SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

PROGRESS IN PREPARATION OF INTERNATIONAL CRITICAL TABLES

INTERNATIONAL CRITICAL TABLES, organized under the auspices of the International Research Council, is a portion of the international scientific program, the responsibility for which has been assigned to the United States. The work is in charge of the board of trustees and the board of editors, appointed through joint action of the National Research Council, American Chemical Society and American Physical Society, with headquarters at the National Research Council, Washington, D. C.

The work of preparing the data for International Critical Tables is now actively under way. The material is being collected and critically evaluated by approximately 300 competent experts distributed among the following countries: United States, Canada, Great Britain, Belgium, France, Italy, Austria, Germany, Denmark, Switzerland, Holland, Australia and Japan.

The program covers all available information of value concerning all the properties and numerical characteristics of (a) pure substances, (b) physicochemical systems of definite composition, (c) many industrial materials, (d) many natural materials and (e) selected data for selected natural bodies or systems, such as the earth and its main physical subdivisions, the solar and stellar systems and certain biological organisms, including man. Publications of the world in all languages will be combed for data and much unpublished information is also being collected. In addition to the stupendous scope of the tables, hitherto unapproached by any similar publication, the volumes will contain many novel features of arrangement. Thus, for example, not only will it be possible to find readily all the properties of a given substance or material but it will also be possible in many cases to ascertain readily what substance or material of a given kind has a maximum, a minimum or a given value for any given property. This feature will be of great assistance in identifying a substance by means of its properties or in selecting a substance or material on the basis of a given property or combination of properties. The main descriptive material and the very complex index to the tables will be in four languages, English, French, German and Italian.

In order to assist the board of editors in connection with the work of the cooperating experts in foreign countries and in the collecting of information from these countries, ten corresponding editors have been appointed. These editors have greatly assisted the board in connection with the selection of competent cooperating experts. They have general charge of relations with the experts in their respective countries and also assist the board in securing data from their own and neighboring countries. Following is a list of these editors and their advisory committees:

THE BRITISH EMPIRE (excluding British North America). Dr. G. W. C. Kaye, National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, England. Advisory committee: Sir Robert Robertson, W. Rosenhain, J. E. Sears, T. E. Stanton, W. F. Higgins, A. W. Porter.

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA. Dr. Otto Maass, department of chemistry, McGill University. Advisory committee: J. W. Bain, R. J. Durley, A. L. Hughes, G. S. Whitby.

JAPAN (and eastern Asia). Professor Kotaro Honda, Iron and Steel Institute, Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan.

BELGIUM (and its dependencies). Professor M. Strauven, Liége, Belgium.

HOLLAND (and its dependencies). Dr. W. J. van Heteron, Utrecht, Holland. Advisory committee: Ernst Cohen, C. A. Crommelin, H. Baucke.

DENMARK (Norway and Sweden). Professor Dr. Niels Bjerrum, Copenhagen, K. Denmark. Advisory committee: Martin Knudsen, Carl Jacobsen.

FRANCE (Spain and Portugal). Dr. Charles Marie, Paris, France. Advisory committee: C. Moureu, A. Fabry, A. Guillet.

SWITZERLAND. Professor A. Berthoud, Neuchâtel, Switzerland. Advisory committee: Ch. E. Guye, H. Rupe, F. Schule.

AUSTRIA (central and southeastern Europe). Professor Dr. Rudolf Wegscheider, Vienna, Austria.

ITALY (and its dependencies). Professor Eicola Parravano, Istituto Chimico, R. Universita, Rome, Italy. Advisory committee: Ugo Bordoni, Luigi Rolla, Francesco Giordani.

THE NEW ENGINEERING BUILDINGS OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

ACCORDING to the London *Times* the new buildings of the faculty of engineering of University College, London, have just been completed, and will be formally opened in the near future.

Professor Simpson has designed the new wing to harmonize with the existing buildings and Professor Coker and his staff, aided by Sir Ernest Moir and Sir Alexander Kennedy, have given much care to the working out of suitable plans. The main engineering laboratory is equipped to show the best practice in heat engines and provision is made for experiment and advanced research; also for experiment in connection with the testing of materials.

For advanced and post-graduate students, in addition to a laboratory there are available a number of small rooms suitable for research work. Other provision includes an additional electrical laboratory, a large lecture room and a laboratory for the department of municipal engineering. In the basement a