

brook, when director of the National Physical Laboratory, recognized the waste of time and the duplication of effort arising from this confusion. He had his opinion confirmed by many men of science, Government Departments, trade associations, and private firms. His successor, Sir Joseph Petavel, and the Advisory Council of Scientific and Industrial Research have taken up the question where he left it, and now hope to found a journal to deal with the methods of measurement and instruments. A preliminary number is being prepared under the direction of the Institute of Physics, the Research Department, and the National Physical Laboratory. It is hoped that the distribution of this, the cost of which is to be borne by the Department of Scientific Research, will secure sufficient support to place the venture on a permanent basis. There can be no doubt that the establishment of the proposed journal would be of value to the progress of all branches of scientific work.

#### JOURNAL OF THE OPTICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA AND REVIEW OF SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS

DURING the past few years there has been an increasing appreciation of the need in America of a journal devoted to scientific instruments of all kinds. This need is due to a number of causes. The ever increasing volume of scientific material which is being offered for publication is so crowding many of our journals that space does not permit an adequate description of apparatus used. Further, many instruments and instrumental methods, developed for a single experiment, can be applied to a variety of measurements. If described only in connection with the work for which they were developed, the description is relatively inaccessible since it is subsidiary to the main scientific discussion of the article.

In many sciences there is no medium for the publication of articles describing apparatus primarily for pedagogical purposes in lecture demonstrations and laboratory. Such short articles or notes should serve a very useful purpose since every real teacher is always on the lookout for means of improving his teaching. Further, newly developed apparatus and

methods of one science are very frequently applicable to work in another science. A medium of publication readily accessible to all would save much time and energy.

The first steps toward the development of an instrument journal were taken by the National Research Council and the Association of Scientific Apparatus Makers of the United States of America in jointly taking under advisement the establishment of a new journal for the purpose. After extensive consideration it seemed unwise to start an independent journal. Finally representatives of the Optical Society of America, which was publishing a bi-monthly journal under the title *Journal of the Optical Society of America*, were invited to a conference which ultimately resulted in an arrangement whereby the Optical Society, cooperating with the National Research Council and the Apparatus Makers Association, is to add to its journal a section on scientific instruments. The enlarged journal is to be published under the title *Journal of the Optical Society of America and Review of Scientific Instruments*, and will be issued monthly, beginning with May, 1922. It will be under the direction of an editorial board composed of Dr. P. D. Foote, Bureau of Standards, editor-in-chief; Professor F. K. Richtmyer, Cornell University, assistant editor-in-chief and business manager; and a representative board of associate editors.

In addition to articles on theoretical, experimental and applied optics in the section on optics of the new journal, there will be published in the instrument section original articles on scientific instruments of all kinds (*i. e.*, electrical, mechanical, etc., as well as optical) for research and instruction in chemistry, physics, biology and other sciences. The editors announce that they will be glad to receive manuscripts for publication, and suggestions as to desirable subject matter to include in the journal.

#### GIFT OF THE PROCEEDS OF RESEARCH FOR RESEARCH

ON January 26, 1922, a contract was signed between The Babies' Dispensary and Hospital and the W. O. F. Laboratories Company, Cleveland, Ohio, in connection with the manu-