during this period of about 500 scientific papers reporting results of work supported by the committee, and a notable recent book on the relation of internal secretions to the phenomena of sex. These researches have played a very important part in the extraordinary advance in our knowledge of reproduction, particularly as regards the sex hormones, which has taken place in the last few years.

Since June, 1922, 198 fellowships in medicine have been granted by the Medical Fellowship Board of the division. The holders of these fellowships have studied in institutions in this country and abroad. According to information obtained by direct inquiry, among 179 past fellows, 154 are now engaged in various forms of teaching and research, mostly in medical schools.

Through the division the Council's Committee on Grants-in-Aid has made 58 grants to individual investigators for research on problems of medical interest. These grants, of relatively small amounts, have supplemented provisions for research at numerous institutions. By encouragement and financial aid they have made possible the initiation or advancement of investigations in the pre-clinical as well as the clinical fields of medicine.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

SURVEY OF THE INDIAN OCEAN

A CORRESPONDENT of the London *Times* writes that the plans of the John Murray Expedition, which is to make a survey of the bed of the Indian Ocean, are approaching completion, and Colonel Sewell, until recently director of the Zoological Survey of India, is to settle the final details. The chief difficulty before the committee which is arranging the expedition on behalf of the trustees of the late Sir John Murray was to find a suitable vessel of the trawler type.

An essential feature of modern oceanographical exploration is echo-sounding, the depth of the ocean floor as the ship proceeds on her course being read off in the chartroom. Most available vessels proved quite unsuitable, but the difficulty has been solved by the friendly action of the Egyptian Government in proffering the loan of *The Mabahiss,* a vessel expressly built for fishery investigations. She is a trawler of about 140 feet, with her engines set well aft, built in 1929, and she is to go into dock at Alexandria in July to be fitted with echo gear. The University of Cairo is also undertaking the chemical analyses of the surface waters obtained by the expedition, and is sending two research students to help the British scientific staff in their work.

Captain Mackenzie, formerly of *The Discovery,* is to command *The Mabahiss,* and the sounding gear and all survey work is in the charge of Lieutenant-Commander Farquharson, R.N., who has been seconded by the Admiralty. The other officers and crew will be drawn from the Egyptian service. On the scientific side Colonel Sewell will be assisted by four biologists, of whom two will be mainly concerned with the physical and chemical conditions of the deeper water layers of the Indian Ocean, and two with the zoological side.

The Mabahiss will be commissioned in August, and according to present plans will go direct to the Gulf of Aden, an intensive study of the waters and depths of which will be made. Thence she will run a traverse off the Arabian coast to Karachi, taking water sections and trawling at selected stations. The next cruise will be in the Gulf of Oman.

The second part of the expedition will be mainly concerned with the southern areas, where the Antarctic waters flow to the north and the Indian Ocean waters commence that flow which is farther south known as the Agulhas current. The area south of Sokotra and Cape Guardafui will probably demand particular study, for here during the south-west monsoon are strong currents and confused seas as bad as found in any ocean. Aden should be reached in May, and from thence a direct course will be set to Ghardaga, the marine station of the University of Cairo, and so to the Suez Canal and Alexandria.

The University of Cairo proposes to use *The Mabahiss* in 1934–35 for a national expedition in the Red Sea. She will employ the same methods and gear as on the Murray Expedition, so that all results will be strictly comparable.

FELLOWSHIPS OF THE CHARLES A. COFFIN FOUNDATION

FELLOWSHIPS to nine graduates of technical schools and colleges for the academic year 1933–34 were recently awarded by the Charles A. Coffin Foundation, established by the General Electric Company. The men and the institutions in which they will carry on post-graduate research work, under the terms of these fellowships, are:

Samuel N. Alexander, Oklahoma City, and Philip Nudd, Hampton, New Hampshire, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

William H. Pickering, Los Angeles, and Jesse E. Hobson, Marshall, Indiana, at the California Institute of Technology.

C. Irving Bradford, Newport, New Jersey, and Earl A. Long, Charlotte, North Carolina, at the Ohio State University.

Edward G. Pickels, Richmond, Virginia, at the University of Virginia.