

step out into better positions. In theoretical chemistry the Harvard staff have no superiors in America to-day. It is manifestly difficult, however, to hold a faculty together when such sacrifices are demanded, and new professors from the outside are not attracted to Harvard, which is not a healthy condition for any faculty to be in. How long then must chemistry at Harvard be confined to the narrow, unsuitable, inadequate bounds that restrict and distort its growth?

The present inadequate provision for the study of chemistry is not a matter that concerns only the Division of Chemistry when so large a proportion as thirty-five to forty-five per cent. of the undergraduates is involved. The necessity of the occasion demands that every Harvard man and every friend of Harvard should at once become interested in this most vital need of the university. When the Associated Harvard Clubs and the alumni of Harvard really understand this deplorable and impossible condition of the Division of Chemistry, this committee believes that they will not rest until the situation is cured.

The committee of Harvard graduates which made the report is headed by Edward Malinckrodt, Jr., of Saint Louis. The other members are Dr. William S. Thayer, of Baltimore; Professor Theodore W. Richards, of Cambridge; W. Cameron Forbes, of Westwood, Mass.; Martin H. Ittner, of Jersey City; Eugene DuPont, of Greenville, Del.; Eliot Wadsworth, of Washington; G. Cook Kimball, of Pittsburgh; Isaac P. Hazard, of Syracuse, and Elihu Thomson, of Swampscott, Mass.

#### CONFERENCE ON WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

THE sixteenth annual conference on weights and measures will be held at the Bureau of Standards on May 21 to 24 inclusive. Invitations have been sent out to all state, municipal and other officials who are interested in weights and measures matters and judging by the replies received the conference will be unusually well attended.

A tentative list of papers which will be presented has been prepared, the titles of some of which are as follows: "Fraudulent practices and how we eliminated them," "The attitude of the Mid-west toward abolition of bushel weights," "Temperature as a factor in the measurement of gasoline," "Cooperation between state and local officials," "Divergence in bread labeling requirements," "Bread weight

regulation from the standpoint of the retail baker," "The organization and conduct of city and county departments of weights and measures," "Problems arising in the supervision of public markets," "Origin and destination weighing of coal in earload lots," "Retail sales of coal and coke," "A standard test method for milk bottles," "Results of the Bureau's investigation of the commercial filling of milk bottles," "Commodity tolerances" and "Sale of service by weight or measure."

Among the reports of committees will be one on bread legislation and another on specifications and tolerances for vehicle tanks and fabric measuring machines.

The first morning of the conference will be devoted to the reports of delegates, while the second day will be "City and County Day," its sessions being devoted entirely to the problems of city and county weights and measures officials.

In connection with the conference the usual exhibit of weighing and measuring appliances will be held in the Industrial Building of the Bureau and it is expected that a large number of firms will avail themselves of this opportunity to set before weights and measures officials the latest improvements in their products.

#### THE FIRST DECADE OF THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

THE Rockefeller Foundation was chartered by special act of the New York State Legislature on May 14, 1913. The following statement of contributions and programs during this first decade is made by Edwin R. Embree, the secretary.

While the chartered purpose is broadly stated as "the well-being of mankind throughout the world," the work of the Foundation has become chiefly centered upon public health and medical education.

The expenditures during the first decade, 1913 through 1922, have amounted to seventy-six and three quarters millions (\$76,757,040), roughly divided as follows:

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|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Public health.....                | \$18,188,838 |
| Medical education .....           | 24,716,859   |
| War relief .....                  | 22,298,541   |
| All other philanthropic work..... | 10,445,628   |
| Administration .....              | 1,107,174    |

In carrying on its various activities the Foundation has expended all of its income from year to year and in addition seventeen and a half millions (\$17,500,000) of its general fund or principal. A further sum of fifteen and a half millions (\$15,500,000), payable in future years, has been pledged to various medical schools and public health projects.

Contributions outside the field of public health and medical education were made, for the most part, during the war and in the earlier years of the foundation's work before its policies and program had become clearly defined. The chief item in this group is the sum of five and two thirds millions (\$5,678,599) given to various charities designated by the founder before he relinquished on July 19, 1917, the right he had originally reserved personally to direct the use of a part of the income. A million dollars was given to Herbert Hoover's child-feeding plan in Europe, and another to make possible the Palisades Interstate Park.

In the development of the foundation's program there has been increasing concentration upon medical education and public health.

The International Health Board, established as a department of the foundation in 1913, has sought to promote public health throughout the world by demonstrating the methods and costs of controlling certain diseases, notably hookworm disease, malaria and yellow fever; by fostering the growth of governmental health agencies; and by encouraging the formation of schools of hygiene. In carrying out this program the board has cooperated with twenty-seven American states and fifty foreign governments. Its annual expenditures have increased from \$133,237 in 1914 to \$1,842,249 in 1922.

In medical education a special feature has been the work of the China Medical Board, in building, equipping and maintaining a modern medical center in Peking. The board has made appropriations to other medical schools and to thirty-two hospitals, as well as to the fostering of science education in China.

Substantial contributions have been made in recent years to centers of medical teaching in London and Brussels. The foundation has also cooperated in the development of medical education in North and South America, Western

and Central Europe, the Philippines, Hong Kong and Bangkok.

#### FELLOWSHIPS IN BIOLOGY OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

At the meeting of the Board of National Research Fellowships in the Biological Sciences, held on April 25, 1923, the following appointments were made: E. G. Anderson, botany; L. R. Cleveland, zoology; R. T. Hance, zoology; M. J. Herskovits, anthropology; Leigh Hoadley, zoology; Marian Irwin, botany; Donald A. Laird, psychology; A. J. Riker, botany; Leslie Spier, anthropology.

On account of the short time available for receiving applications, it was decided to hold another meeting of the board toward the end of June for the consideration of deferred applications in hand and also of other applications that may be received prior to June 1st. Requests for information and application forms should be addressed to the Secretary, Board of National Research Fellowships in the Biological Sciences, 1,701 Massachusetts Avenue, Washington, District of Columbia.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Walker grand prize of \$1,000 has been awarded by the Boston Society of Natural History to Dr. Leonhard Stejneger, head curator of biology at the United States National Museum at Washington, District of Columbia. The Walker annual prize of \$60 has been awarded to William Seifriz of Yale University for an essay on "Colloidal properties of protoplasm."

THE gold medal of the Mining and Metallurgical Society of America for 1922, awarded to Robert Peele, professor of mining at Columbia, was formally presented to him on April 26 at a dinner held at the Aldine Club, New York City. The medal is given annually by the society "for distinguished service in the literature of mining."

At its meeting in Baltimore on April 25 Professor E. V. McCollum, of the School of Hygiene and Public Health of the Johns Hopkins University, gave an address before the Tri-State Medical Association on "The influence of diet on bone and tooth development." In recognition of Professor McCollum's researches