

financed for the academy, the first being that to Guadalupe Island last November. A third expedition chiefly in the interest of the academy was that of Captain G. Allan Hancock's cruiser *Valero III*, to the Galapagos Islands last winter (December to February), with Mr. Alvin Seale and Dr. Leo George Hertlein on board representing the academy.

AWARDS OF THE ELIZABETH THOMPSON SCIENCE FUND

PREVIOUS awards from the Elizabeth Thompson Science Fund have been reported in *SCIENCE*, November 25, 1931, and earlier. Since the last report the following awards have been made:

At the Meeting of February 25, 1932

- No. 305 to E. D. Merrill, New York Botanical Garden, \$50 to obtain translations of Japanese literature published in Japanese characters, and with Japanese titles, necessary for the preparation of an exhaustive bibliography covering the botanical literature pertaining to Eastern Asia.
- No. 306 to W. J. Hamilton, Jr., Zoological Laboratory, Cornell University, \$100 toward expenses in making observations on long-tailed shrews of the genus *Sorex*.
- No. 307 to K. K. Landes, University of Kansas, \$200 for aid in the study of pegmatite mineral deposits in Colorado and New Mexico.
- No. 308 to Carroll Lane Fenton, West Liberty, Iowa, \$300 for aid in undertaking the study of a certain group of fossils already described long since but needing a careful re-study to fit them into the whole system of corals.
- No. 309 to G. H. Burrows, University of Vermont, \$100 for aid in purchasing chemicals and minor pieces of apparatus to be used in the determination of equilibria among reactions of organic chemistry.

The Trustees of the Elizabeth Thompson Science Fund meet ordinarily during the last ten days of the months of February, May and November. Applications for grants should be sent well in advance of the meeting to the secretary of the fund, Dr. Edwin B. Wilson, 55 Van Dyke St., Boston, Massachusetts.

GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

AN account is given in the *Harvard Alumni Bulletin* of a project for geophysical research undertaken by the university which will concentrate at the start on data of basic value in seismology, in particular the study of the properties of certain rocks and rock minerals under very high pressures and at high temperatures. The investigation will continue for five years.

The plan is made possible by a gift of \$50,000 from the Rockefeller Foundation, \$10,000 each year, contingent on the raising of an equal amount from friends of the Harvard departments concerned. The necessary amount for the first year has been obtained from the latter source, and a substantial amount pledged for the other four years.

The work will be administered by the division of geology, under the guidance of an inter-departmental committee consisting of Professor R. A. Daly, of the division of geology, chairman, and Professors P. W. Bridgman, of the physics department, L. C. Graton, of the Engineering School, Harlow Shapley, of the Astronomical Observatory, and D. H. McLaughlin, of the division of geology.

In acknowledging the gift, the committee said: "The opportunity to undertake work in this important field, which is made possible for a period of five years by the generosity of a small group of loyal friends of the university and by the encouraging and stimulating assistance of the Rockefeller Foundation, is a gift of very real value to Harvard."

To accomplish the difficult task of combining high pressures with high temperatures, apparatus is now being designed by Professor Bridgman, under whose direction the research on the elastic properties of rocks and the effects of high temperature and pressure will be carried out. Field measurements of the velocity of seismic waves in rocks of different types are already under way by means of artificially-produced earthquakes of small scale, in carefully selected localities where geologic details are accurately known.

Research will later be undertaken for an improvement of the records of distant earthquakes and in the methods of interpretation thereof.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE fiftieth anniversary of the announcement by Robert Koch before the Berlin Physiological Society on March 24, 1882, of the cultivation of the tubercle bacillus, was celebrated on March 24 at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in New York. The speakers were Dr. Theobald Smith, Dr. Karl Landsteiner and Dr. Simon Flexner.

DR. R. A. DALY, of Harvard University, has been awarded the Hayden Memorial Gold Medal for 1932 of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia in recognition of his studies of igneous rocks, the constitution of the earth and other geological researches. The presentation will be made at a meeting of the academy this month.