

rical ward of the Johns Hopkins University Hospital is adjacent to his laboratory, and about forty newborn infants a month are available for study. The hospital is prepared to cooperate in the work but will not pay the expenses connected with it. No systematic study of the development of infants has hitherto been made under laboratory conditions.

One hundred dollars to Professor R. S. Woodworth for compiling anthropometric data. Dr. Woodworth, who is professor of psychology in Columbia University, had charge of an anthropometric laboratory at the St. Louis Exposition. Many physical, psychophysical and mental measurements were made of the savage and semi-civilized peoples who were assembled at the exposition, as well as of ordinary visitors. Parts of the data have been compiled and published, but there remains a large part of the material that it has not been possible to collate, owing to the fact that our psychological laboratories do not have means to pay the expenses of computation.

One hundred dollars to Professor Robert M. Yerkes toward the cost of apparatus and care of animals in the study of animal behavior. Dr. Yerkes, who is assistant professor of psychology at Harvard University and is this year president of the American Psychological Association, has made many original contributions to animal psychology as well as in other directions, and wishes during the summer to study the alleged ideational behavior of the horse. While extraordinary performances of trained horses have been published and have attracted wide attention, the work has not been done under experimental conditions. The construction of apparatus and the care of animals is expensive and can not be met by the ordinary laboratory appropriation.

ANTHROPOLOGY

One hundred dollars to Dr. A. Hrdlička for anthropometrical investigations on the tribe of Shawnee in Oklahoma. Dr. Hrdlička, who is curator of physical anthropology in the United States National Museum and one of our ablest physical anthropologists, could with advantage carry on these investigations and the work is pressing, as the tribe, so far as pure bloods are concerned, is becoming rapidly extinct.

One hundred dollars to Dr. Benno Oettinger, now working at the American Museum of Natural History, for the purpose of completing the investigation of skeletal material from the Pacific coast of America. The assistance needed is required for

the tabulation and reduction of measurements. This grant is recommended by Professor Franz Boas, chairman of the subcommittee on anthropology of the Committee of One Hundred.

GENERAL

Two hundred dollars to the Pacific Coast Subcommittee of the Committee of One Hundred on Scientific Research, of which Professor J. C. Merriam, of the University of California, is chairman. The grant is to be used for printing, postage and clerical work in connection with an investigation to secure organized information relative to research on the Pacific coast. It is planned to secure from each investigator a brief statement of his training, accomplishment, plans for work and needs for supporting the investigation in progress or projected. The work is being done in cooperation with the scientific organizations of the Pacific coast and the committee of the National Research Council on a census of the scientific resources of the United States.

J. McKEEN CATTELL,

Secretary

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE CARNEGIE EXPEDITION FOR THE STUDY OF CORAL REEFS

PROFESSOR L. R. CARY and Dr. Alfred G. Mayer, members of the Carnegie Institution expedition to study the coral reefs of Tutuila, Samoa, have returned.

It was found that the surface water at the equator is cooler and less alkaline than that 5° or 10° north or south.

Also equatorial counter currents against the prevailing westerly drift of the tropical Pacific were generally places where the water is relatively acid, thus suggesting that they may occur in regions wherein the cold deep water comes to the surface.

The rain-water of Samoa is acid, of the order 10^{-5} , but the streams and springs of both Samoa and Hawaii are alkaline, having a hydrogen ion concentration of 10^{-7} . Thus the reefs can not be dissolved by the "acidity" of the outflowing waters, and the Murray-Agassiz solution-theory fails to account for the origin of barrier reefs. On the other hand, scouring due to currents, and to the activity of holothurians are important factors.

Observation upon *Alcyonaria* and stony

corals were conducted to determine their growth-rate, and the share they take in the composition of reef limestones. A statistical ecologic study of the reefs was made, and the reactions of corals to heat and salinity determined.

COMMITTEES UNDER THE BRITISH BOARDS OF TRADE AND AGRICULTURE

THE president of the Board of Trade has appointed a committee to consider and report what steps should be taken, whether by legislation or otherwise, to ensure that there shall be an adequate and economical supply of electric power for all classes of consumers in the United Kingdom, particularly industries which depend upon a cheap supply of power for their development. The members of the committee are: Mr. F. Huth-Jackson (chairman), Mr. H. Booth, Mr. J. Devonshire, Mr. J. Falconer, Mr. G. H. Hume, Mr. J. Kemp, Mr. H. H. Law, Mr. C. H. Merz, Sir Charles Parsons, Sir John Snell, Alderman C. F. Spencer and Mr. A. J. Walter.

The president of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries has appointed a committee to consider practical means for increasing the supplies of sea-fish for the home markets and for encouraging the consumption of such fish, whether cured or fresh, in substitution for other foods. The committee has received a grant from the development fund, with authority to expend the grant, subject to limitations and conditions recommended by the development commissioners and approved by the treasury, at their discretion for the increase of the fishing power of vessels other than steam fishing vessels. In general their expenditure will be confined to assisting fishermen who are owners of their own boats to develop their fishing power and to secure greater quantities of fish. The committee consists of: Mr. Cecil Harmsworth (chairman); Mr. H. S. M. Blundell, of the Admiralty War Staff (Trade Division); Mr. H. G. Maurice, of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries; Mr. E. H. Collingwood, of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries; Mr. Stephen Reynolds, representing the Development Commissioners; Mr. A. Towle, representing the Food Controller.

The president of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries has appointed a committee to consider whether any considerable addition to the home food supplies of fish could be provided from the rivers, lakes and ponds of England and Wales. The committee is requested to have special regard to considerations affecting the practicability of any scheme for bringing fresh-water fish supplies into consumption, such as transport to market, the food value of the different kinds of fish, the probability of its proving acceptable to the consumer, the necessity for interference with private rights, and the risk of damage to more valuable fisheries. Further, the committee will consider and report upon measures which might be taken for securing a greater output of eels from the waters of the United Kingdom for home consumption. The members of the committee are: Lord Desborough (chairman), Mr. R. B. Marston, Mr. A. R. Peart, Mr. F. G. Richmond, Mr. H. T. Sheringham, Mr. A. Tate Regan, Sir John Wrench Towse. The Hon. A. S. Northcote will act as secretary to the committee.

BASE HOSPITALS ABROAD

SIX of the base hospitals organized by the American National Red Cross for service with the medical department of the United States Army have been ordered abroad for active duty. The hospitals are: Base hospital No. 2, the Presbyterian Hospital, New York, Dr. George E. Brewer, director; base hospital No. 4, the Lakeside Hospital, Cleveland, Dr. George W. Crile, director; base hospital No. 5, Harvard University, the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Dr. Harvey Cushing, director; base hospital No. 10, the Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, Dr. Richard H. Harte, director; base hospital No. 12, Northwestern University Medical School, Dr. Frederick A. Beasley, director; base hospital No. 21, Washington University Medical School, St. Louis, Dr. Frederick T. Murphy, director. Three of the units are expected to embark at once and the others to follow soon.

The Harvard University unit includes the following: