

seventy-five francs paid by each visitor to the museum, is divided between the institute at Paris and the museum at Monaco. The diminishing purchasing power of the franc makes it increasingly difficult to carry on the excellent work so well done on their part by the institute.

It is to be regretted that no part of the large profits derived from the Casino of Monte Carlo goes to the institute, and also that the present Prince of Monaco does not emulate the example of his father in contributing freely to its needs. Thus a period has been reached at which the rate of growth of this important institution has been temporarily diminished.

A detailed description of the museum at Monaco has been published by Dr. Charles Atwood Kofoid in a bulletin of the U. S. Bureau of Education (1910, No. 4, whole Number 440) entitled "The Biological Stations of Europe." Especial attention is given in this article to the facilities obtainable at the museum for research.

Although a fairly large number of students and scientists from various countries availed themselves of the hospitality and opportunities offered for weeks at Monaco before the war, there have been very few since that time. To those who may be interested it should be mentioned that the invitation to work at the museum still holds good and every possible aid will be furnished to competent investigators who may find it possible to come to Monaco. It is interesting to know that in addition to five well-equipped laboratories in which there are accommodations for from eight to ten visiting scientists, there are also four completely furnished lodging rooms located in the institute which are offered without charge to those who would prefer to be near their work. Excellent meals can easily be obtained in Monaco for less than one dollar per day. This should prove especially attractive to those of limited means who may desire to pursue studies in a European laboratory. It is evident that with the present rate of exchange and the special arrangements made by the steamship lines for the cheap transportation of students to Europe a sojourn of several months at Monaco might cost even less than a similar stay at a less well-equipped laboratory in the United States.

The collections of this museum embrace thousands of carefully preserved specimens for which accurate and detailed information in regard to their source is available. The museum operates a small steam yacht for collecting material for the aquaria, and by means of this vessel living specimens for research may be easily obtained. The museum possesses a well-equipped chemical laboratory in which studies of chemical nature may be pursued. The library is rich in publications pertaining to all branches of oceanography and is ample to permit all necessary searches of the literature.

The present staff consists of the director and some five scientists and fifteen mechanics, attendants and guards. It is unfortunate that the time of this staff is occupied for the most part with details of maintenance and editorial work in connection with the publications of the institute rather than with research. It is particularly for this reason that Dr. Richard would welcome scientists who desire to take advantage of the facilities offered by his institution. Any one who may be interested in working at the Oceanographical Museum of Monaco should write to M. le Dr. Jules Richard, Musée Oceanographique, Monaco (Principauté). They should state the problem which it is desired to pursue and the particular material or apparatus required.

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## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### AWARD OF FELLOWSHIPS BY THE CHARLES A. COFFIN FOUNDATION

FIVE persons—four graduate students and one still an undergraduate—have been awarded fellowships for the year 1926-1927, by the Charles A. Coffin Foundation. These fellowships, awarded for one year, will enable the recipients to undertake research work at institutions of their own choosing. In addition to awarding the five new fellowships, the committee granted one renewal, and appointed one alternate.

The Charles A. Coffin Foundation, by which these fellowships were granted, was established in 1922 in honor of the first president and chairman of the board of directors of the General Electric Company. The object of these fellowships is to give financial assistance to a carefully chosen group of research men who would be unable to carry on their work without financial assistance. A sum of \$5,000 a year is devoted to this purpose.

The committee by which the awards are made is composed of three members, not connected with the General Electric Company. The three making this year's awards were: Dr. Michael I. Pupin, representing the American Institute of Electrical Engineers; Dr. George B. Pegram, representing the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education; and Gano Dunn, representing the National Academy of Sciences.

The awards are as follows: Hubert N. Alyea, for research work at Yale and Princeton on the inhibition of chemical reactions, studied photochemically and thermally. Bernard D. Holbrook, for investigating some phase (not yet determined) of the general problem of the reactions between radiant energy and matter, as investigated by the cloud-expansion chamber. Thomas J. Killian, for work in thermionic currents from absorbed films and conduction

in gases and vapors, to be pursued at Princeton. Lloyd P. Smith will study at Princeton during the coming year, and has taken the broad field of ionization as his subject. James E. Taylor, assistant professor at Wittenberg College, will engage in research work at Ohio State University, and will attempt a partial resolution of the isotopes of lead. Harold N. Rowe, who has for the past year been working at the University of Chicago under this foundation, has been granted a continuation of his fellowship for another year. During the forthcoming year he will engage in a test of the quantum theory of X-radiation. Warren F. Busse has been appointed an alternate. Mr. Busse is at present a research assistant at the University of Wisconsin, and proposes to study the relation of the chemical effect produced by the cathode rays outside the tube to the ionization produced.

#### GIFTS TO THE CASE SCHOOL OF APPLIED SCIENCE

DR. CHARLES S. HOWE, president of the Case School of Applied Science, has announced details of the progress of the campaign to raise funds for a new mechanical building and for additional endowment for the school.

An original gift of \$500,000 was made on condition that the alumni raise \$300,000, which with another gift of \$200,000 would make a grand total of \$1,000,000. Half of this amount was to go to the building of a new mechanical building and the other half for endowment. The campaign opened April 9 and ended April 16. Case School of Applied Science has roughly twenty-three hundred alumni. To date fifteen hundred and five subscriptions from the alumni, which means that more than sixty per cent. have already subscribed, have been received—subscriptions are still coming in. Instead of raising \$300,000 the alumni have raised to date \$404,000.

The original gift of \$500,000 was given by Charles W. Bingham and when his name was announced an additional gift of \$500,000 from his son, Charles W. Bingham, II, was also announced. The grand total to date therefore is approximately \$1,625,000. The school will proceed immediately with the erection of the new mechanical building and undertake some other projects of progress which this gift has made possible.

#### THE NEW SOLAR OBSERVATORY IN SOUTHWEST AFRICA

WITHIN a few months the Smithsonian Institution expects, for the first time in history, to receive daily reports on solar radiation from the Eastern Hemisphere as a result of the establishment of a new solar observatory in Southwest Africa by the National Geo-

graphic Society's expedition headed by Dr. Charles G. Abbot, the solar expert of the Smithsonian Institution, who has just returned to Washington.

Construction on this new sun observation post, which is to operate in conjunction with other solar observatories in taking daily measurements of the solar constant, in an attempt to obtain data for long-range weather forecasting, has begun on the arid mountain of Brukkaros, in the center of a Hottentot reservation, with the assistance of the Public Works Department of the government of Southwest Africa.

The observatory and living quarters for the scientists are being built in natural caves, enlarged and improved, to obviate heating in winter and obtain cool rooms in summer. A reservoir of nearly 3,000 gallons capacity is being built to catch the infrequent rains in that part of Africa.

The two American scientific men who will be stationed on Brukkaros will have no easy access to their observatory. The nearest spot to which they will be able to take their supply automobile will be an hour's walk from the mountain.

The outstanding merit of Brukkaros as an observatory site is the clearness of the atmosphere. The place is seven miles north of Berseba, a Hottentot village with a white population of two persons.

Daily communication of solar radiation values probably will be by radio signals to Berseba, whence they will be relayed to Keetmanshoop and cabled to the Smithsonian Institution at Washington.

#### THE MILLS COLLEGE MEETING OF THE PACIFIC DIVISION, AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

THE tenth annual meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will be held June 16 to 19, 1926, at Mills College, California. In accepting the invitation of Mills College to hold the 1926 meeting there the executive committee have been governed by the fact of its central location with respect to the large membership in the San Francisco Bay region and by its desire to recognize the outstanding character of Mills College, which has achieved notable importance on the Pacific Coast and now ranks among the best institutions of its class in the country.

Ample accommodations are assured and in the delightful surroundings of the college guests will find much of interest for the employment of their time between sessions. Mills College is within the city limits of Oakland about five miles from the city hall. It may be reached from San Francisco in one hour and a quarter and from Berkeley and the University of California in a half hour.

A special committee has been appointed to provide entertainment for visiting ladies who may not