Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics—the first of the three National Research Council Fellowship Boards now operative—was organized under the auspices of the division in 1919. The administration of these fellowships has been one of the chief activities, as well as one of the major accomplishments, of the division. The chairman of the division serves, *ex officio,* as the secretary of the board, which in addition to its chairman and secretary consists of ten members—three in physics, three in mathematics and four in chemistry, the last named including, *ex officio,* the chairman of the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Technology. The board meets once each year, in April, for the appointment of fellows for the ensuing year.

Appointments are for one year, and are offered only to those who have the Ph.D. or who have had equivalent training. A limited number of appointments are made for work abroad, but for the most part fellows work at the various universities and other research institutions in the United States and Canada. Appointments are frequently renewed for one year.

Since 1919 the Fellowship Board in Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics has considered upwards of 1,000 applications. In that period nearly 400 appointments have been made, over fifty of which have been for work abroad. At present there are sixty fellows active, of whom six are working abroad. In this period nearly $1,300,000 has been paid to fellows in stipends.

About 39 per cent. of appointments have been in chemistry, 39 per cent. in physics, and the remainder in mathematics.

Fellows have been appointed from (that is, have taken their respective Ph.D's in) some thirty-five different universities in America. While the larger proportion of fellows have come from the larger universities, a study of the distribution shows that the relative number of appointees from the several universities is roughly proportional to the number of Ph.D's conferred by each.

There is an equally wide distribution of institutions in which fellows have worked. Some thirty-two American and twenty-five foreign universities and research institutions have cooperated with the National Research Council in offering facilities to fellows to carry on research. In the aggregate this service which the various institutions have thereby rendered is very great indeed.

It was the original purpose of those who sponsored the fellowship program to provide the more able young scientists with opportunities to acquire "momentum" in research, before settling down to permanent positions. That this objective is being realized is at once evident from a consideration of the present location and activities of past fellows. Nearly 80 per cent. of past fellows hold positions in educational and similar research institutions, where not only are they continuing their researches, but they are in many cases leaders in promoting the research program of the institution. The remainder are connected with industrial or governmental institutions. *With very few exceptions, all past fellows are entering upon active research careers.* There are many who would heartily endorse the statement that had the National Research Council engaged in no activity other than the promotion and administration of the National Research Fellowships, its existence would have been justified.

The services of the Division of Physical Sciences have been utilized in providing a sponsorship for the American sections of several international unions. At present there are organized under the auspices of the division the American sections of, respectively, The International Astronomical Union, The International Scientific Radio Union and the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics.

Each of the several divisions of the National Research Council can be of most effective service by organizing and by engaging in activities so as most adequately to meet the needs of the particular group of sciences concerned, due regard being had for other agencies in the field, such as societies, research institutes, academies and the like. In common with other divisions, it is the policy of the Division of Physical Sciences to stand ready to be of service wherever and whenever such service can be best rendered, and to cooperate to the fullest extent with other agencies so as to avoid needless duplication of effort.

OBITUARY

MEMORIALS

A BRONZE tablet in memory of Josiah Royce was placed on April 9 by the Harvard Club of San Francisco in the library of his native city, Grass Valley. At the ceremony Rudolph Altrocchi, professor of Italian and chairman of the department of Italian, and now president of the Harvard Club of San Francisco, presided. A paper on Josiah Royce was read by Jacob Loewenberg, vice-president of the club and professor of philosophy in the University of California. Dr. Royce was professor of philosophy at Harvard University from 1882 until his death in 1916.

A BRONZE bust of Ernest Haeckel, the German nat-

uralist, was unveiled at the Cincinnati Society of Natural History on January 18.

SIR HARRY GOSCHEN, chairman of the board of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, has received from Mr. Robert Holland Martin and the committee of the Avebury Memorial Fund a sum of £2,000 for the establishment in the school of a fund in memory of Lord Avebury, to be applied to the advancement of study and research in entomology.

SIR F. GOWLAND HOPKINS has unveiled a plaque which has been placed in the Halliburton laboratory of physiology at King's College, London, in memory of Professor W. D. Halliburton, who was professor of physiology at the College from 1890 until 1923. *Nature* writes: "When Professor Halliburton was appointed, the laboratory was on the Embankment in small and badly lit rooms where Ferrier and Lister had worked. Yet, by his enthusiasm, he managed to attract many young physiologists to the college. The present laboratory is the result of his great efforts during his tenure of office as professor of physiology." Professor Halliburton was elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1891 and died on May 21, 1931, aged seventy years.

A CORRESPONDENT of the London *Times* writes from Bournemouth recently that the evidence supplied by an inscription on a gravestone in the parish churchyard of the village of Worth Matravers, near Swanage, Dorset, shows that Edward Jenner, who discovered inoculation by cowpox, or vaccination, as a preventive of smallpox, was forestalled by two years by Benjamin Jesty, a Dorset farmer. The facts are known to the medical profession, but not generally. Edward Jenner's first inoculation by cowpox is recorded as having been made on a boy in May, 1776. Jesty's gravestone inscription shows that he inoculated his wife and two sons with cowpox in 1774. The gravestone was noticed recently by a medical man now practising in Bournemouth, who was walking through Worth Matravers. The inscription relates that Benjamin Jesty "was an upright honest Man: particularly noted for having been the first Person known that introduced the Cow Pox by Inoculation, and who from his great strength of mind made the Experiment from the Cow on his Wife and two Sons in the year 1774." Adjoining Benjamin Jesty's grave is that of his wife, and the fact that she died at the age of 84 in 1824, 50 years after the experiment, proves fairly conclusively that the experiment made on her by her "strong-minded" husband did not affect her health.

RECENT DEATHS

FREDERICK E. BEACH, assistant professor of physics at Yale University, from 1895 to 1931, died in his seventieth year on April 6.

LUTHER MARION DEFOE, emeritus professor of mechanics at the University of Missouri, died on April 3, in his seventy-third year.

DR. CLARENCE ALBERT SHORE, for twenty-five years director of the North Carolina State Laboratory of Hygiene, died on February 10, at the age of sixty years.

DR. JOHN MILLAR THOMSON, emeritus professor of chemistry at King's College, London, died on March 22, at the age of eighty-four years.

WALTER EDMUND ROTH, anthropologist and curator of the British Guiana Museum, died on April 6. He was seventy-two years old.

THE death is announced of Dr. Friedrich Rinne, professor of mineralogy and petrography at Leipzig.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

PROPOSED PLANETARIUM FOR THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

F. TRUBEE DAVISON, president of the American Museum of Natural History, and George McAneny, president of the Regional Plan Association, recently discussed with Mayor O'Brien, of New York City, plans for the creation of a Planetarium Authority. Mr. Davison has also discussed the plan with Governor Lehman. The proposal has been under consideration for several years, but the plans were postponed because of lack of funds.

At a recent luncheon at the Museum, Mr. Davison explained that it was hoped to obtain state legislation that would permit the creation of a Planetarium Authority similar to the New York Port Authority, with power to issue bonds. The measure would also enable the city to transfer to the authority, for a time, some of the city-owned museum land, just north of the African Hall.

Mr. Davis said in part:

> The bill is purely a permissive measure. It does not bind the museum to take any action toward the planetarium project and it does not commit the city to endorse the project unless it is in whole-hearted accord with the museum's attitude.
>
> The reason for the measure is that we hope to borrow the money from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, provided we are satisfied that the planetarium will be self-supporting; in other words, the planetarium, through admission fees, must not alone pay its own way with