

mitted as a maximum. Varietal names already in use for one variety of one kind of plant should not be used again for another variety of that kind, even though they may be attached to a different species.

The committee also decided that where personal names are used to designate varieties the prefixes, Mr., Mrs., Miss and their equivalents should be avoided; that excessively long names and words difficult to pronounce should be avoided; and that the articles "A" and "The" and their equivalents should be avoided in all languages where they do not form an integral part of the substantive—*e. g.*, Colonel, not The Colonel; Giant, not The Giant; Bride, not The Bride. Existing names in common use, it was stated, should not be altered to conform to these rules, but attention should be paid to them in all new names proposed.

It was suggested that the starting point for nomenclature of horticultural groups should be some recognized horticultural monograph; or an *ad hoc* list of varieties drawn up by a recognized body of specialists in the particular group; or, where such bodies do not exist, by some recognized society which shall be specially charged with the work.

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SOCIETIES

ONE of the most outstanding phases of modern life is the banding together of those with a common interest and cause into associations and societies for mutual benefit. Scientific and technical men have not been slow to see the value of this pooling of interests, and the outcome has been the forming of hundreds of such societies with the general object of fostering, protecting and promoting the various professions represented.

The Handbook of Scientific and Technical Societies and Institutions of the United States and Canada has recently appeared in a second edition revised and considerably enlarged, presenting 793 societies and institutions in the United States devoted to science and its technologies, and 91 in Canada. The section for the United States was compiled by the Research Information Service of the National Research Council, and that for Canada by the National Research Council of Canada. Detailed indexes for both sections, giving the subjects covered by the societies, their research funds, publications, changes of names, etc., make the book usable from many different points of view. In the body of the publication, the secretary's name and address, number of members, times of meetings, dues, etc., give a fairly complete summary of the activities and purposes of the societies.

The purpose of the book, as stated in the preface, is "to present a ready guide to those scientific and

technical societies, associations and institutions in the United States and Canada which contribute to scientific knowledge or further research through their activities, publications or funds." The tendency has been towards a broad interpretation of these requirements, several small and, perhaps from a scientific standpoint, less important societies having been included in an attempt to cover the ground as thoroughly as possible. The emphasis, in fact, is frankly on making the publication inclusive rather than exclusive.

Those who are looking for information on university or governmental organizations will not find it here. A very few outstanding bodies, such as the Smithsonian Institution, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, have been included as having more than the usual university or governmental interests. The general rule, however, has been to omit organizations directly under such control.

CELEBRATION BY THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

THE three hundredth anniversary of the first use of *Cinchona* will be celebrated at the Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, on Friday and Saturday, October 31 and November 1, 1930.

The program opens at 10 o'clock with a trip through the conservatories, chrysanthemum show, and an exhibition of books, pictures, crude materials and drugs pertaining to *Cinchona*.

The address of welcome, at 11:30, will be given by Dr. George T. Moore, director of the garden. This will be followed by a symposium on the history of *Cinchona*; the speakers and subjects being as follows: "The Drug," by Professor Leo Suppan, St. Louis College of Pharmacy; "The Chemical," by Dr. Edward Kremers, University of Wisconsin; "The Medicinal Use," by Dr. George Dock, Pasadena, California.

At one o'clock there will be a luncheon at the garden followed by lectures at two o'clock on: "The *Cinchona* Industry of Java," by Dr. M. Kerbosch, director, Government *Cinchona* Estate and *Cinchona* Experimental Station, "Tjijiroean," Pengalengan, Java; "The Pharmaceutical Preparations of *Cinchona*," by Dr. Wilbur L. Scoville, Detroit; "Minor Alkaloids of *Cinchona* Bark," by Dr. Frederic Rosengarten, Philadelphia; "The *Cinchona* Alkaloids in Medical Science," by Dr. Torald Sollmann, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, and "The Present Conception of the Action of Quinine in Malaria," by Dr. Kenneth F. Maxcy, University of Virginia.

The banquet, given by the trustees, to be held at