the possibilities in this direction, the need for research can not be denied.

The first duty of the professor when he is appointed will be to prepare his plans, and it is understood that the government departments concerned are prepared to consider favorably schemes involving a total expenditure on buildings, staff and upkeep of £100,000 in the next four years. After that period the financing of the institute will depend upon circumstances. The million pounds voted under the Corn Production Acts (Repeal) Act, 1921, will be exhausted, and in the present state of depression it is impossible to foretell what may happen. If, however, the professor of animal pathology and his colleagues make good, financial assistance will no doubt be forthcoming.

The site chosen for the new institute is appropriate. Its headquarters will be placed in an extension of the School of Agriculture, where the new professor will have for his colleagues, among others, Professor T. B. Wood, Professor R. H. Biffen, Dr. F. H. A. Marshall and Mr. K. J. J. Mackenzie, who will assist him in directing his work on sound agricultural lines. His windows will look into the new biochemical laboratory, which is being built for Professor F. G. Hopkins, the discoverer of vitamines: a few yards away is the Molteno Institute, where Professor G. H. F. Nuttall pursues his studies in parasitology; the university medical school is only just the other side of Downing Street. The necessary paddocks, stables and animal houses will be provided at the field laboratories, which are situated just outside the town.

THE STERLING CHEMISTRY LABORATORY OF YALE UNIVERSITY

ON April 4, 1923, Yale University will formally dedicate the Sterling Chemistry Laboratory, a $2,000,000 structure and the first building erected by Yale from the funds made available by the bequest of John W. Sterling. The date chosen for the dedication has a historical significance at Yale, since on April 4, 1804, Benjamin Silliman, the first professor of chemistry in Yale College, delivered his first lecture on this subject. The dedication of this building will be an international scientific event, since English, Scotch, French, Italian, Dutch and Canadian universities are to be represented by a delegate from each of these countries. It also will take place during the meeting of the American Chemical Society in New Haven, when two thousand or more American chemists will be in attendance.

The Sterling Chemistry Laboratory is said to be the finest material plant in the world for the teaching of chemistry and the prosecution of research work. Entering the building one comes into a spacious lobby or entrance hall, with walls of stone reaching up to a high arched roof. Thence through massive arches one passes into a large cross hallway, paved with stone and with fumed-oak beams supporting its ceiling. Along this hallway and opening into it are classrooms and offices. In the north of the hallway are storage and stock rooms, a delivery court, shops and the laboratory of industrial chemistry, reaching from the foundations of the building to its roof. In this enormous room are placed pieces of apparatus of factory size. With its two galleries, its traveling crane, its lines of shafting and maze of pipes, this appears indeed a chemical manufacturing plant.

Passing up an imposing stone stairway one comes to the main floor of the building. To the front and opening from a similar hallway extending for two hundred and fifty feet across the building are other classrooms and two large lecture halls. On the opposite side of the hall are the offices of the faculty members. Along the two sides of the building are two narrow halls opening into a multitude of small private laboratories. The outer walls of these are the outer walls of the building. On the west side of the building, the walls thrust out into a projection surmounted by a tower. Below is the great side entrance with iron gates and massive doors, through which heavy trucks may pass into the building. Above is the library, furnished in dark oak with comfortable chairs, ample desks and tables, and at one end a fireplace. About the walls are thousands of volumes of chemical text-books and bound journals.

The whole center of the building is a space approximately one hundred and eighty by two hundred and fifty feet which is devoted to teaching laboratories. With the exception of the industrial chemistry laboratory which goes through to the first floor, all of these labora-

tories are on a single level and all are covered with the saw-tooth roof peculiar to the modern factory. In the center of this section is the supply room, accessible by virtue of being at the intersection of two hallways and communicating by elevator with the large storage and stock rooms in the floor below. A feature of this part of the building is that none of the partitions which divide the teaching laboratories are "structural." This is essentially one enormous room under a single roof. The dividing walls are but the thickness of one brick and can be torn down and shifted if necessary without inconveniencing any other part of the laboratory This feature, together with the easy accessibility of the plumbing and wiring, gives the flexibility which is so necessary if any building of this sort is to be permanent.

THE CIRCULATION OF AGRICULTURAL NEWS

AT a recent staff meeting of the New York Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva, Dr. R. W. Thatcher, director of the station, read a report on the station news service for 1922. Beginning with January of last year items of timely interest on the work of the experiment station have been sent at frequent intervals to newspapers and farm papers, with the result that the station activities have been brought to the attention of a much larger number of persons than would be possible in any other way.

According to the report, a total of 152 different news stories dealing with the work of the station were sent out during the year. By means of returns from clipping bureaus, the station authorities are able to check up on the use of these stories in the newspapers, although the clipping bureaus undoubtedly fail to see many of the items. A close check is also kept on the stories appearing in farm papers received and in this way and through the clipping bureaus some idea is obtained of how extensively the news material is used.

During the past year accounts of the station work appeared 3,559 times in different papers. Of this number more than 1,200 were in daily papers, while 1,867 were in weekly newspapers. Items appeared 206 times in farm papers and 283 times in the county farm bureau publications of this state. Papers as far north as Maine and Canada, as far west as the Pacific Coast, and as far south as Tennessee and Virginia made frequent use of the station news service. It is estimated by the station authorities that the papers carrying the station news material had a total circulation of more than 45,000,000, and it is certain that many papers of which there is no record carried the station news items. The station officials expressed a keen sense of appreciation of the generous amount of space devoted to station news in the various papers.

The news service was inaugurated at the time that the mailing lists were revised along subject matter lines and the bulletin editions greatly reduced. The bulletins are now sent only to those who have asked to receive station publications on certain subjects with the idea that such a system of distribution will insure the bulletins going to those who will make the best use of them. The news service supplements the bulletin publications and renders a valuable service in calling attention to the recent findings and developments of the work.

THE ENGINEERING SOCIETIES LIBRARY

THE United Engineering Societies maintain a large library in the Engineering Societies Building, 29 West Thirty-ninth Street, New York City. It contains about 117,000 volumes and 32,000 pamphlets. While these are not entirely indexed, in the last three years about 150,000 cards have been added to the catalog. There is now available 50,000 subjects presented to prospective readers in a systematic and logical relation. These subjects are handled in two different ways: The searcher who wishes to exhaust his field will find all entries arranged from the large group down to the most minute in one place. The casual reader who wants a minute subject has an alphabetic subject index available.

The attendance at the library during 1922 was 26,000 persons. Enquiries made by telephone and correspondence brought the total number of users of the library up to 34,000. The library added 3,353 books to its collection during the year. Service bureau orders, including searches, translations and photoprints, were sent to forty-six states and to the Argentine Republic, Australia, Belgium, Bermuda, British West Indies, Canada, Chile, Cuba,