

avowed purpose "to promote, encourage and aid scientific investigations and research at the university, and to assist in providing the means and machinery by which the scientific discoveries and inventions of the staff may be developed and patented, and their public and commercial uses determined."

It is pointed out that the methods pursued by the foundation have the advantage of securing patent protection and that the income from such patents is used for the support of research which is in general for the benefit of the public.

Starting with nothing more than the willingness of Dr. Harry Steenbock to turn over to the foundation an idea that was subject to patent in order to protect it from misuse, the organization already has earned an invested capital of \$406,594, the income from which is now being used to protect its patents and for the public welfare through the furtherance of scientific research.

On June 1 of this year the foundation made use of its right to control the price of two of the products based on the Steenbock process by bringing about a 25 per cent. reduction in the price of these products to millions of consumers the world over.

Besides making possible these products, the discoveries of Professor Steenbock on the development of vitamin D in activating pharmaceutical and food products have been shown to be of material value to health, especially in the fortification of food intimately connected with the nutrition of the young, the health-giving properties of the process are now to be applied to the dairy field.

Holding that it is better to offer the discoverer some financial recognition for the large amount of work he had done, memorandum agreements were worked out by which, after all expenses had been repaid, 15 per cent. of the net proceeds from the patents go to the discoverer or inventor, while the remaining 85 per cent. is received by the foundation.

At the present time 11 patents or applications on discoveries made by university men are the property of the foundation. Most of these have been patented in nearly all the leading countries of the world.

Following three general principles for guidance in the allocation of funds for research, the foundation began to give aid to research during the fiscal year 1928-1929. To stimulate interest in the graduate body of the university, a lectureship in science was established, and at the same time aid was given to certain definite lines of scientific endeavor.

During the coming year, aid will be extended by the foundation to nine different projects in research. The sum of \$21,500 for grants-in-aid to these different research projects has already been allocated by the foundation trustees.

THE LAMME MEDAL

IN 1920, Dr. T. C. Mendenhall, who was the first member elected to the original faculty of the Ohio State University, presented to the university a fund to provide for a medal to be called, in memory of a scientific friend of his early years, the Joseph Sullivant Medal. This medal is given once in five years to a graduate or faculty member who has "completed a really notable work in either the liberal, the fine or the mechanical arts, the pure or applied sciences, including the various branches of engineering." Mr. Benjamin G. Lamme, chief engineer of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, a graduate in mechanical engineering of the class of 1888, was the first to receive this medal. The medal was presented at a special convocation at which Dr. Elihu Thomson made the principal address. Mr. Lamme is said to have been highly gratified to have on the stage with him Dr. Thomson and Dr. Mendenhall, the two men whose character and attainments had served as his ideals since his early college years.

His appreciation of the Sullivant Medal and his interest in engineers and engineering education caused Mr. Lamme to provide in his will for several medals and scholarships. One of the medals is given by the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education for outstanding achievement in engineering teaching. A similar medal is given by the Ohio State University to a graduate of one of its technical departments for meritorious achievement in engineering.

The first presentation of this medal has already been announced in *SCIENCE*. It was made at the June convocation of the Ohio State University. Medals were given to Charles Edward Skinner, assistant director of engineering, Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, a graduate in mechanical engineering of the class of 1890, and to Arno Carl Fieldner, chief engineer, Experiment Stations Division, U. S. Bureau of Mines, a graduate in chemical engineering, class of 1906.

SUMMER WORK OF THE BOTANISTS OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY

PROFESSOR J. G. JACK expects to devote most of his time during the summer to the Arnold Arboretum, but a part of it may be required at the Harvard Biological Laboratory and Botanic Garden at Soledad, Cuba, where he spent the month of March. Alfred Rehder, curator of the Herbarium of the arboretum, who spent the summer of last year and of 1928 in various European herbaria, chiefly in the examination and photographing of types of plants of eastern Asia, will give most of his time this year to working out the results of these studies. Professor J. H. Faull will devote his research efforts in various parts