

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM

FROM a statement issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture we note that a new and larger greenhouse is to be erected at the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, at Jamaica Plain, Mass. In this greenhouse, which will occupy a site on the South Street side of the arboretum, there will be a laboratory fully equipped for research in pathology and genetics, a workroom for potting and pits for growing woody plants. The greenhouse will be about 50 feet long. It is to be adjoined by a new nursery covering about three acres of land.

A most important phase of arboretum work—hybridization and the study of living conditions and diseases of plants with a view of improving their inherent qualities—has never been attempted at the Arnold Arboretum because of lack of necessary facilities. Up to the present time the work carried on at the arboretum has consisted mainly of assembling woody plants and trees from all parts of the world, identifying, classifying and propagating them and exchanging them with other arboreta and nurseries and building up a library and herbarium.

With part of the \$1,000,000 endowment now being raised as a memorial to Charles Sprague Sargent, late director of the arboretum, two departments of research are to be established, one in pathology and one in genetics. The work in genetics will be supervised by Dr. Edward M. East, of the Bussey Institution. There is to be added to the staff a systematic botanist whose field will cover the woody plants of tropical America. It is planned to offer opportunity for special work in dendrology to men who wish to obtain the doctor's degree in this field.

The Arnold Arboretum was established in 1872 for the study and cultivation of all woody plants capable of withstanding the climate of Massachusetts. The original endowment was \$100,000, given to Harvard University by a local merchant. In carrying out this trust Harvard set aside 125 acres of land known as the Bussey farm. By an arrangement with the city of Boston the Arnold Arboretum is assured of its present site for 1,000 years and is tax free. The roads in the arboretum are maintained by the city as part of the park system. Under Professor Sargent's guidance the endowment was increased to more than \$1,000,000 and the area to 260 acres. The arboretum now includes more than 6,500 species of trees, shrubs and vines.

Of the projected Sargent memorial fund of \$1,000,000 more than \$900,000 has been collected.

THE SWAMPSCOTT MEETING OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

THE seventy-sixth meeting of the American Chemical Society will be held at Swampscott, Massachusetts,

from Monday, September 10, to Friday, September 14. It is estimated that more than 2,000 chemists will be in attendance. A list of the large number of technical papers to be presented before the society will be found in the news edition of *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry* for August 20. The following special arrangements have been made by various divisions:

The Division of Agricultural and Food Chemistry will hold a symposium on "Chemistry and the Food Industry."

The Division of Biological Chemistry is preparing an extensive program on various phases of the relation of chemistry to health and disease, covering vitamins, irradiation, endocrinology, bacteriology, etc. Special attention will be paid to cod-liver oil, the rôle of diet in dentition and chemical phases of psychiatric conditions.

The Division of Chemical Education will hold a joint symposium with the Division of Physical Chemistry on "The Teaching of Physical Chemistry." In addition, there will be a breakfast of the executive committee of the division at the New Ocean House, Monday, at 8 A. M.; a meeting of the Senate of Chemical Education at 9 A. M.; luncheon for the senate and the division at 12:15 P. M., and a luncheon, to which high-school teachers of chemistry in the immediate area of the meeting are especially invited, at 12:15 P. M., Tuesday. There will be a meeting of the contributing editors of the *Journal of Chemical Education*, Wednesday at 5 P. M.

The Division of Colloid Chemistry will hold a joint symposium with the Rubber Division on "The Colloid Chemistry of Rubber," and two additional half-day sessions.

The Dye Division will hold two sessions of special interest to the textile industry, and a third session devoted to the spectrophotometer.

The Division of Gas and Fuel Chemistry will hold a joint symposium with the Division of Petroleum Chemistry on "The Chemistry and Physics of Combustion," and two additional sessions for general papers appropriate to the Division of Gas and Fuel Chemistry.

The History of Chemistry Division will hold a half-day session, at which several papers will be devoted to the history of chemistry in New England and, in connection with the centenary of urea, a discussion of Wöhler and an exhibition of Wöhler memorabilia. The division plans an exhibition, open continuously for two days for the convenience of the members of the society, of books, letters, portraits and other documents pertaining to the history of chemistry in New England.

The Division of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry will have charge of one of the general programs on Tuesday morning and will also hold an economic symposium on "The Newer Relations of Nitrogen to Chemical Industry and Agriculture."

The Division of Petroleum Chemistry is planning two symposia for the Swampscott meeting: a symposium on "Wax" and a joint symposium with the Division of Gas and Fuel Chemistry on "The Chemistry and Physics of Combustion."