

by automobile to Biggs to inspect the Rice Experiment Farm at that place. That day will end the conference, after which the individual delegates will spend such other time and go to such other points within the state as they desire.

The following are proposed as general subjects for discussion, under each of which such subtopics may be discussed by different members as their inclination may dictate:

1. Problems of Pacific coast wheat production.
2. Improvement of barley for the Pacific coast.
3. Problems in cereal smuts.
4. Grading, milling, malting and baking.
5. Weed control in cereal production.
6. Tillage and crop rotation.
7. Insect enemies of cereals.

A program in detail will be issued later. It is expected that the discussions will cover a broad field. Millers, malsters and other dealers in grain, as well as agronomists, pathologists, chemists and entomologists are expected to attend. Among the foreign investigators expected to be present is Dr. F. Kølpin Ravn, professor of plant pathology at the Royal Landbohøjskolen, Copenhagen, Denmark. It is requested that each one expecting to attend make the fact known at once to some member of the committee. Titles of papers should be sent to M. A. Carleton, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and any other communications of inquiry concerning arrangements for meetings and other local information to Dr. J. W. Gilmore, University of California, Berkeley, Cal.

J. W. GILMORE,
M. A. CARLETON,
F. S. HARRIS,
RALPH E. SMITH,
F. D. HEALD,
L. A. LECLERC,
F. M. WEBSTER,
Committee

THE HARPSWELL LABORATORY

THE Harpswell Laboratory, which has been maintained for several years at South Harpswell, Maine, as an institution of research, has

been incorporated under the laws of Maine and has been placed in charge of a board of ten trustees. According to its charter, it is to be devoted to scientific study and investigation, while its constitution provides that institutions contributing funds to a specified amount will be entitled to appoint a trustee to represent its interests in the laboratory, the remaining trustees being elected annually by the corporation. The membership of the corporation includes those who have conducted investigations there and who have paid annual dues of one dollar for the current year.

Since its establishment, the laboratory has afforded facilities to 79 different individuals who have carried on investigations there. These have represented 43 institutions of learning. There have been published as based wholly or in part on investigations in this laboratory about sixty papers, making a total of about two thousand pages, illustrated by many figures and plates.

During the last season fourteen persons carried on research at the laboratory, these coming from Tufts College, Wellesley College, Wistar Institute, Johns Hopkins University, Northwestern University, Washington University and the University of Illinois. Their investigations covered: The exact homologies of the somites in the lower vertebrates, origin of taste-buds in Elasmobranchs, the nerves of the electric organs in skates, the morphology of the lungs and airsacs in birds, structure and functions of the ampullæ of *Lorenzini*, the development of the Piperaceæ, structure and development of the epiphysial organs of the dogfish, early development of *Clava*, development of liver and pancreas of *Acanthias*, the morphology of the hypophysis of Elasmobranchs and the skull of the dogfish.

The most important addition to the equipment for the year was a motor boat, 26 feet long with a two-cylinder, ten horse-power engine which puts all parts of Casco Bay within easy reach. The boat which had served for ten years was too small and had developed some of the infirmities of age. The library has been increased by several gifts and now contains over a thousand volumes and

pamphlets devoted to biology. It has several complete series of journals and some others of which only a few volumes are lacking.

The most imperative need of the laboratory is a new building capable of accommodating twenty investigators at one time, with a practically fireproof part for the library and valuable apparatus. Another necessity is a larger income. At present the laboratory is supported by subventions from several institutions. For several years the work has been carried on at an expenditure of less than \$500 in any one year. Out of this small sum a collector has been employed, the absolutely essential supplies have been bought and some additions have been made each year to the permanent equipment.

During the coming season the laboratory will be open from about June 20 to September 10. It offers especial facilities for the embryology of the fishes and for experimental work on that most favorable material, the eggs of *Cerebratulus* and of *Echinarachnius*. The more northern fauna marks the laboratory off from similar institutions farther south, while the location assures one of a cool summer. No instruction is given, but the facilities are offered free to those competent to carry on investigations. All communications as to places in the laboratory as well as to accommodations in the town should be addressed to either Professor H. V. Neal, Tufts College, Mass., or to J. S. Kingsley, Urbana, Illinois.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. J. GEORGE ADAMI, professor of pathology in McGill University, Montreal, has left for England to take up work as a member of the British War Office, having charge of the preparation of a medical history of the war.

DR. S. ALFRED MITCHELL, formerly assistant professor of astronomy at Columbia University, and now director of the Leander McCormick Observatory at the University of Virginia, has been appointed Ernest Kempton Adams Research Fellow by the trustees of Columbia University.

OWING to the illness of Dr. Theobald Smith, the dinner which was to be given in his honor

at the Harvard Club, Boston, on April 17, has been postponed until June.

THE Medical Club of Philadelphia announces a reception to be given at the Bellevue-Stratford, on April 23, in honor of Edgar Fahs Smith, LL.D., provost of the University of Pennsylvania; Alba B. Johnson, Esq., for the president of Jefferson Medical College; David Milne, Esq., president of the Medico-Chirurgical College of Philadelphia, and Russel H. Conwell, D. D., president of Temple University.

DR. EDMUND B. WILSON, Da Costa professor of zoology at Columbia University, has been appointed by the trustees to be speaker at the opening exercises of the university, on September 22.

THE van't Hoff fund committee of the Academy of Sciences of Amsterdam has awarded \$120 to Dr. E. D. Tsakalotos, of Athens, in aid of his researches on the thermal properties, the viscosity and the magnetic susceptibility of binary mixtures, capable of yielding endothermic compounds.

THE Academy of Sciences at Vienna has allowed \$200 to Professor H. Dexler, of Prague, to aid in continuing his studies on stimulation of the brain cortex in the horse, and \$150 to Dr. E. Pernkopf, of Vienna, to aid in his study of the development of the intestines and omentum.

DR. GEORGE SARTON, editor of *Isis*, who was compelled to leave Belgium with his family on account of the war, has accepted a lectureship at George Washington University. Dr. Sarton will lecture on the history of science. At the close of the war, it is his intention to return to Belgium and resume the publication of *Isis*.

THE Longstaff medal for 1915, of the Chemical Society, London, has been presented to Dr. M. O. Forster, F.R.S.

THE Samuel D. Gross prize of the Philadelphia Academy of Medicine for the year 1915 has been awarded to Dr. John Lawrence Yates, of Milwaukee, for his essay entitled, "Surgery in the Treatment of Hodgkin's Disease." The amount of this prize is \$1,500.