

ing for the cooperation of several countries and control of scientific investigations.

4. It shall be entrusted with the publication of all reports ordered by the American states.

5. It shall participate in the study of frontiers, in order to facilitate the acceptance of the natural nature of a geographical character and serve as an intermediary between American states for a better understanding between them.

6. It shall be in charge of the formation of an archive comprising maps of the entire American continent, classified by countries as well as by libraries, containing all the geographical works published by American states.

The plan was later approved by the Pan-American conference in plenary session. It proposes an ambitious central organization in an American capital to be chosen by lot, with affiliated organizations in all new world republics contributing to its store of knowledge.

Each government would appoint one member who shall have been an active geographer in the service of his country. The number of votes appertaining to each delegate and the quotas due from each country for the maintenance of the institute would both be computed on the basis of population of each republic compared to the total population of all the nations represented.

NEW BUILDING FOR THE YALE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

PLANS for a new building for the Yale School of Medicine, costing \$1,250,000 and consisting of an addition to the Anthony N. Brady memorial laboratory, have been announced at the university. The entire cost will be met by the General Education Board.

The construction began several months ago and it is now expected that the building will be completed by the beginning of the next school year. The total capacity is 1,600,000 cubic feet, which is 20 per cent. larger than the Sterling Hall of Medicine, which was built a few years ago.

The new building, at the corner of Cedar Street and Congress Avenue, is joined with the administration building of the New Haven General Hospital by a covered archway. Together with the existing wing of the Anthony N. Brady laboratory, built in 1917, the new building has a total cubic capacity of 2,200,000 cubic feet.

The ground floor of the Brady laboratory, which will be the entrance floor for students and workers in the new building, will be given over to locker and rest rooms. The first floor of the Brady laboratory will be occupied by the school of nursing for its administrative offices and classrooms.

The ground floor of the new Cedar Street wing, as

well as that of the Congress Avenue wing, will be devoted to technical procedures essential for the work in the laboratory. Among these are the surgical pathology activities and a large well-equipped photographic establishment.

The first floor of the new wing on Cedar Street, as well as on Congress Avenue, and the second floor of the Congress Avenue wing are to be occupied by pathology. The whole of the second floor of the Cedar Street wing will be occupied by the department of public health, headed by Professor C.-E. A. Winslow. On the third floor of both the old and new wings on Cedar Street and the whole of the Congress Avenue wing on this floor will be located all of the university's activities in bacteriology.

The fourth floor of the Cedar Street wing contains a dormitory suite for the use of the staff in pathology and bacteriology, so that these men may be available at all times, not only to conduct time-consuming investigations, but also for emergency service, which their particular departments are frequently called upon to render.

THE 1929 BUDGET OF THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

THE budget for the fiscal year 1929, transmitted by the president to congress on December 7, recommends total appropriations of \$142,753,229 for the work of the U. S. Department of Agriculture for all purposes, including \$77,500,000 for road construction. Items for which increases are allowed total \$3,714,679, this figure being offset by reductions in other items aggregating \$824,439. The budget recommends that \$150,000 of the balance remaining from the \$10,000,000 corn-borer control fund, provided by the act of February 23, 1927, be made available for a special research program designed to assist in meeting the situation arising out of the corn-borer infestation. Including the special fund for research in relation to the corn-borer situation, about \$1,300,000 of the increases included in the budget is for research work by the Department of Agriculture.

An increase of \$480,000 is recommended in the funds authorized by the Purnell Act for payments to the state experiment stations for agricultural research, or \$10,000 additional for each of the 48 states, making a total of \$3,840,000 to be available during 1929 for this purpose under the Hatch, Adams and Purnell Acts. An increase of \$41,256 is recommended for extending the research work of the Bureau of Dairy Industry. Increases in several of the subappropriations of the Bureau of Animal Industry, aggregating \$120,620, are recommended to provide for adjustments in the compensation of field veterinarians. A net increase of \$495,180 is included for forestry,

including \$200,000 for cooperation with states in fire suppression on state and privately owned timberlands, under the terms of the Clarke-McNary reforestation act. For effectively meeting the menace to the southern fruit industry presented by the occurrence of the Mexican fruit worm in Texas, the budget includes \$34,100 for researches on this insect and \$100,000 for control operations. An increase of \$68,220 is included for developing and extending the agricultural outlook work, including researches on the fundamental economic principles underlying production and marketing, with a view to adjusting production to probable demand for farm products. For further developing the cooperative marketing work of the department an increase of \$39,560 is provided. To further carry out the provisions of the act of March 3, 1927, authorizing the collection of statistics of the grade and staple length of cotton, an increase of \$335,000 is included. An additional \$34,820 is recommended for strengthening the port and border inspection in connection with the plant quarantine act, and \$50,000 is provided for the control of pink bollworm of cotton in Arizona and New Mexico. For enforcing the milk import act of February 15, 1927, and the caustic poison act of March 4, 1927, \$50,000 and \$25,000, respectively, are recommended.

The budget recommends the creation of a unit in the department to be known as the plant quarantine and control administration, and the consolidation thereunder of all the regulatory and control activities affecting plants and plant products now conducted under the Federal Horticultural Board, the Bureau of Entomology and, to a slight extent, the Bureau of Plant Industry. The Bureau of Entomology, thus relieved from regulatory and control duties, will confine its activities to insect research projects, which present many pressing problems requiring attention, the solution of which, it is believed, will be materially advanced under the new arrangement.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE great Dutch mathematical physicist, Hendrik Antoon Lorentz, born in 1853 and appointed professor in the University of Leyden in 1878, died, according to a cablegram from Holland, on February 5. The death of Professor Lorentz was reported by cable to the newspapers as the issue of *SCIENCE* for last week was going to press and unfortunate errors in the notice were reproduced, the proof not having been read by the editor.

THE American Society of Swedish Engineers has presented to Dr. E. F. W. Alexanderson, consulting engineer of the General Electric Company, the John Ericsson Medal for achievement in electrical engineer-

ing. The presentation was made at a dinner in Brooklyn on February 11.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM BERRYMAN SCOTT, oldest active professor in Princeton University, celebrated his seventieth birthday on February 12. In recognition of Dr. Scott's service to education and particularly to geological research, a dinner was given to him at the Nassau Club. Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn, a former associate of Professor Scott at Princeton, was chairman of the committee which arranged for the dinner.

PROFESSOR WHEELER P. DAVEY, vice-dean of the school of chemistry and physics at the Pennsylvania State College, has been elected a fellow of the Institute of Physics of London.

THE Cameron Prize, awarded by the University of Edinburgh to a person who, in the course of the five years immediately preceding, has made any highly important and valuable addition to practical therapeutics, has been awarded to Professor C. Levaditi, of the Pasteur Institute, Paris, for his work on the chemotherapy of syphilis and his other contributions to our knowledge of microbiology.

THE Reale Accademia dei Lincei has elected Professor Giovanni Giorgi, of the University of Cagliari, a correspondent in the section of mechanics, and Professor N. E. Nörlund, of the University of Copenhagen, a foreign member in the section of mathematics.

At the recent quarterly meeting of the council of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, the diploma of honorary associate was conferred on Sir John McFadyean, late principal and dean of the Royal Veterinary College, London.

A GOLD medal has been awarded by the school of industrial art of the Pennsylvania Museum to Nicola D'Ascenzo, worker in stained glass. The presentation was made on the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the school. This is the first year that the medal has been offered.

PREVIOUS to his recent return to the United States from China, Dr. Henry S. Houghton, dean of the State University of Iowa College of Medicine, was decorated with the Order of Chia Ho Chang for outstanding service in medical work in China. Dr. Houghton was presented at this time with a silver bowl inscribed with the names of the staff of the Peking Union Medical College, with which he had been connected for about nine years.

PROFESSOR ROSWELL C. GIBBS, professor of physics at Cornell University, has been elected president of Phi Kappa Phi, national honorary scholastic society.