

supply, has been assigned to serve with the War Minerals Relief Commission as its chief engineer. J. W. Furness, who has been working with the war minerals supply division of the Bureau of Mines, has been given a permanent appointment in that division.

These changes and appointments are effective as of March 1, 1923.

GRANTS FROM THE ELIZABETH THOMPSON SCIENCE FUND

THE following awards were made at the meeting of the trustees of the Elizabeth Thompson Science Fund on February 24:

No. 241. To Dr. E. Wiedemann, Physikalisches Institut, Universität, Erlangen, Germany, \$100 for researches on physical properties of colloidal substances.

No. 242. To Dr. B. Lipschütz, Paltauf's Pathological Institute, Vienna, Austria, \$150 for studies of the experimental tar cancer of the mouse.

No. 243. To Mr. A. H. Palmer, U. S. Weather Bureau, San Francisco, California, for maps and photographs.

No. 244. To Dr. E. F. Adolph, Zoological Laboratory, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pa., \$250 for electrical equipment.

No. 245. To Dr. Frank A. Hartman, Physiology Laboratory, University of Buffalo, Buffalo, New York, \$200 for studies of adrenal function.

No. 246. To Professor James B. Conant, department of chemistry, Harvard University, Cambridge 38, Mass., \$150 for a study of a new method of comparing the reactivities of a series of organic chlorides.

No. 247. To Professor C. T. Brues, Bussey Institution, Harvard University, Forest Hills, Boston, Mass., \$100 for a study of certain phytophagous races of insects.

No. 248. To Professor G. H. Parker, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., \$200 for the study of nerve respiration.

The Elizabeth Thompson Science Fund is administered by G. H. Parker, president; E. B. Wilson, secretary; Charles S. Rackemann, treasurer, and G. P. Baxter and W. B. Cannon, members of the board of trustees. The trustees meet three times a year toward the end of February, of May and of November. Applications should be in the hands of the secretary well in advance of the date of the meeting.

GIFT TO THE ROYAL SOCIETY

SIR ALFRED YARROW, an engineer and ship-builder of Glasgow, has given £100,000 to the Royal Society for reasons and under the conditions stated in the following letter, addressed to the president:

I would ask you to be so kind as to bring before the council, at an early opportunity, the following proposals:

I have, for many years, held the view that the prosperity of this country has been greatly hampered in the past for the want of better promotion to scientific investigation and its application to practical affairs.

I am convinced that the future prosperity of this country will be largely dependent upon the encouragement of original scientific research. The birth of new industries, and the development of existing ones, are due largely to the growth of science, thus securing employment and the welfare of the whole community being advanced.

It is doubtful whether even yet it has been realized how completely this country would have been at the mercy of our antagonists in the late war, had it not been for the research work done by our scientific men before the war and during its course.

I desire to mark my sense of the value of research to the community by offering, as a gift to the Royal Society, £100,000 to be used as capital or income for the purposes of the society, as the council may think fit, because I recognize conditions alter so materially from time to time that, in order to secure the greatest possible benefit from such a fund, it must be administered with unfettered discretion by the best people from time to time available.

Care must, of course, be taken that a gift from the fund shall in no case lessen any government grant.

In accordance with your practice you would, I assume, appoint a committee to administer the fund, and would also frame rules for the guidance of the committee, while reserving the right to alter such rules from time to time; and I would suggest that they be considered by the council every tenth year so as to meet modern needs.

I should prefer that the money be used to aid scientific workers by adequate payment, and by the supply of apparatus or other facilities, rather than to erect costly buildings, because large sums of money are sometimes spent on buildings without adequate endowment, and the investigators are embarrassed by financial anxieties.

Although I thus give a general expression of my wishes, I do not intend, by so doing, to create