

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

of eastern America to the diseases of spruces and poplars. Professor Karl Sax will continue plant breeding work. A considerable number of crosses have been made between different species of apples, cherries, lilacs and other ornamental trees and shrubs.

Professor I. W. Bailey, of the Bussey Institution, will spend the summer at the Biological Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution, Palo Alto, California. He has recently developed methods for removing tissue cells from trees, for keeping them alive and for studying them in the living condition. Professor E. M. East was at the Bussey Institution until July 15, carrying on investigations in the genetics of the genera *Fragaria*, *Nicotiana* and *Linaria*. He now goes to the Jackson Memorial Laboratory at Bar Harbor, to prepare microscopical slides of hybrids in the genus *Nicotiana*. He also has under way experiments which seek to determine whether or not plants have immunological reactions comparable to those shown by animals.

In the department of botany, Professor E. C. Jeffrey will spend the summer collecting material for investigations on the relation of parthenogenesis to intimate processes in the cell. He will be in Cape Breton Island most of the time, gathering experimental and other material for this work. Professor W. H. Weston will remain in Cambridge most of the summer, engaged in research and keeping in close touch with the graduate students and National Research fellows, and Assistant Professor R. H. Wetmore and Dr. R. H. Woodworth will conduct the summer school courses in botany. During that pe-

riod Professor Wetmore will continue the cytological investigations of the genera *Aster* and *Soledago* which he has been carrying on for some time. Dr. Woodworth will give attention to genetical and cytological studies with birches.

Dr. C. W. Dodge, curator of the Farlow Herbarium and Library, will spend the summer in Vermont, dividing his time between the manuscript of a book that he is writing on medical mycology and work on the mushroom flora of New England, undertaken by a committee of the Boston Mycological Club, of which he is chairman. Professor Roland Thaxter, of the Farlow Herbarium, will continue the preparation of drawings and manuscript for the next volume of his monograph of the *Laboulbeniaceae*, at his summer home in Kittery Point, Maine.

Professor M. L. Fernald, of the Gray Herbarium, accompanied on some trips by C. A. Weatherby, assistant at the herbarium, and on others by President A. S. Pease, of Amherst College, will visit localities in eastern America to study and collect little known plants. Ernst C. Abbe, graduate student, representing the Gray Herbarium, will join Noel E. Odell, a former lecturer on geology at Harvard University, as guests of Professor Alexander Forbes, in a scientific survey of the high Torngat Mountains about Ryan's Bay in northernmost Labrador. Dr. Lyman B. Smith, research fellow in botany, will continue, partly at the Gray Herbarium and partly in field work, his research for the Harvard Medical School on pollen flights and its relation to hay fever. He is collaborating with Dr. Francis M. Rackemann, instructor in medicine at the school.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. CHARLES FABRY, professor of physics at Paris; Dr. Emmanuel de Margerie, professor of geology at Strasbourg, and Dr. Heinrich Wieland, professor of organic chemistry at Munich, have been elected foreign members of the Royal Society.

At the meeting of the International Union for Scientific Investigation of Population Problems, held in London on June 15, Colonel Sir Charles Close, formerly director-general of the British Ordnance Survey, was elected president to succeed Professor Raymond Pearl, of the Johns Hopkins University. The next general assembly of the union will be held in Germany in 1934.

THE Electrochemical Society has awarded the Edward Goodrich Acheson Medal for 1931 to Dr. Edwin Fitch Northrup; it will be presented at the society's meeting in Salt Lake City on September 3. From 1903 to 1910 Dr. Northrup was secretary of the

Leeds and Northrup Company, and from 1910 to 1920 assistant professor of physics at Princeton University. Since 1916 he has devoted himself chiefly to the development of high-frequency furnaces used for the melting of metals and alloys.

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain announces that the Hanbury Memorial Medal for 1931 has been awarded to Professor Hermann Thoms, of Berlin. The medal was founded in 1875 to commemorate Daniel Hanbury, a distinguished British pharmacist, and is awarded for "high excellence in the prosecution and promotion of original research in the chemistry and natural history of drugs" by a committee consisting of the presidents, for the time being, of the Chemical, Linnean and Pharmaceutical Societies, the chairman of the British Pharmaceutical Conference and one pharmaceutical chemist.

At the commencement exercises of the College of