

With several well-supported post-doctorate fellowships the most gifted of the younger geologists or geographers of the country could be retained for one or more years in study and research before settling down to some permanent position. It is believed that in this way very great advance could be made.

During the period 1926-1931 the division, together with the Divisions of Physics and Chemistry, co-operated through the Central Petroleum Committee of the Research Council with the American Petroleum Institute in organizing the work and selecting the personnel for the projects financed by the institute under its five-year program of fundamental research in petroleum. Descriptions of these projects and lists of papers which resulted from these studies have been published in the bulletins of the institute.

One of the bibliographic projects now in progress under the auspices of the division is that of the "Annotated Bibliography of Economic Geology." Sufficient funds were raised by the committee to cover the editorial expenses for a period of about seven years, after which it is hoped that the bibliography will have sufficiently demonstrated its usefulness to enlist further financial support.

As noted in a previous paragraph, records of the work of the division are given in numerous publications. In the annual report of the division for 1931-1932, a history is given which includes an annotated list of some 64 projects undertaken by the division

since its permanent organization in 1919. In this history are given details and results of the work of the division not possible of presentation in this short paper. These are tangible results that are possible of measurement. In addition there are the intangible results which are difficult of discovery and equally difficult of evaluation. The several division chairmen, the many different members of the division and the personnel of the committees have stimulated research as they have been brought in contact with their colleagues through membership in the National Research Council or its committees, and they themselves in turn have been stimulated by such contacts. To those familiar with the results of the work accomplished, the record seems an enviable one.

The future of the division is of course unknown, but everything seems favorable for continued development along the paths it has already opened. In the early days there was no doubt much uncertainty as to what the division might do, but, measured by its past record, it has more than justified its founding, and, basing itself on its accomplishments, it may look confidently to the future. As in the past there will be required devoted and loyal workers. The division in part can provide for these in the election of members-at-large and the selection of its committee chairmen, but for the greater part of the membership it must rely upon the societies by which these members are chosen.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS, BUILDINGS AND RESERVATIONS

THE reorganization order of President Roosevelt, establishing the Office of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations, will take effect sixty days from June 10, the date of issue. It is as follows:

All functions of administration of public buildings, reservations, national parks, national monuments and national cemeteries are consolidated in an office of national parks, buildings and reservations in the Department of the Interior, at the head of which shall be a director of national parks, buildings and reservations; except that where deemed desirable there may be excluded from this provision any public building or reservation which is chiefly employed as a facility in the work of a particular agency. This transfer and consolidation of functions shall include, among others, those of the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior, and the national cemeteries and parks of the War Department which are located within the continental limits of the United States. National cemeteries located in foreign countries shall be transferred to the Department of State, and those located in insular possessions under

the jurisdiction of the War Department shall be administered by the Bureau of Insular Affairs of the War Department.

The functions of the following agencies are transferred to the office of national parks, buildings and reservations of the Department of the Interior and the agencies are abolished:

The Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission, the Public Buildings Commission, the Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital, the National Memorial Commission and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Commission.

Expenditures by the Federal Government for the purposes of the Commission of Fine Arts, the George Rogers Clark Sesquicentennial Commission and the Rushmore Commission shall be administered by the Department of the Interior.

THE BRITISH ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE COUNCIL

THE formation of the Academic Assistance Council, with Lord Rutherford as president, has been reported in *SCIENCE*. The official announcement of its objects, issued from the rooms of the Royal Society at Burlington House, London, is as follows: