

Institute may be more fully appreciated by the Commonwealth Government, the Legislature and the public generally. The council has decided to ask the Australian Association to regard it as a fully constituted body free to conduct its own affairs subject to instructions from the International Research Council. The first issue of *Australian Science Abstracts*, published by the Australian Research Council as a quarterly journal of abstracts of papers by Australian scientific workers, appeared on August 1, 1922. An invitation has been issued by the Commonwealth Government through the Research Council to the representatives of the Pan-Pacific Scientific Congress to hold the Congress in Australia in 1923.

ENGINEERING LIBRARY FOR DENVER

Scientific circles will recognize the importance of the library facilities that have just been opened for engineers and scientific men in the City of Denver.

The Colorado Scientific Society has had a long history and has been the medium through which many discoveries, especially along the line of geology and mineralogy, have been announced. In the past few years this organization has not been as active and its financial means have not enabled it to carry on work to the same degree as formerly.

It has been given quarters for a number of years by the State of Colorado in the State Museum Building, and many of its museum specimens have been cared for by the State Bureau of Mines. Through exchanges and through purchase and through gifts from members, it had acquired a library especially valuable in transactions of learned societies, in scientific exchanges and in engineering books.

The engineers and men of applied science felt the increased need of a library for reference. There is no important library of this kind available for practically a thousand miles. The Rocky Mountain region has a large number of different lines of science represented by men of ability, but has lacked these facilities.

The various engineering societies, especially the twelve which are grouped together and form the Colorado Engineering Council, have been active in pushing the idea of the union of forces and starting a library of this character.

The State of Colorado passed a few years since a law requiring all practicing engineers to register and pay a license fee. The funds from this source have amounted to some \$15,000. The cooperation of this board was obtained and these funds made available for the purchase of books, which could be done under State laws, and the books used in connection with the books of the Scientific Society and other books, the title remaining in the State.

The Society of Architects which had a fund of some thousands of dollars, has made their fund available for this technical library. Many books have been given by individual engineers who find it unnecessary to keep in their private collections so many works if they are available to them at any time in a library.

The Denver City Library has assigned room and a technical librarian and takes supervision and general charge of the collection.

The dedication exercises were held on April 7, with representatives from the Scientific Society, engineering professions, city of Denver and the State of Colorado.

This library has some thousands of volumes to start with, and an assured income of several thousand dollars. The prospect is that this will be the most important center for a technical library and applied science between Chicago and the Pacific Coast.

L. G. CARPENTER, *President*.

COLORADO ENGINEERING COUNCIL.

NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN LECTURES

During the spring and summer lectures are being given on Saturdays and Sundays at 4 p. m. in the lecture hall of the Museum Building as follows:

April 28. "Spring wild flowers," Dr. G. C. Fisher.

April 29. "Pasteur and the founding of bacteriology," Dr. G. M. Reed.

May 5. "Books on gardening," Dr. J. H. Barnhart.

May 6. "Bees and bee culture," Professor G. C. Norton.

May 12. Nature talks—II. "Rocks," Dr. W. A. Murrill. (Exhibition of spring flowers, May 12 and 13).

May 13. "Daffodils and tulips," Mr. K. R. Boynton.

- May 19. "Practical hints on garden design," Miss E. L. Lee.
- May 20. Nature talks—III. "Soil," Dr. W. A. Merrill.
- May 26. "The tea gardens of Ceylon and Japan," Dr. H. A. Gleason.
- May 27. "Wild flowers," Mr. L. W. Brownell.
- June 2. "Economic uses and possibilities of seaweeds," Dr. M. A. Howe.
- June 3. "Evolution," Dr. C. S. Gager.
- June 9. "Insects and insect fungi," Dr. F. J. Seaver.
- June 10. Nature talks—IV. "Ferns," Dr. W. A. Merrill.
- June 16. "Summer wild flowers," Mr. C. W. Johnson.
- June 17. "Roses," Mr. Robert Pyle.
- June 23. "The big trees of California," Dr. H. A. Gleason.
- June 24. "The history and sources of quinine," Dr. H. H. Rusby.
- June 30. "Flowers of the four seasons," Mr. K. R. Boynton.
- July 1. Nature talks—V. "Mushrooms," Dr. W. A. Merrill.
- July 7. "Plant traps," Dr. J. H. Barnhart.
- July 8. "Some great men and their love of trees," Mr. Carl Bannwart.
- July 14. "Diatoms—plants of beauty seen through a microscope," Dr. M. A. Howe.
- July 15. "A garden pilgrimage in England," Mr. Montague Free.
- July 21. "Collecting fungi in Porto Rico," Dr. F. J. Seaver.
- July 22. Nature talks—VI. "Punk-fungi," Dr. W. A. Merrill.
- July 28. "Fifty trees in the botanical garden," Mr. K. R. Boynton.
- July 29. "Evergreens: what to plant and where to plant them," Mr. Arthur Herrington.

FORESTRY RESEARCH

AN anonymous donor has given \$100,000 to Harvard University and an equal sum to Yale University to establish endowment funds for research work on forestry problems.

The income of the fund offered to Harvard, it is stipulated, is to be used for research and experimental work in forest production, "to determine the basic facts essential to the successful practice of silviculture in the north-eastern section of the United States, especially in New England." The Harvard forest, consisting of three tracts of land in Petersham totaling over 2,000 acres, has been maintained for fourteen years under the direction of Pro-

fessor Richard T. Fisher, to serve as a model forest to demonstrate the practice of forestry, as a field laboratory for students, and also as an experiment station for research. The forest has in operation practicable methods of reproducing and improving forests; it has large plantations under test for varying situations; and it is investigating forestry problems of all sorts. The expectation at Harvard is that the new gift will make it possible to develop this scientific work to a much greater extent than has hitherto been possible, and will thus aid in securing the technical knowledge needed to handle forest crops effectively in the face of an impending national timber shortage.

For several years Yale has owned forests in Connecticut, New Hampshire and Vermont upon which some experiments are already being carried out. The Northeast section of the United States affords the best opportunities for demonstration of the practice of forestry. The best markets are here, and the greatest need of intensive field work.

According to Henry S. Graves, dean of the Yale School of Forestry, and formerly chief of the United States Forest Service, the new gift will make possible a large increase in the field studies in the growth and production of pine on the Keene experimental forest in New Hampshire and of hemlock and hardwoods on the Connecticut properties. Professor James W. Toumey and Professor Ralph C. Hawley will supervise the research work.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

SIR DAVID BRUCE has been nominated by the council as president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science at its meeting next year in Toronto.

THE National Academy of Sciences has presented its Comstock Prize to Professor William Duane, of Harvard University, in recognition of his researches on X-rays, and its Mary Clark Thompson Gold Medal to Dr. Emmanuel de Margerie, director of the Geological Survey of Alsace and Lorraine.

At the April stated meeting of the Franklin Institute, held on the eighteenth instant, the Howard N. Potts Gold Medal was presented to Dr. Albert W. Hull of the Research Laboratory, General Electric Company, Schenectady, New