

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

STATISTICS OF THE ALASKA FISHERIES
FOR 1921

STATISTICS of the Alaska fisheries for 1921 have recently been completed and are summarized as follows: The total active investment in the fisheries was \$39,001,874, a decrease of \$31,984,347 from 1920. The industry gave employment to 15,070 persons, or 12,412 less than in 1920. The products of the fisheries were valued at \$24,086,867, a decline of \$17,405,257. The pack of canned salmon in 1921 was 2,596,826 cases, a decrease of 1,832,637 cases, or approximately 41 per cent. Southeast Alaska produced 803,071 cases, a decrease of almost 65 per cent. from the pack in 1920. In central Alaska the production was 643,099 cases, a decrease of almost 52 per cent. In western Alaska the pack was 1,150,656, an increase over 1920 of 283,652 cases, or over 32 per cent. The total value of canned salmon was \$19,632,744. Other products of the salmon fisheries were mild-cured, pickled, fresh, frozen, and dried and smoked salmon, which had an aggregate value of \$1,335,818. Salmon by-products, consisting of oil and fertilizer, were valued at \$18,022. The total catch of salmon in Alaska in 1921 was 37,905,591 fish, as compared with 65,080,539 in 1920, a decrease of approximately 41 per cent.

The number of salmon canneries operated in 1921 was 83, or 63 less than in 1920. Of this number the southeastern district was credited with 30 (decrease of 52), the central district with 25 (decrease of 11), and western Alaska with 28 (the same as in 1920). Comparisons of figures as to gear used are as follows: 180 traps, of which 127 were driven and 53 floating, were used in 1921, a decrease of 318 driven and 155 floating traps from 1920. Seins decreased from 712 to 213, representing a reduction of 82,048 fathoms of webbing. The total length of gill nets was 375,320 fathoms, a decrease of 85,627 from 1920.

Values of products of the other fisheries were as follows: Halibut, \$1,476,450; herring, \$934,044; cod, \$457,320; shrimps, \$132,077; crabs, \$33,180; whales, \$19,950; trout, \$18,925; sablefish, \$17,985; clams, \$9,940; red rockfish, \$362; and smelts, \$50.

FELLOWSHIPS OF THE NATIONAL RE-
SEARCH COUNCIL

The National Research Council announces for the next academic year a number of fellowships for fundamental investigations on agricultural applications of sulphur. The funds for the fellowships have been provided by a grant from the Texas Gulf Sulphur Company.

These fellowships, each carrying an annual stipend of approximately \$1,000, will be administered by a special sulphur fellowship committee of the advisory board of the American Society of Agronomy, in conference with the executive committee of the division of biology and agriculture of the National Research Council. Inquiries and applications should be addressed to the Sulphur Fellowship Committee, National Research Council, Washington, D. C.

It is proposed that the work to be prosecuted under these fellowships will include investigations on the value of sulphur in the control of potato scab, nematodes, soil insects and sweet potato disease; also the value of sulphur as a fertilizer for alfalfa and other legumes and the effect of sulphur on alkali soils.

Applicants for the fellowships must be graduate students in universities and colleges or competent members of experiment station staffs. Fellows are expected to devote practically their entire time to the investigations, excepting only such course work as may be necessary to meet the requirements for an advanced degree. While no definite assurance can be given, it is expected that support for the fellowships will be extended from year to year for a period as the results may warrant.

In order to prevent possible confusion, it is pointed out that these fellowships are entirely distinct from the two sulphur fellowships recently announced (*SCIENCE*, March 24) by the Crop Protection Institute and administered by it in cooperation with the National Research Council.

REVIEW OF APPLIED MYCOLOGY

THE Imperial Bureau of Mycology has undertaken the publication of a monthly abstracting journal, the *Review of Applied Mycology*, for the purpose of supplying, month by month, a summary of the work published

in all countries on the diseases of plants and various other aspects of economic mycology. The first number was issued in January, and it is hoped to complete a volume of between four and five hundred pages annually. The announcement says:

Mycologists and plant pathologists often find it difficult to keep themselves informed of the progress of work in other countries. The publications in which an account of current work is given are very numerous and are scattered through a large number of journals, many of which only occasionally contain an article of interest. There are few, if any, libraries in which all these publications can be found, while the working mycologists in the overseas part of the British Empire often have access to only a small proportion of them. The committee of the Imperial Bureau of Mycology has accordingly felt that it is desirable to start the publication of a compact yet comprehensive survey of current literature dealing with the various aspects of applied mycology, on the lines of the *Review of Applied Entomology* published by the Imperial Bureau of Entomology in London. While *Botanical Abstracts* remains the only journal that aims at giving a complete citation of the literature in all branches of botanical science, the present *Review* will be specially directed to supplying to workers with restricted library facilities, sufficiently full abstracts of papers on the diseases of tropical crops and other similar matters of interest to mycologists in the overseas parts of the British Empire to enable them to keep informed of the progress of current work.

Though the chief object of the new journal is to give an up-to-date summary of work bearing on the practical application of the study of plant diseases to the reduction of the wastage due to such diseases in agriculture, the fundamental researches on which most progress in this direction is based have a wider appeal. The *Review* will enable all those who are interested in the progress of science to follow the development of one of its younger branches; the student of pure science will, it is hoped, find many side-lights on the wider problems on which he is engaged; while the practical grower will be able to learn the experience in other countries with improved methods for controlling plant diseases.

Subscriptions, orders and all communications respecting the publication should be sent to the editor, Imperial Bureau of Mycology, Kew, Surrey, England.

THE PUBLICATION OF SCIENTIFIC PAPERS

IN view of its general interest to contributors to scientific journals, we are permitted to print the following letter addressed by Professor Ross G. Harrison, of Yale University, managing editor of the *Journal of Experimental Zoology*, to its contributors:

Owing to the high cost of printing and the consequent large deficit incurred in the publication of its journals, the Wistar Institute has notified the editorial board of the *Journal of Experimental Zoology* that, unless financial support is forthcoming, it will not be possible to print during the present year more than two volumes or one thousand pages of the *Journal*, instead of the three volumes of five hundred pages each published in 1921. Since the war material for publication has been coming in at a rapidly increasing rate, so that there is now on hand more than sufficient to fill the two volumes to be issued this year. This means that, under present conditions, manuscripts now received can not appear much earlier than eighteen months from date. It is hoped that before long conditions in the printing trade will become more favorable or that some method of financing the deficit may be devised. In the meantime, the editorial board find it necessary to ask your cooperation in meeting the present difficulties. This can best be done by making papers as concise as possible, by using the simplest form of illustration—such as can be reproduced by zinc engraving, by omitting tables as far as is consistent with clearness, and by avoiding duplication in publication.

The editors do not wish to set any arbitrary limit to the length of papers that can be accepted; for some are concise at fifty pages and others verbose at five. A colored plate may be a necessity in some instances and a useless expense in others. It is felt, however, that almost every paper would be improved by judicious pruning, and the authors, as the best qualified persons to do this, are asked to undertake the task. It is scarcely to be expected that even the utmost self-restraint on the part of contributors will entirely meet the exigencies of the situation, so that the editors will probably have to exercise their judgment as regards the space that can be allotted to each paper submitted. Nevertheless, if contributors are willing to undertake drastic measures themselves, it will frequently spare the editorial board the necessity of declining papers which, under other circumstances, they would like to