private sources, notably from Dr. Barbour and Mr. Allison V. Armour.

The station is in much need of larger financial support than it now has. Other institutions like those mentioned should make annual subscriptions. Any subscribing institution has the privilege of having its members given preferential treatment when there are more applicants for place than is available.

Applications for space should be made as far in advance as possible to Dr. Thomas Barbour, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Mass. Dr. Barbour will supply intending workers with all necessary information.

VERNON KELLOGG
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

APPROPRIATIONS OF THE GENERAL EDUCATION BOARD

THE General Education Board has issued its annual report giving an account of its activities during the year July 1, 1926, to June 30, 1927. Previous reports have called attention to the fact that the board has decided to transfer its main interest from college to university development. At the college level the general public, alumni, local communities and denominational agencies must mainly deal with the financial situation. The same can not be said of research and teaching at the research level. Men are relatively few; facilities are relatively undeveloped; public interest is still to be aroused.

In the field of science, exclusive of medical education, appropriations have been made as follows:

California Institute of Technology

The General Education Board has already cooperated with the California Institute of Technology in the development of its facilities for advanced work in physics, chemistry and mathematics. The authorities now plan further extensions in mathematical physics, biophysics and organic chemistry, and around these strengthened departments they hope to develop geology and biology, the former already established two years ago. The entire program, as now outlined, calls for additional endowment to the extent of $4,000,000. In view, however, of the difficulty of procuring personnel, the program has been divided into two parts, and the institute is now undertaking to raise $2,100,000. Towards this sum, the General Education Board appropriated $1,050,000.

Harvard University

Harvard University, long eminent in respect to its personnel in the physical, biological and mathematical sciences, has only recently begun to procure adequate facilities for graduate studies. A new laboratory for chemistry is now in process of construction; the biological laboratories and collections, now scattered, need to be brought together in as close proximity as possible to other sciences. It is proposed at this time to procure funds which will enable the university to devote the Jefferson Laboratory to undergraduate work and to construct and equip a fireproof building to be used for research and graduate instruction. To accomplish this improvement in the department of physics, the sum of $1,100,000 is required. Towards this total, the General Education Board appropriated $400,000.

University of Chicago

At the time of its foundation, the University of Chicago occupied an advanced position in respect to the physical and biological sciences. It is still eminent; but its accommodations remain practically what they were thirty years ago. With the exception of zoology, none of the physical and biological sciences possesses adequate space and equipment for research and the training of advanced students. The university has now undertaken to raise $2,790,000, to be apportioned approximately as follows: botany, $250,000; mathematics, physics and astronomy, $1,600,000; chemistry, $940,000.

Towards the total sum thus required, the General Education Board appropriated $1,500,000.

Vanderbilt University

A few years ago Vanderbilt University established a school of medicine with ideals as exacting as those elsewhere in the country. This step rendered imperative an effort to lift the entire institution to a corresponding level. To achieve this end, an initial campaign was planned, calling for the sum of $4,100,000 in three distinct portions—$1,300,000 to be devoted to improving facilities in science, $1,300,000 for improvement of work in the humanities and social sciences, $1,500,000 for general endowment, the income to be utilized mainly in graduate work.

The first step has already been taken, and pledges amounting to the requisite sum have been secured. Towards the second and third steps the General Education Board has appropriated $900,000.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN GEOPHYSICAL UNION

THE ninth annual meetings of the American Geophysical Union and of its sections will be held in Washington on April 26 and 27. A joint meeting of the sections of meteorology and oceanography will be held on both the morning and afternoon of April 26 and will be devoted to a symposium and discussion on interrelations between the sea and the atmosphere and the effect of these relations on weather and climate;

the 15 papers to be presented at this symposium will be grouped into (1) problems related to solar radiation, (2) problems related to surface-water temperature and (3) problems related to atmospheric circulation. The joint meeting of the sections of terrestrial magnetism and electricity, seismology and geodesy, to be held on the morning of April 26, will be devoted to a symposium and discussion on geophysical methods as applied in the study of geological structure; the program for the symposium will consist of six papers. The section of geodesy will hold a meeting on the morning of April 27 to hear reports of progress from representatives from Mexico, Canada and the United States, to be followed by a symposium on the figure of the earth. The section of volcanology will also meet on the morning of April 27, the program of scientific papers and discussion being devoted largely to questions of volcanic activity, the year's volcanologic publications and volcanologic work of the U. S. Geological Survey. The general assembly of the union is scheduled for the afternoon of April 27; in addition to business matters and reports concerned with the union's activities for the year, there will be reports of the delegates to the third general assembly of the International Geodetic and Geophysical Union at Prague and a general discussion with reference to the proposed publications of bulletins on geophysical methods, instruments, results, etc., under the auspices of the division of physical sciences of the National Research Council.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

A CELEBRATION in honor of the fiftieth anniversary of the invention of the dynamo will take place at the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, on April 18, where the first tests were made in 1878 by Dr. Elihu Thomson and Professor E. J. Houston. Dr. Thomson and Dr. Charles F. Brush, who invented the type of dynamo finally recommended, will be the guests of honor and will present papers.

THE Frank Nelson Cole prize of $200 for original work in algebra was awarded to Professor L. E. Dickson, of the University of Chicago, at a meeting of the American Mathematical Society at Columbia University on March 7. The prize, which is awarded every five years, was established in honor of Frank Nelson Cole, who was secretary of the society for twenty-five years.

THE University of Dublin will confer the honorary degree of D.Sc. on Dr. G. L. Streeter, director of the department of embryology, Carnegie Institution of Washington, Baltimore, and Professor A. S. Eddington, Plumian professor of astronomy and experimental philosophy in the University of Cambridge.

DR. CARL STUMPF, the distinguished psychologist, celebrates his eightieth birthday on April 21. On that occasion a bronze bust of him by Georg Kolbe will be unveiled in one of the rooms of the University of Berlin.

DR. ADOLPH ENGLER, professor of botany in the University of Berlin, has been elected an honorary member of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

DR. ALFRED DENKES, professor of medicine at the University of Halle, has been elected a corresponding member of the Royal Society of Medicine, London.

DR. PAUL ALEXANDDROFF, professor of mathematics at Moscow, has been elected a corresponding member of the Göttingen Scientific Society.

THE gold medal of the British Institution of Mining and Metallurgy has been awarded to Sir Alfred Mond, "in recognition of his scientific and industrial services in the development of the mineral resources and metallurgical industries of the British Empire."

THE Frank N. Meyer medal for distinguished service in plant introduction has been presented to H. N. Ridley, in recognition of the important part he played in establishing plantations of the Para rubber tree in the Oriental tropics. The presentation was made by the American consul-general on behalf of Mr. David Fairchild, president of the American Genetic Association, to whom the award is entrusted by the staff of the office of foreign plant introduction of the United States Department of Agriculture.

WE learn from *Nature* that elections to the following offices in the British Chemical Society have been made: *President,* Professor J. F. Thorpe; *Treasurer,* Dr. T. Slater Price; *Secretary,* Professor T. S. Moore. The retiring president, Professor H. Brereton Baker, delivered his presidential address, entitled "Constitution of Liquids: Some New Experiments," at the annual general meeting on March 22.

DR. JOSEPH S. ILLICK, state forester of Pennsylvania, was elected chairman of the Allegheny section of The Society of American Foresters at the annual meeting held at Harrisburg. The Allegheny Section comprises the states of New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

BY the operation of the age limitation law, Edward Howe Forbush will retire on April 24 from his position as director of the division of ornithology of the Massachusetts State Department of Agriculture. His work will be taken up temporarily by Dr. John B. May, who has been his assistant for some years.

PROFESSOR F. O. DUFOUR, head of the civil engineering department of Lafayette College, has resigned to accept a position as engineer in charge of structural