

Clark is director, makes arrangements for that, as far as manuscripts are received in time. The manuscripts in the hands of the Press Service are available to the committee on award throughout the meeting and it generally happens that the manuscript of the particular paper finally selected has been previously noted in the daily press. At the close of the meeting the selected paper receives very wide attention in the newspapers throughout the United States and Canada and much work is avoided if its manuscript has been and is available for examination in the office of the Press Service.

The arrangements by which the winning paper is selected are very simple. The secretaries of the sections and societies that take part in the meeting are each expected to make one or more nominations in writing and these nominations constitute the papers to be considered by the committee on prize award. Any members who wish the committee to consider a certain paper should make the suggestion to the secretary who is in charge of the particular session before which the suggested paper has been or is about to be presented.

BURTON E. LIVINGSTON,
Permanent Secretary

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

FORESTRY RESEARCH IN INDIA

THE Viceroy of India, accompanied by Lady Irwin, opened on November 7 the new Government Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun, the largest in the British Empire, if not in the world.

According to the account in the *London Times*, Dehra Dun has been a center for scientific forest work since 1878, when a training college for rangers and foresters was established, and research proper started here in 1906. Research had no sooner begun than it started to expand, and the war gave it a very great indirect impetus by creating a demand for the maximum utilization of all kinds of Indian products. The industrial commission of 1918 pointed out the need of extending the Research Institute, its equipment and its staff. The government of India thereupon took up 1,200 acres of land, including 13 villages, on the outskirts of Dehra Dun to fulfil these requirements. The acquisition and development of this area, the building out from the Central Institute of residences for the staff, who are carrying out work under the five main heads of silviculture, forest economy, forest entomology, forest botany and chemistry, and the construction of mills and workshops for the sawing, testing and seasoning of timber, have cost in all £850,000.

Preparatory to the completion of the buildings the government of India appointed a committee of business men, with Sir Chunilal Mehta as chairman, to review the organization of the institute and to make recommendations for the attainment of maximum efficiency in its work.

The viceroy paid a tribute to the work of the committee. He said that the government hoped in due course to give effect to very many of the committee's recommendations. The government intended, within the limits of its financial liability, to give the institute the scientific staff which it required, and to omit no measure which would enhance its usefulness. The

Forest Department dealt with nearly a quarter of the total area of British India, and made an annual profit of nearly £2,750,000. An instance of the value of forestry research was provided at the government rifle factory at Ishapur, where a saving of £10,000 a year had been made by adopting the institute's recipe for the seasoning of Indian walnut for rifle stocks. Another instance was the recent suppression of an epidemic of boring insects in the Sal forests, which had destroyed 5,500,000 trees. Two companies were being floated in London to exploit the great Burma bamboo forests, and the joint technical member of the boards of both was a pulp expert who had just retired from the Dehra Dun Institute.

DEDICATION OF THE GEORGE HERBERT JONES LABORATORY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE George Herbert Jones Laboratory of Chemistry will be dedicated at the University of Chicago on December 16 and 17 with the following program:

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

9:30 A. M.

Presentation of the building by George Herbert Jones, director of the Inland Steel Co., and president of the Pershing Quicksilver Co. and of Hillside Fluorspar Mines.

Acceptance of the laboratory by President Robert M. Hutchins.

Presentation of a bust of the donor by Leonard Crunelle, by the daughter of the donor, Mrs. Walter J. Jarratt. Acceptance and address on the life of Mr. Jones by David Evans, president of the Chicago Steel Foundries.

Presentation of the bust of the late John U. Nef by Leonard Crunelle, by Fred W. Upson, head of the department of chemistry, University of Nebraska, for alumni and friends.

"Nef, the Man and Teacher," by J. W. E. Glattfeld, University of Chicago.

"Nef, the Investigator," by Herman A. Spoehr, assistant director, Coastal Laboratory, Carnegie Institution, Palo Alto, Calif.

Presentation of the bust of the late Alexander Smith by Ulric H. Ellerhusen, by Mrs. Sara B. Smith.

"Alexander Smith, the Man and Teacher," by W. D. Richardson, chief chemist, Swift and Co.

"Alexander Smith, the Investigator," by R. H. McKee, Columbia University.

Presentation of the bust of Julius Stieglitz by Alice Littig Siems, for alumni and friends, by B. B. Freud, of Armour Institute.

Address of Acceptance by H. I. Schlesinger, of the University of Chicago.

1:00 P. M.

Official Luncheon, Harrison B. Barnard, University trustee, presiding.

Afternoon

Inspection of the laboratory.

6:00 P. M.

Official Dinner (informal), H. G. Gale, dean of the Ogden Graduate School of Science, presiding.

8:00 P. M.

Scientific program of the dedication.

"SOME PRESENT AND FUTURE PROBLEMS OF CHEMISTRY"

W. D. HARKINS, *presiding*

"Physical Chemistry," G. N. Lewis, head of the department of chemistry, University of California.

"Industrial Chemistry," Charles H. MacDowell, president of the Armour Fertilizer Works, Chicago; George O. Curme, Jr., Union Carbide and Carbon Co., New York.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

H. I. SCHLESINGER, *presiding*

9:30 A. M.

"Inorganic Chemistry," Charles H. Kraus, head of the department of chemistry, Brown University.

"Organic Chemistry," M. Gomberg, head of the department of chemistry, University of Michigan; M. S. Kharasch, University of Chicago.

"Chemistry Applied to Medicine," Carl Voegtlin, U. S. Public Health Service; A. P. Locke, Seymour Coman fellow in chemistry applied to medicine, University of Chicago and St. Luke's Hospital, Chicago.

3:00 P. M.

University Convocation, at which honorary degrees will be bestowed.

Evening

The dedication ceremonies will be closed by a banquet, probably in Ida Noyes Hall of the University of Chicago, given in honor of George Herbert Jones. After the banquet Professor Stieglitz will give a short address outlining the plans of development for the department. There will also be other speakers.

COMMANDER BYRD'S ANTARCTIC EXPLORATIONS

As is fully reported in the daily press, more especially in the New York *Times* and the newspapers affiliated with it in the support of the expedition, Commander Byrd safely returned to his base, Little America, on November 29, after a successful flight across the South Pole, during which he surveyed much adjacent territory. The flight was without mishap and everything worked well. The *Times* announced that it had been directed by President Hoover to forward through its wireless station the following message to Commander Byrd:

I know that I speak for the American people when I express their universal pleasure at your successful flight over the South Pole. We are proud of your courage and your leadership. We are glad of proof that the spirit of great adventure still lives. Our thoughts of appreciation include also your companions in the flight and your colleagues whose careful and devoted preparation have contributed to your great success.

As the Associated Press reports, the Antarctic flight was beset with difficulties far greater than those encountered in Byrd's trip to the North Pole, which was made May 9, 1926. The distance of each flight was about the same, 1,600 miles. On the flight to the North Pole and back, made in 15 hours, 30 minutes, there was no stop.

Commander Byrd flew from Spitzbergen to the North Pole over floating ice fields, arising only a few feet above sea-level, with here and there open leads of water. From the edge of the southern ice barrier he flew 400 miles over an accumulation of ice rising 150 feet or more above the sea and then soared over mountains to the polar plateau and back again.

His flight to the South Pole was over a jagged mountain chain with peaks that rise from 10,000 to 15,000 feet. It is a striking demonstration of the conquest of modern methods. Commander Byrd flew from his base on the Bay of Whales to the pole and back in less than a day. Captain Roald Amundsen, the first explorer to reach the South Pole, using dog sledges and starting from a base which was near Little America, required 97 days to reach the pole. The trip there and back, a total of 1,545 miles, was made in 148 days. He left his base October 20, 1911, reached the pole December 14, averaging about 15 miles a day.

An additional grant of \$25,000 to Commander Byrd's Antarctic expedition is announced by the National Geographic Society. This supplements \$25,000 previously contributed by the society toward the scientific work of the expedition. Dr. Gilbert Grosvenor, president of the society, sent the following message to Commander Byrd: