued by Assistant Professors Jones and Buddington.

DR. R. M. ANDERSON has been appointed assistant in the department of mammalogy of the American Museum of Natural History. Dr. Anderson will accompany the Stefánsson expedition to the Arctic as zoologist and second in command.

THE little power schooner *Polar Bear* sailed for Bering Sea, on April 3, with a party who will make a study of animal and bird life in northern waters. In the party are Mr. Dunbar Lockwood, of Boston; Mr. Samuel Mixter, of Boston, representing the Smithsonian Institution; Mr. W. Sprague Brooks, of Milton, Mass., representing the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard, and Dr. Joseph Dixon, of Berkeley, Cal., representing the Museum of Comparative Zoology at the University of California. The cruise will last six months.

ALFRED VIVIAN, professor of agricultural chemistry, Ohio State University, is making a tour of the world, and is now in India. Professor Vivian will deliver a course of lectures on soil fertility at the agricultural school at Allahabad.

SIR WILLIAM OSLER, regius professor of medicine at Oxford University and delegate of the Oxford University Press, will give an illustrated lecture on "The Oxford University Press," at Harvard University, April 29.

THE Weir Mitchell lecture before the College of Physicians of Philadelphia was delivered on Friday evening, April 4, by Dr. H. P. Armsby, director of the Institute of Animal Nutrition of the Pennsylvania State College, on the subject, "Animal Calorimeters and the Study of Nutrition."

ON April 2, Professor W. B. Cannon, of the Harvard Medical School, addressed the Rush Medical Society and the undergraduates of the medical school of the University of Pennsyl-