periment-station libraries, the library issues a mimeographed publication, Agricultural Library Notes. Under a cooperative arrangement between the department and the editors of *Biological Abstracts,* the latter has opened a branch office in Washington and has been assigned office space in the main library. An increase of $5,000 in the library appropriation was also secured to make possible an increase in the library accessions in the field of biology. Dr. F. V. Rand, who is in charge of the Washington office of *Biological Abstracts,* reports that as a result of this cooperation, about 850 serial publications which have not hitherto been available are now being covered in the abstracting work. Other cooperative bibliographical projects are being carried on by the branch libraries, particularly with institutions and associations. The library of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics is cooperating with the Bureau of International Research and the American Country Life Association; the library of the Bureau of Entomology with the Association of American Economic Entomologists; the library of the Forest Service with the National Research Council; the library of the Bureau of Plant Industry with the Wild Flower Preservation Society, and the library of the Bureau of Public Roads with the American Association of State Highway Officials.

In cooperation with the division of bee culture investigations, a list of publications on apiculture contained in the library has been issued as No. 21 in the series of "Bibliographical Contributions" of the library. The bibliography on rural standards of living, prepared in the library of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics the past year, was published recently. The fourth Index to the Literature of American Economic Entomology, covering the years 1925–1929, prepared by the librarian of the Bureau of Entomology, is now in press.

BLIGHT RESISTANT CHESTNUTS FROM THE ORIENT

R. KENT BEATTIE, a plant explorer who has been searching the domains of the Formosa head-hunters and the forests of Korea and Japan for blight-resistant chestnuts to plant in American forests, has returned to Washington. Mr. Beattie is a forest pathologist of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

During two and a half years Mr. Beattie collected about 250 bushels of chestnuts of native strains, and scions of about 90 cultivated varieties. He shipped these nuts and scions to Washington as fast as he collected them and the Department of Agriculture planted them in its forest nursery at Glendale, Maryland, to test their resistance to blight and their adaptation to the climate and soil of a new homeland. These plantings produced about 250,000 seedlings.

Last spring the department placed 73,000 seedlings grown from Mr. Beattie's 1928 collections with foresters and experiment stations in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio and Michigan for testing.

Pathologists and foresters hope that blight-resistant chestnuts eventually will be established throughout the chestnut-growing states, where blight is rapidly depleting the stands of native chestnut. The American chestnut is still the source of more than 50 per cent. of our vegetable tannin. Tests by the department show that the Japanese chestnut is an equally good producer of tannin. Mr. Beattie reached Japan in the summer of 1927. He visited the areas of Japan where the chestnut grows and arranged with official foresters, representatives of the Imperial Household, agricultural cooperative marketing associations and chestnut growers to ship nuts to him at Tokyo or Yokohama. After gathering chestnuts from every accessible region of Japan, Korea and Formosa, Mr. Beattie made a return trip around more than half of the globe, gathering information about the chestnut and related trees.

THE DE LAMAR LECTURES

THE list of De Lamar Lectures in Hygiene this session at the School of Hygiene and Public Health of the Johns Hopkins University is as follows.

"The Rôle of the Anaerobic Bacteria in Human Pathology," Dr. M. Weinberg, professor at the Pasteur Institute, Paris, October 21.

"The Serotherapy of Medical and Surgical Infections Caused by Anaerobic Bacteria," Dr. M. Weinberg, professor at the Pasteur Institute, Paris, October 22.

"The Economic Aspects of Medical Care in this Country," Dr. Willard C. Rappleye, director of study, Commission on Medical Education, New Haven, Connecticut, November 4.

"Acid-fast Bacteria: Their Relation to Disease and the Need for Better Preventive Measures," Dr. William Charles White, chairman, Medical Research Committee of the National Tuberculosis Association, November 25.

"Recent Progress in Yellow-fever Research," Dr. W. A. Sawyer, associate director International Health Division, Rockefeller Foundation, December 9.

"The Epidemiology of Poliomyelitis," Dr. W. Lloyd Aycock, assistant professor of preventive medicine and hygiene, Harvard Medical School, January 6.

"Factors influencing Vitamin Distribution in Foods," R. Adams Dutcher, professor of bio-chemistry, Pennsylvania State College, January 27.

"Venereal Diseases," Dr. Thomas Parran, Jr., commissioner of health, State of New York, March 3.

"Hypersensitivity to Bacterial Proteins and its Rôle in Susceptibility and Immunity," Dr. W. B. Wherry, professor of bacteriology, University of Cincinnati, March 31.

"The Prevention and Cure of Narcotic Drug Addiction," Dr. George F. McCleary, deputy senior medical officer, Ministry of Health, England, April 14.

THE TEXAS ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

THE Texas Academy of Science held its annual meeting from November 28 to 29 at Baylor University, Waco, Texas, with a large attendance of members. The program, which consisted of twenty numbers, was given in three sections; the first was given over to the exact sciences; the second to the biological sciences, and the third to the educational sciences. Those giving the papers were widely distributed in their connections. The University, A. & M. College, Teachers Colleges and numerous denominational colleges were represented. The night of November 28 Dr. S. L. Brooks, president of Baylor University, entertained the academy with a banquet.

In the business meeting it was announced that the academy had received its charter from the state; that it had been affiliated with the American Association for the Advancement of Science; that its membership had grown within the last year from 79 to 300, and that it had issued Vol. XIV of the "Transactions and Proceedings." The academy adopted an amendment to its constitution providing for the formation of a Junior Academy of Science. Clyde T. Reed, the retiring president, was selected as chairman of the Junior Academy, with Miss Greta Oppe and Robert H. Cuyler as the other members.

The officers elected for the Academy of Science were J. K. Strecker, *president,* Baylor University; J. M. Kuehne, University of Texas, *vice-president Section I;* F. B. Plummer, University of Texas, *vice-president Section II;* W. J. McConnell, North Texas State Teachers College, *vice-president Section III.* Dr. S. W. Bilsing, A. & M. College of Texas, representative to the American Association Council, and H. B. Parks, San Antonio, *secretary-treasurer.*

The academy is entering its third year, as this is a reviving of the old academy, which existed from 1892 to 1915. So great is the interest shown in the work that the membership ordered the printing of a monthly bulletin and a volume of "Transactions and Proceedings" for next year.

PRESENTATION OF THE JOHN FRITZ MEDAL

THE John Fritz Medal, which had been awarded to Rear Admiral David Watson Taylor, retired, chief constructor of the United States Navy during the war, was presented at the annual dinner to new members of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, given at the Hotel Astor on December 3 as part of the fifty-first annual meeting.

The award was made to Admiral Taylor "for outstanding achievement in marine architecture, for revolutionary results of persistent research in hull design, for improvement in many types of warships, and for distinguished service as Chief Constructor of the United States Navy during the World War." Mr. Bancroft Gherardi, chairman of the board which made the award, presented the medal after the recipient was introduced by Mr. Walter M. McFarland, past president of the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers.

Another event at the dinner was the presentation of special badges to fourteen fifty-year members of the society. Mr. Thomas A. Edison was one of the fourteen. Mr. Fred A. Scheffler accepted the medal for him. The others were Ellwood Burdsall, Port Chester, N. Y.; John W. Cloud, London, England; J. S. Coon, Atlanta, Georgia; P. B. de Schweinitz, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania; Henry Marx, Cincinnati, Ohio; A. F. Nagle, H. F. J. Porter, Auguste A. Goubert and Francis H. Richards, all of New York City; Albert W. Smith, Ithaca; Ambrose Swasey, Cleveland; Edward N. Trump, Syracuse, and Walter Wood, Philadelphia. The badges were presented by Charles E. Gorton, vice-president of the society.

The speaker of the evening was Elliott Dunlap Smith, professor of industrial engineering at Yale University, and director of industrial investigations of the Institute of Human Relations, who spoke on the subject "Engineering Encounters Human Nature." There were also remarks by the president-elect of the society, Roy V. Wright, an address to the new members by Conrad N. Lauer, vice-president, and a roll-call of the new members by Calvin W. Rice, secretary. Lincoln Bush, past president of the American Society of Civil Engineers, presided. Ely C. Hutchinson, manager of the society, was the toastmaster.

The three other societies joining in awarding the John Fritz Medal are the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, and the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. The medal was established in 1902 in honor of John Fritz of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, pioneer iron master and engineer, who was the first recipient. Others who have won the award include Lord Kelvin (1905), George Westinghouse (1906), Alexander Graham Bell (1907), Dr. Elihu Thomson (1916), General George W. Goethals (1919), Orville Wright (1920), Guglielmo Marconi (1923), Elmer A. Sperry (1927) and Herbert Hoover (1929).