There remains, however, the marginal region extending from the shore to a point where the immediate influence of the coast is lost and open ocean conditions appear. This shallow or neritic zone plays a most important part in the natural economy of the Gulf of Maine. It is in this area, where the fertility of the waters is increased by outwash from the land and the rivers, that some very important fishing grounds (particularly the herring) are located. To date the American portion of the region has never been investigated in a comprehensive manner and studies of the same nature as those carried on by Dr. Bigelow are badly needed to supplement his work.

Inasmuch as the conditions in different areas along the coast of the Gulf of Maine vary considerably structurally and in the amount of outwash from the land, there will be considerable variability physically, chemically and biologically. In order, therefore, to understand the various fishery problems of the region it will be necessary to determine, so far as possible, these conditions. It is proposed to start work this year in the area lying between Mount Desert and the Canadian border and enlist the cooperation of all available interested organizations. Later it is hoped that such combined support might result in an extensive survey of the whole gulf to continue over a period of years. Certainly the problem warrants such attention. The program this year will include Passamaquoddy Bay and the herring fishery grounds, the work being carried on jointly by the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, the Buffalo Museum of Science and Brown University, with the cooperation of the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries and the Museum of Comparative Zoology of Harvard University.

It is proposed to start work about June 15 with a suitable boat covering the region between Mount Desert and Passamaquoddy Bay at least once and if possible twice during the summer. In addition, special work will be concentrated in areas found most desirable for study. General hydrographical observations (temperature and salinity), chemical analyses of the water (nitrates, phosphates, silicates, pH), qualitative and quantitative micro- and macroplankton analyses, distribution and abundance of larval and postlarval fish, food of young fish and general observations on fishery conditions—particularly the herring—will be made.

The preliminary work will be carried on this year by a relatively small staff of three men with the part-time assistance of Mrs. Fish (for identification of larval fish). The staff will consist of Dr. Charles J. Fish, plankton and general hydrography; Dr. H. W. Rakestraw, chemistry, and one scientific assistant for field work and part-time analysis of stomach contents of larval and postlarval fishes.

A supervising committee has been appointed consisting of Dr. H. B. Bigelow, Commissioner Henry O'Malley, of the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries, and representatives of the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory and the Buffalo Museum of Science, to work out details of the program for the present season and plans for future investigations.

Such a survey will have three objects in view: *First,* a determination of the physical, chemical and biological conditions in the neritic waters of the Gulf of Maine; *second,* general oceanography (lateral extension of the region covered by Dr. Bigelow to the coast line); *third,* immediate problems of the fishery.

WORK OF THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

A REVIEW of the work of the Rockefeller Foundation in 1928, written by its president, George E. Vincent, will be published in a few days. In addition to recounting the activities of the past year, the review tells of plans for extending the scope of the foundation's work under a new régime which went into effect at the beginning of the year 1929, and also summarizes briefly the achievements of the organization during the first sixteen years of its existence.

During 1928 the Rockefeller Foundation continued its regular program of activities consisting chiefly in (1) promoting the development of medical knowledge by aiding schools of medicine, nursing and hygiene in many parts of the world; (2) advancing the cause of public health by helping governments fight certain diseases and strengthen their local health services, and (3) carrying out an extensive fellowship program by which 800 men and women were enabled to pursue additional studies, chiefly in countries other than their own. In doing this work the foundation disbursed from income and capital $21,690,738, of which $12,000,000 constituted an endowment fund for the new China Medical Board, Incorporated.

During the year plans were completed for a reorganization embodying as its main features the merging of the Rockefeller Foundation and the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial into a new corporation to be known as the Rockefeller Foundation, and the extension of the scope of the new foundation's activities to include work in the natural and social sciences and in the humanities. A China Medical Board with independent self-perpetuating trustees to receive the lands and buildings of the Peking Union Medical College together with an endowment fund and annual appropriations was also created.

Since May 22, 1913, the foundation has paid out from income and principal a total of $144,189,400. The emphasis has been on the training of doctors, health officers and nurses, the creation or strengthen-

ing of institutions of medical or public-health education, the building up of official health organizations, the promotion of field research, the demonstration of new methods. The war called for exceptional aid to medical services, social work in army camps and emergency relief, notably for children. For these purposes $22,000,000 was appropriated.

Temporary antihookworm campaigns in the United States and in many other countries have been broadened into permanent official rural-health organizations. Malaria has been studied more fully and methods of control worked out at home and abroad. Yellow fever has been forced to retreat from Mexico and Central America and from northern South America, until it is now found only in Brazil and West Africa. A wartime antituberculosis organization built up with foundation aid in France has been wholly taken over by the French and is being incorporated into a general public health service.

Various schools and institutes of public health have been created or extended with foundation funds. For the strengthening of influential medical schools in many parts of the world from London to Singapore, the foundation has expended about $29,000,000. This does not include building, equipment and support of the Peking Union Medical College and aid to hospitals and the premedical sciences in China.

Up to December 31, 1928, fellowships had been granted to 3,187 representatives of fifty-eight countries at a total cost of $4,908,743. The international significance of these fellowships may be inferred from the fact that 1,383 of the total fellows pursued their studies in countries other than their own.

GIFT TO NEW YORK UNIVERSITY MEDICAL SCHOOL

MR. GEORGE F. BAKER, of New York City, has given the sum of $1,000,000 to New York University to promote the teaching of surgery. The gift will form an endowment to be known as the George David Stewart Endowment for Surgery, in honor of the friendship that has existed for many years between Mr. Baker and Dr. Stewart.

According to plans made by Dr. Stewart, all professors and instructors are to be on half-time, for by that procedure both practice and instruction are the gainers. The teaching staff will be increased materially. Men will be selected according to their ability to be teachers and surgeons. Those who are picked or who apply for service in the department will be asked to undertake a post-graduate course of three years, in which the various subjects embraced by surgery are taught. The instructional staff will rotate methodically among all the surgical and related services and thus will be able to round out their knowledge and ability.

In cooperation with Bellevue Hospital, New York University purposes to expand and develop its colleges of medicine and dentistry, and the Baker gift will permit the realization of the first steps of the plan. According to Chancellor Brown $15,000,000 will be sought for these further objects.

1. A laboratories building presided over by Dr. William H. Park, whose scientific discoveries have done so much for the welfare of humanity.

In this building will be found the activities of the Harriman Fund, which have recently been allied with New York University; the manifold activities of Dr. Park himself, which at the present time are concerned mainly with the various aspects of pneumonia; researches into hay fever, asthma and other diseases of the allergic group; special studies of heart disease and rheumatic fever; in a word, researches into some of the most prevalent and difficult of diseases.

In addition, this building will provide the necessary laboratory facilities for research in various fields, physiology, pharmacology, histology, etc., as well as for undergraduate instruction.

2. A new building for administration offices and for lecture halls.

3. A private pavilion where members of the faculty of the medical school or other distinguished physicians and surgeons may care for their private patients.

4. A building for the dental college which, near by Bellevue, can work in conjunction both with this great city hospital and with the university's medical college.

THE INTERNATIONAL CORN BORER CONFERENCE

UNDER the patronage of the French Minister of Agriculture, the first International Corn Borer Conference was held at the Pasteur Institute of Paris on April 25, 26 and 27. The ministers of agriculture of Hungary, Jugoslavia and Roumania had sent personal representatives, and the government of Poland had appointed an official delegate.

The conference was opened by Dr. Emile Roux, director of the Pasteur Institute, and Dr. Tage Ellinger, director of research of the International Corn Borer Investigations of Chicago. The inspector-general of agriculture, M. Rabaté, welcomed the delegates on behalf of the French government. At the opening session addresses were delivered by Professor E. Roubaud, of the Pasteur Institute, on "Scientific Problems relating to the Corn Borer"; by Professor V. Vouk, of the University of Zagreb, on "The Policy of Scientific Corn Borer Investigations"; and by Dr. Miklos Siegescu, assistant-secretary in the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture, on "The Administrative Aspects of the International Corn Borer Investigations."

The formal opening session was followed by scientific meetings under the chairmanship of Dr. Ellinger. The following scientific men participated: Professor