

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

CHEMICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF BIBLIOGRAPHIES

A RÉSUMÉ of the literature of the problem in which he is interested is the first need of every research worker in the field of chemistry and chemical technology, as well as in other fields of science. To meet this need it is necessary either to find or compile a bibliography of the subject. Unless the problem is very specialized, or of very recent interest, the chances are that somewhere is a list of references, more or less complete, bearing directly or indirectly upon the topic. To believe that it is *somewhere* is an incentive to the search, but to know *where* it is, is to eliminate the search and arrive at the goal.

Books or articles which are primarily bibliographic are so noted in various abstract journals and indexes and are, therefore, easy to find, but a list of references appended to an article or a book, however valuable or complete, is seldom mentioned in the abstract of the article or the index of the journal, and may be entirely lost as a bibliographic aid.

About two years ago the Research Information Service of the National Research Council enlisted the help of several men in the preparation of a key to scientific bibliographies, each man undertaking to prepare the work in his respective science. The bibliography of bibliographies on geology is now in press and active work is under way in those for chemistry and chemical technology, astronomy and physics.

In the field of chemistry and chemical technology about 6,000 references have already been collected, including separate bibliographies, lists of references appended to articles or books and comprehensive reviews of the literature. This field is so wide and the subjects covered so numerous that the cooperation of the specialists in the various branches would be very desirable. If you, the reader, have references to bibliographies in your special field you will facilitate the completion of this work by sending such references to the compiler of the Bibliography of Bibliographies in Chemistry and Chemical Technology at the National Research Council. Any annotation which you may make on the completeness or value of the references will be appreciated.

Work is being pushed toward the early publication of this bibliography at which time notices will appear in all the scientific and technical journals so that those interested may secure copies.

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THE WALTER RATHBONE BACON SCHOLARSHIP

UNDER the terms of the will of the late Virginia Purdy Bacon, of New York, the Smithsonian Institution was bequeathed the sum of \$50,000 to establish a traveling scholarship as a memorial to her husband, Walter Rathbone Bacon.

The secretary of the Smithsonian Institution has recently approved the rules which are to regulate the award of the Walter Rathbone Bacon scholarship for the study of the fauna of countries other than the United States of America. The amount available is the interest on the capital invested (about \$2,500 a year), the incumbent to hold the scholarship not less than two years.

Applications for this scholarship, addressed to the secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, should be submitted not later than October 1, 1923. The application should contain a detailed plan for the proposed study, including a statement as to the faunal problems involved; the reasons why it should be undertaken; the benefits that are expected to accrue; the length of time considered necessary for the carrying out of the project; the estimated cost; and the scientific and physical qualifications of the applicant to undertake the project.

The scholarship will be awarded for a term of two years. If at the expiration of the term it is desired to extend the time, the incumbent shall make application a sufficient time in advance, accompanied by a statement as to the necessity for such extension.

All collections, photographs, records and equipment become the property of the institution.

The incumbent shall not engage in work for remuneration or receive salary from other sources than the institution or its branches during the period of occupancy of the scholarship.

W. DE C. RAVENEL,
Acting Secretary

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

A PROPOSED AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY

At the meeting of the Regents of the University of California, held on June 19, Dr. T. Wayland Vaughan was appointed director of the Scripps Institution for Biological Research. Although the new director's incumbency dates from July 1, 1923, his work as a member of the United States Geological Survey makes it impossible for him to move to La Jolla and assume actual charge of the institution's affairs until January or February, 1924.

Dr. F. B. Sumner, of the staff of the institution, was at the same time appointed to act as director in Dr. Vaughan's absence.