

For the latter fund, the corresponding figures are as follows: amount paid out—\$89,399.29, of which \$29,500.00 was based upon grants voted in previous years.

During the same period, grants were voted from income of the principal fund, amounting to \$2,448,540.94, of which \$1,615,599.98 were absolute and \$808,940.96 were conditional. For the fund applicable elsewhere than in the U. S. A., the total of grants was \$757,575.01.

The list of grants is headed by the Carnegie Institute of Pittsburgh which received the largest single grant in the history of the corporation, amounting to \$16,327,376.25. Of this sum, \$8,000,000 was paid over to the Pittsburgh authorities in June, 1924. Other large grants upon which reports of progress are made, together with the amount of each grant, are as follows: The National Research Council and the National Academy of Sciences, \$5,000,000; educational institutions in Eastern Canada, \$3,000,000; Institute of Economics, \$1,650,000; National Bureau of Economic Research, \$150,000; Institute for Research in Land Economics and Public Utilities, \$62,500; Food Research Institute, located at Stanford University, California, \$704,000; American Law Institute, engaged in formulating a restatement of the law, \$1,075,000; the Johns Hopkins Medical School for an out-patient building and diagnostic clinic, \$2,000,000; New York Academy of Medicine, \$1,000,000.

Among the more important grants made during the current year are included the following: American Library Association, for general support and for the conduct of certain special activities, \$164,100; Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, to aid in publishing an economic and social history of the world war, \$350,000; Harvard University, for the training of personnel for museum service, \$100,000; Institute of International Education, \$182,500; Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, \$108,000; University of California, for a study of pyorrhea and its possible relation to other human maladies, \$85,000; National Institute of Public Administration, \$40,000; Committee on Legal Aid Work, \$85,000; Union University, for the Albany Medical College, \$52,500; Junior College, St. John's, Newfoundland, \$75,000, and University of King's College, for endowment, \$600,000 (part of \$3,000,000 gift for education in Eastern Canada); and to various agencies for research in insulin, \$43,000.

BARRO COLORADO ISLAND LABORATORY

THE United Fruit Company has renewed its generous offer of last year of a small number of passes on its boats between New York and Colon for properly accredited scientific investigators who wish to work at the Barro Colorado Island Laboratory.

The company offers to provide five round-trip passes in 1925 to workers properly accredited to the National Research Council by the executive committee of the Institute for Research in Tropical America. These passes do not include meals, which are charged for at an inclusive rate of \$5 per day.

Applications for such passes should be addressed to Dr. Thomas Barbour, acting chairman of the executive committee of the Institute for Research in Tropical America, in care of the National Research Council, Washington, or at the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

VERNON KELLOGG,
Permanent Secretary,
National Research Council

THE WILMER FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES of Johns Hopkins institutions have joined the Wilmer Foundation in a campaign to establish a \$3,000,000 foundation for the endowment at Baltimore of an eye hospital and school which, would be the first of its kind in America, and the equal of any in the world.

The plan is for an institution for the study and treatment of diseases of the eye, for research into causes of blindness and kindred ailments and for the education of American specialists, who heretofore have had to attend European universities and clinics to perfect themselves for the practice of ophthalmology.

Forty free beds are to be endowed. Additional facilities are to be installed for the treatment of patients who lack the means to pay for hospital care.

The institution will be conducted as a unit of the Johns Hopkins University's Medical School and Hospital. It will bear the name of Dr. William Holland Wilmer, of Washington, a noted ophthalmologist, and will be directed by him, according to Dr. Frank J. Goodnow, president of Johns Hopkins University, in whose name announcement of the project was made.

Dr. Goodnow said that it would cost about \$1,000,000 to erect and equip the Wilmer Institute. Another \$1,000,000 will be required to endow the free beds and other charitable features and the additional \$1,000,000 to endow the teaching of ophthalmology and to pay members of the staff, who also will be officers of Johns Hopkins Hospital and members of the medical faculty.

The nucleus of the fund will be \$200,000, contributed by friends and patients of Dr. Wilmer. Several years ago they incorporated the Wilmer Foundation for the endowment of an institution which would give his abilities greater scope. When trustees of this fund learned that Johns Hopkins contem-

plated an institute of ophthalmology it was arranged to make it a joint undertaking.

Henry Breckinridge, of New York, secretary-treasurer of the Wilmer Foundation, has announced plans for increasing the original \$200,000 to nearly \$500,000. The first \$1,000,000 will be sought from the General Education Board, founded by Mr. Rockefeller. The trustees of Johns Hopkins have not yet taken final action.

THE ELLIOT MEDAL FOR 1924

NOMINATIONS for the award of the Elliot Medal for the year 1924 should be addressed to the secretary of the National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D. C. The terms of the award in the Daniel Giraud Elliot deed of gift are as follows:

One such medal and diploma shall be given in each year and they, with any unexpended balance of income for the year, shall be awarded . . . to the author of each paper, essay or other work upon some branch of zoology or paleontology published during the year as in the opinion of the . . . judges in that regard shall be the most meritorious and worthy of honor. The medal and diploma and surplus income shall not, however, for more than two years successively, be awarded for treatises upon any one branch of either of the sciences above mentioned. . . . The medal and diploma and surplus income may be conferred upon naturalists of any country and . . . no person acting as judge shall be deemed on that account ineligible to receive this annual gift . . . if, in the opinion of his associates, he shall . . . be entitled to receive them.

The treasurer of the academy reports that the Elliot Fund has increased since the original donation of \$8,000. The best idea of the kind of work for which this award was designed may be gathered from the résumé of previous awards:

1917, Frank M. Chapman for his "Distribution of bird life in Colombia."

1918, William Beebe for his "Monograph of the pheasants," Volume I.

1919, Robert Ridgway for his "Birds of north and middle America," Part VIII.

1920, Othenio Abel for his "Methoden der paleobiologischen Forschung."

1921, Bashford Dean for his "A bibliography of fishes," Volume I.

1922, William Morton Wheeler for his "Ants of the American Museum Congo expedition."

1923, Ferdinand Canu for his "North American later Tertiary and Quaternary Bryozoa."

Unlike other awards, the Elliot Medal is always for a special piece of research in zoology or paleontology completed and published in the year for which the award is made. The committee particularly desires that nominations shall be received for foreign

as well as for American work during the year 1924. Recommendations should be accompanied by a printed copy of the research submitted for consideration.

HENRY FAIRFIELD OSBORN,
Chairman, Committee on Award

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

PRESENTATION of a bust of Admiral George Wallace Melville will be made to The American Society of Mechanical Engineers by a group of his friends at the annual business meeting of the society, on December 3.

M. PAUL PAINLEVE, president of the French Chamber of Deputies, will retain his chair of mathematics at the University of Paris. He is now giving lectures at the university on two days a week.

B. D. SAKLATWALLA, of the Vanadium Company of America, will be presented with the Grasselli Medal at a meeting of the American Section of the Society of Chemical Industry in December.

PRESIDENT L. H. BAEKELAND, of the American Chemical Society, appointed Atherton Seidell as the society's delegate at a meeting of the Netherland Chemical Society and the Netherland Society of Chemical Industry, held on October 25, 1924, to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of stereochemistry by Van't Hoff and Le Bel.

DR. WILLIAM M. JARDINE, president of the Kansas Agricultural College, has been appointed by President Coolidge an additional member of the agricultural commission.

HOWARD M. GORE, of West Virginia, has been appointed by the president to be secretary of agriculture to succeed the late Henry C. Wallace. Mr. Gore, who has been acting secretary since the death of Mr. Wallace, will serve until March 4, when he becomes governor of West Virginia.

J. A. CARROLL, fellow of Sidney Sussex College and Isaac Newton Student of Cambridge University, has been appointed assistant director of the Solar Physics Observatory, at Cambridge, in succession to E. A. Milne, appointed professor of applied mathematics at the University of Manchester.

DR. FRIEDRICH PASHEN, director of the Institute of Physics of the University of Tübingen, has been appointed president of the National Institute of Physical Technology, Berlin.

THE Pasteur Institute in Paris has instituted a section of soil bacteriology with S. Winogradsky, for-