

York City; and Henry M. Crane, technical assistant to the president of General Motors Corporation, New York City. Members of the institute at the conference were Dean Charles H. Warren, Sheffield Scientific School; Dean M. C. Winternitz, Yale School of Medicine; Dean Edgar S. Furniss, Yale Graduate School; George Parmly Day, treasurer, Yale University; Professor S. W. Dudley; Professor Mark A. May, executive secretary of the Institute of Human Relations, and Professor Elliott D. Smith, Yale University, director of the study.

The industrial committee of the institute, already formed and at work, includes among others a psychiatrist, a psychologist, an economist, a lawyer and a sociologist, directed by an engineering and management group interested in focusing the attention of these specialists upon various phases of the development of human problems in specific industrial organizations.

"In the solution of this problem," the committee states, "there arise many important questions related to the major human sciences; such physiological problems as fatigue, such medical problems as occupational diseases, such psychological problems as capacity to learn, such psychiatric problems as the emotional effects of fear of loss of job, such social problems as absorption by the community of workers thrown out of employment, such economic problems as the absorption of increased output, such legal problems as adaptation of labor legislation to technological change, while in its very structure it is a problem of engineering and of management."

The first instance of increased technological efficiency to be studied will be the "stretch-out"—the recent rapid increase in the number of spinning frames and looms tended by the individual worker. This preliminary study will provide material for a comparison of procedures and effects. It will be a contribution of distinct practical value, the committee believes, by calling to the attention of managers the nature of

the social problems involved and the extent to which they are dependent upon good managerial handling.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF PHYSICS

At the Cleveland meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science an organization was formed for the purpose of promoting and improving the teaching of physics of college and university grade, under the name "American Association of Teachers of Physics." The new organization fills a need long felt by those interested in methods of instruction, from the pedagogical as well as from the laboratory and demonstration points of view. A tentative constitution was adopted, and an executive committee chosen to perfect plans for the organization, which are to be discussed and acted upon at the New Orleans meeting. Regional, as well as general, meetings are to be held. The first general meeting is to take place at the Bureau of Standards in April, in connection with the regular meeting of the American Physical Society. At this meeting, Dr. A. W. Hull, assistant director of research of the General Electric Company, will present a paper on the training of physicists for industry.

Officers elected for the ensuing year are: *President*, Dean Homer L. Dodge, University of Oklahoma; *Vice-president*, Dr. P. E. Klopsteg, Central Scientific Company; *Secretary-Treasurer*, Professor W. S. Webb, University of Kentucky. The executive committee consists of the officers and the following members: Professor O. B. Blackwood, University of Pittsburgh; President Karl T. Compton, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Professor R. S. Minor, University of California; Dean F. K. Richtmyer, Cornell University; Professor M. N. States, University of Kentucky; Professor B. A. Wooten, University of Alabama. Applications for charter membership will be received until June 1, 1931.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE William Wood Gerhard Gold Medal of the Pathological Society of Philadelphia was presented on January 8 to Dr. Simon Flexner, director of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

PROFESSOR ERNST VON ROMBERG, of Munich, informs the *British Medical Journal* that the commission entrusted with the grant of the Dr. Sophie A. Nordhoff-Jung Cancer Prize for the best work of recent years in the field of cancer research has unanimously awarded this prize to Dr. Alexis Carrel, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, for his develop-

ment of the method of tissue cultivation and his application of it in the solution of the basic problems of pathological growths, especially the growth of malignant tumors. The commission was composed of Professors Borst, Döderlein, von Romberg and Sauerbruch.

THE Geological Society of London on January 16 awarded the Bigsby Medal to Dr. Norman L. Bowen, of the Geophysical Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution at Washington, in recognition of the value of his study of the physical chemistry of igneous rocks.