6. To gather and collate scientific and technical information, at home and abroad, in cooperation with governmental and other agencies, and to render such information available to duly accredited persons.

Effective prosecution of the council's work requires the cordial collaboration of the scientific and technical branches of the government, both military and civil. To this end representatives of the government, upon the nomination of the National Academy of Sciences, will be designated by the President as members of the council, as heretofore, and the heads of the departments immediately concerned will continue to cooperate in every way that may be required.

Woodrow Wilson

The White House,
11 May, 1918

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

Dr. John J. Carty, colonel in the Signal Corps, until recently chief engineer of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, was presented with the Edison medal for "meritorious achievement in the science and art of electrical engineering," on May 17, at the annual meeting of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

Colonel Henry S. Graves, forester of the United States Forest Service, has been elected an honorary member of the Royal Scottish Arboricultural Society of Edinburgh, Scotland, in recognition of his eminent services to forestry. This distinction is shared by Colonel Graves with only one other citizen of this country, Dr. C. S. Sargent, who was elected in 1889.

At the annual meeting of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences held on May 8, acting on the recommendation of the Rumford Committee, it was unanimously voted to award the Rumford Premium to Theodore Lyman for his researches on light of very short wavelength.

At the commencement exercises of Colgate University, on May 7, the honorary degree of doctor of science was conferred upon Dr. Charles H. Herty, editor of *The Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*.

Dr. Alexis Carrel, of the Rockefeller Institute, has been promoted by the French government to the rank of Commander of the Legion of Honor. The new decoration was bestowed on May 16 by M. Mourier, Under Secretary of State for Medical Service, in the presence of a distinguished company. M. Mourier recalled Dr. Carrel's biological discoveries, his method of transfusion of blood, his conservation of living tissue, and his method of grafting bones, as well as the system of treating wounds which he has developed at the hospital at Compiègne.

The Franklin Institute, on May 15, 1918, made the annual presentation of its Franklin Medal in the auditorium of the Institute. The Franklin Medal, founded in 1914 and awarded only to "those workers in physical science or technology, without regard to country, whose efforts, in the opinion of the Institute, have done most to advance a knowledge of physical science or its applications," was awarded to Signor Guglielmo Marconi, electrical engineer and member of the Italian Senate, and to Dr. Thomas Corwin Mendenhall, physicist, of Ravenna, Ohio. The award to Senator Marconi was made in recognition of his "brilliant inception and successful development of the application of magneto-electric waves to the transmission of signals and telegrams, without the use of metallic conductors." The award to Dr. Mendenhall was made in recognition of his "fruitful and indefatigable labors in physical research, particularly his contributions to our knowledge of physical constants and electrical standards." His Excellency, Count V. Macchi De Cellere, on behalf of the Royal Italian Government, received the Franklin Medal for Senator Marconi, and addressed the institute when the medal was presented to him. Upon the presentation of the Medal to Dr. Mendenhall, he addressed the institute on the subject of "Some Metrological Memories."

Major O. M. Leland, of the 303d Regiment of Engineers, stationed at Camp Dix, has been appointed Lieutenant Colonel of Engineers in the National Army and assigned to the above regiment. Colonel Leland is professor of astronomy and geodesy at Cornell University,

on leave of absence for the duration of the war.

THE Massachusetts Institute of Technology has granted leave of absence to Professor Dugald C. Jackson, head of the department of electrical engineering, who has gone into government service, with the commission of major, and to F. H. Lahee, assistant professor of geology. Three men have resigned their positions, Ernest W. Chapin, research assistant in electrical engineering, who has been drafted, and Paul H. Burkhardt and Guy A. Gray, assistants in electrical engineering, who have gone to the Bureau of Standards in Washington. Professor D. F. Comstock, of the department of physics, has resigned.

FROM the department of chemistry of the College of the City of New York, Assistant Professor F. E. Breithut, who has already been granted a leave of absence for the duration of the war, has been commissioned as captain in the U. S. Army, and has reported for duty; Dr. B. G. Feinberg, tutor in chemistry, has been appointed research chemist in the Ordnance Division of the United States Army and was ordered to report for duty May 17; Mr. D. L. Williams, instructor in chemistry, has been called into the national service to be in charge of the Division of Supplies of the Research Department of the Gas Warfare Section of the United States Army, to report by June 1 at the latest. Mr. Paul Gross, tutor in chemistry, has been commissioned as second lieutenant in the United States Army, and was required to report for duty in Washington on May 9.

IT is reported from Oberlin College that Professor F. O. Grover, of the department of botany; Professor C. W. Savage, of the department of hygiene and physical education, and Professor S. R. Williams, of the department of physics and astronomy, will be away next year on sabbatical leave.

DR. MCIVERY WOODY, secretary of the medical faculty of Harvard University, and Dr. W. G. Webber, of the department of preventive medicine and hygiene, have been commissioned in the Medical Reserve Corps.

WILBUR A. NELSON has been elected state geologist of Tennessee.

MISS EDITH TALPEY, of Bayside, has been appointed chief chemist at the big plant of the General Chemical Company, at Kingston, Ontario. For the past four years she has been working in the laboratory of the Company at Long Island City.

HERBERT P. WHITLOCK has been appointed curator of mineralogy in the American Museum of Natural History in succession to the late Louis P. Gratacap. A correspondent writes: "Mr. Whitlock leaves his position as mineralogist in the New York State Museum at Albany after serving for a period of fourteen years. During this time he has brought the state collection of minerals to a high degree of excellence and has helped to make it a complete representation of the mineral occurrences of New York. Mr. Whitlock is well known for his published papers, principally on crystallographic mineralogy."

DR. M. R. GILMORE, curator of the North Dakota State Historical Society, delivered a series of lectures before the faculty and students of the University on May 2, 3 and 4, on "Native culture and its geographic relations." The subjects presented in the series were: "The relation of human culture to geographic influences," "Native culture of the Great Plains Region," and "The history of Indian corn."

THE death is announced of A. Montuori, instructor in physiology at the University of Rome and director of the Institute for Physical Education and Experimental Physiology.

THE forestry department of the University of California, and its head, Professor Walter Mulford, believes that the intimate relation between the forest and wild life demands that the well-trained forestry student know something of fish and game and methods by which this resource may be conserved. It therefore procured the services of Dr. Harold C. Bryant, in charge of the educational, publicity and research work of the California Fish and Game Commission, to give instruction on game fish, birds and mammals, their economic

value, and the means by which they may be conserved. The following were the subjects announced, each lecture illustrated with stereopticon slides.

April 5. "Geographical distribution of plant and animal life in California."

April 8. "Some common game and non-game birds of California."

April 10. "The economic value of birds."

April 12. "The game and furbearing mammals of California."

April 15. "Mammals in their economic relations."

April 27. "Food and game fishes and their conservation."

April 19. "Past, present and future of game in California."

April 22. "The national forests and wild life."

April 24. "Methods of wild life conservation."

Through the Urgent Deficiency Bill passed by Congress and approved by the President, March 28, 1918, the Bureau of Fisheries was provided with the sum of $80,000 for the construction and equipment of a fireproof laboratory building at Fairport, Iowa, to replace the frame building destroyed by fire on December 20, last. This prompt action of the Congress at the present time is a source of much gratification as an evidence of appreciation of the importance of the biological and fish-cultural experiment and other work accomplished and in progress at the station. Plans are being prepared in order that construction may be begun as soon as possible. Meantime, arrangements have been made whereby a limited number of temporary investigators can be furnished with working quarters and living accommodations during the coming season. The important work of the laboratory will therefore proceed with the least possible interruption.

The National Forest Reservation Commission has authorized the purchase by the government of 65,528 acres of land in the White Mountain and Southern Appalachians for inclusion in the Eastern National Forests. Four tracts, with a total of approximately 38,000 acres on the Nantahala Purchase Area in Macon and Clay counties, N. C., comprise the largest amount authorized in any one locality. The acquisition of these lands will give the government control of the majority of the mountain lands on the headwaters of the Nantaha River and will fill in the southern end of the area which it is planned to buy in that locality. Most of the land has either been cut over or is to be purchased subject to the removal of the timber under government regulations. Other lands whose acquisition was approved comprise 993 acres in Grafton county, N. H., and Oxford county, Me.; 14,676 acres in Highlands, Augusta, Amhearst and Botetourt counties, Va.; 2,788 acres in Avery, Buncombe, Yancey, and Macon counties, N. C.; 4,341 acres in Polk, Monroe and Unicoi counties, Tenn.; 2,898 acres in Winston and Lawrence counties, Ala., and 1,834 acres in Hardy county, W. Va.

The New York Civil Service Commission announces that it will receive applications for the position of mineralogist in the State Museum at a salary of $1,600 ($1,740 beginning July 1, 1918) for men only. Applicants should be graduates of a university, college or technical school and specially trained in the science of mineralogy. They should also have a general knowledge of descriptive mineralogy with special knowledge of minerals occurring in the state of New York, together with knowledge of the economic uses of minerals and their application to modern industries.

Dean Thatcher and Professor Alway, of the division of soils of the University of Minnesota, have recently completed negotiations for securing a peat experimental farm near Goodrich, Minn. The law requires that there be maintained three such farms. They have been located at Dibbell, Goodrich and Anoka.

The government of Uruguay is discussing the foundation of an Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters. It is proposed that it shall be composed of five institutes, one each for the medical sciences, the political sciences, the natural sciences, arts and belles lettres.

Free public lectures have been inaugurated at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden by a course of "Win-the-War-Garden" lectures, scheduled for Sunday afternoons at 4 o'clock. The lectures illustrated by lantern slides and otherwise are given in the lecture hall of the new

laboratory building. A motion-picture apparatus is being installed in the lecture hall to be used especially in connection with lectures to children. The following lectures were announced:

April 7. "Farming for women." Miss Sophia de M. Carey, official lecturer of the British government; Miss Elizabeth Cleveland and Mrs. Florence Young, Bedford farmerettes and members of the Woman's Land Army of America.

April 14. "The back yard vegetable garden." Miss Jean A. Cross, assistant curator of elementary instruction.

April 21. "Forest products and the war" (Arbor Day Lecture). Professor Samuel J. Record, school of forestry, Yale University.

April 28. "Diseases of garden crops and how to control them." Dr. Edgar W. Olive, curator of Public Instruction.

May 5. "Plant breeding and increased food production." Dr. Orland E. White, curator of Plant Breeding.

May 12. "Bacteriology and the war." Dr. Ira S. Wile, former member of the Board of Education, New York City.

May 19. "Garden insects—good and bad." Dr. E. P. Felt, State Entomologist of New York.

May 26. "Cultivation of drug plants." Dr. W. W. Stockberger, in charge of drug and poisonous plant investigations, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

THE Sigma Xi Society of Syracuse University has arranged a number of public lectures to inform the students and general public of interesting and timely scientific problems. In addition to those already reported the following have been held:

January 11. "The service of botany to the nation during and after the war." Dean Wm. L. Bray, of the Graduate School of Syracuse University.

April 5. "Mt. Katmai and the valley of ten thousand smokes." Professor Robert F. Griggs, of Ohio State University, director of the National Geographic Society's expeditions to Mt. Katmai.

April 19. "The habits of spiders." Professor J. H. Comstock, emeritus professor of entomology of Cornell University.

THE summer meeting of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers will be held in Berlin, N. H., June 19–22. Headquarters will be at Mt. Madison House, Gorham, N. H.

THE National Medical Institute of Mexico, founded in 1890 for research on and exploitation of the flora, fauna and climatology and geography of Mexico has been transformed into the Institute of General and Medical Biology by a recent decree. The institute has been engaged in the study and classification as well as the action of native plants.

THE Royal Academy of Sciences of Turin, Italy, has announced a prize of 26,000 lire, to be awarded for the most remarkable and most celebrated work on any of the physical sciences published in the four years ending December 31. The prize fund is a bequest from a senator of the realm, T. Vallauri. Competition is open to Italian and foreign scientific men, and the term "physical sciences" is to be taken in the broadest sense.

THE Provost Marshal General made public the following: "Under such regulations as the Chief Signal Officer may prescribe, a proportion of the students in institutions in which the Signal Corps has established a course in electrical communication, who have completed at least two and a half years of the course in electrical engineering, or its equivalent, in one of the approved technical engineering schools listed in the War Department, may enlist in the Signal Enlisted Reserve Corps, and thereafter, upon presentation by the registrant to his local board of a certificate of such enlistment, such certificate shall be filed with the questionnaire and the registrant shall be placed in Class 5 on the ground that he is in the military service of the United States."

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

UNDER bequests of the late William Brechin Faulds, of Glasgow, a research fellowship in medicine, of the annual value of about £200, tenable for three years, has been founded in the university. The Ferguson trustees have announced their intention of founding a research fellowship in applied chemistry, also of the annual value of £200.

THE new agricultural building of the Maryland State College of Agriculture, costing