

task is too large for you, others may be willing to cooperate and help achieve results.

Following are some suggestions as to how you can do your share in this great and important work of inventorying and stimulating electrical research:

1. Indicate the most important problems in the branch of electrical engineering in which you specialize. These may be problems on which you are working, or suggestions for investigations by others.

2. Give a brief account or at least titles of investigations that you are conducting, or of the research recently done under your supervision. This information will be published for the purpose of bringing together those working on some problem now, and also those who may take it up later.

3. Describe briefly the experimental facilities at your disposal and the kinds of problems for which they are particularly suitable; also other facilities that you may possess, such as a large amount of data on file, a collection of pamphlets on some topic, natural advantages of location, etc.

4. Ask questions, if you have any, or express a desire to get in touch with other investigators on some topic.

5. Give your general views on electrical research and on how to encourage it and make it more productive.

#### A CENSUS OF CHEMISTS

DR. VAN H. MANNING, director of the Bureau of Mines, and Professor Julius Stieglitz, president of the American Chemical Society, have addressed a letter to American chemists asking them to fill in a blank giving information concerning their chemical experience and qualifications. The letter reads:

By request of the Council of National Defense, the Bureau of Mines, in cooperation with the American Chemical Society, will procure a roster of chemists of the United States. Data covering the qualifications, experience and skill of each chemist are desired to determine the line of duty in which he could best serve the country in time of need.

European experience has shown that nothing is more important in time of war or other national emergency than a knowledge of the qualifications and experience of the country's expert technical men. Men whose knowledge was invaluable to the production of munitions ordnance and supplies were killed in the trenches during the first months of the European war. This was due to lack of early information regarding individuals and has

now been remedied in every European country. It is therefore important, especially at present, that this information be available in the United States.

You are accordingly requested, as a patriotic duty, not only to fill out the card which you will receive herewith, but to see that every chemist within your acquaintance receives one and does likewise. Additional cards will be furnished upon request. You will please check only those subjects in which you are expert, especially where you have had actual manufacturing experience. Please return the card promptly, using the enclosed franked envelope. The information received will be carefully classified, carded and indexed. Your prompt response to this matter will be very much appreciated.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

At the meeting of the National Academy of Sciences, which will be held in Washington on April 16, 17 and 18, the Hale lectures will be given by Professor Edwin G. Conklin, of Princeton University, on "Methods and Causes of Organic Evolution."

THE American Philosophical Society, which will hold its general meeting at Philadelphia on April 12, 13 and 14, has arranged a symposium on aeronautics. Papers will be presented by Professor A. G. Webster, of Clark University; Brigadier General George O. Squier; Dr. W. F. Durand, chairman of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, and Dr. Charles F. Marvin, chief of the U. S. Weather Bureau.

THE twenty-fifth anniversary of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society was celebrated with a dinner and smoker at the Chemists' Club, on March 9, 1917. The opening remarks of Chairman Matthews were followed by addresses by Provost Edgar F. Smith, of the University of Pennsylvania, on "Robert Hare"; Dr. Wm. H. Nichols on "The Early History of the Society," and Dr. E. G. Love on "The First Years of the New York Section." Dr. Charles A. Doremus presented to the Section a large steel engraving of Professor J. W. Draper, first president of the American Chemical Society.

THE David Livingstone gold medal of the American Geographical Society has been conferred on Mr. Theodore Roosevelt in recogni-