

some shipments of the Dutch elm disease fungus, and all the eight shipments entering since July 25 of this year were found to be more or less heavily infested with elm bark beetles, insects known to be important means of spreading the disease in Europe, where the disease has been distributed widely during the last decade and, on a large scale, has destroyed or seriously damaged elm shade trees.

With the willing cooperation of the importers of these logs, all shipments so far entered since this discovery have been treated in an attempt to safeguard them against escape of the insect carriers, and prompt action has now been taken by the Department of Agriculture to guard against future danger.

Secretary Wallace notes that the new quarantine seeks to close as effectually as possible every avenue to the entrance of the disease but at the same time seeks not to hamper any trade movement that could be permitted with safety. Under this quarantine, elm burl logs are to be allowed entry under permit with regulations providing that they arrive in this country free from bark so that no dangerous insect carriers of the fungus can be introduced with them. The regulations further require a hot water or other approved treatment to destroy any of the Dutch elm disease fungus that might be present in the logs.

In view of the important part which these elm bark beetles are said to play in spreading the fungus from dead or dying elm wood to living trees, the quarantine also stipulates that all lumber, timber, crates, boxes or other containers and manufactured articles derived from the wood of elm and related plants entering this country from Europe must be free from bark.

#### THE CALIFORNIA WILD LIFE ADMINISTRATION AND PEST CONTROL COMMITTEE

PROVIDED by the last California Legislature, the Wild Life Administration and Pest Control Committee held its first meeting at the University of California on December 19. This committee, established by authority of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 26, includes representatives of all groups interested in the wild life of the state, its administration and control.

This committee grew out of an investigation inaugurated by President Robert G. Sproul within the university, to determine the basis of discord that existed among various agencies dealing with the many phases of wild life control and administration. The committee, in its report, suggested the formation of such a committee as that now provided, to act as a clearing house for controversial questions that arise, so that the administration of wild life may be harmonious and necessary control measures agreed upon for the benefit of the state.

The organizations, designated by the resolution, have appointed representatives as follows: State Department of Public Health, Edwin T. Ross; State Division of Fish and Game, John L. Farley; State Department of Agriculture, W. C. Jacobson; State

Association of Agricultural Commissioners, Gordon Laing, Alameda County; Agricultural Department, State Chamber of Commerce, R. N. Wilson; Conservation Department, State Chamber of Commerce, Charles G. Dunwoody; Zoology Division, University of California, C. A. Kofoid; Pharmacology Department, Medical School, University of California, C. D. Leake; Hooper Foundation for Medical Research, University of California, Karl F. Meyer; College of Agriculture, University of California, T. I. Storer, Davis.

Other groups to be represented, but which have made no appointments as yet, are the United States Biological Survey, California Academy of Sciences, California Farm Bureau Federation, Cooper Ornithological Club and a state-wide sportsmen's organization. In addition, these representatives will name three members-at-large.

#### INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICAL CONGRESS MEDALS

EVERY four years there is held an international gathering of mathematicians, known as the International Congress of Mathematicians. At the next meeting, to be held in Oslo in 1936, two Gold Medals will be awarded to mathematicians selected for their outstanding contributions to mathematics by an international committee appointed for the purpose. The foundation of these medals is due to the efforts of the late Dr. J. C. Fields, F.R.S., research professor of mathematics at the University of Toronto. Dr. Fields was responsible for assembling the Mathematical Congress in Toronto in 1924—the only meeting which has been held on this continent. He was president of the congress and the editor of its *Proceedings*, which constituted two large volumes, published by the University of Toronto Press. With funds remaining after the completion of the work, Dr. Fields suggested the foundation of these medals, as a Canadian contribution to the cause of international scientific cooperation, which he always had much at heart. Unfortunately Dr. Fields did not live to see the realization of his scheme, as he died in August, 1932, a month before the meeting of the Congress in Zurich, which gave international approval to the foundation of the medals. The medals will be awarded at each International Congress of Mathematicians in future.

In spite of the fact that the medals are of Canadian origin and are due to the personal efforts of Dr. Fields, it was his particular wish that in design and award they should be truly international in character, and should not be associated with any country or person. The task of designing a suitable medal was entrusted to the distinguished Canadian sculptor, Dr. R. Tait McKenzie, R.C.A., who has now completed his work.

The medal is two and a half inches in diameter.