toward current and past depreciation and obsolescence reserves.

The question of chemical prices will also come up, the discussion involving the trend of typical prices against the background of the general price structure, below both 1914 and 1926 levels. A protective tariff, according to the announcement, has not increased prices, low prices resulting in spite of high wages. Other problems to be dealt with include prices *vs.* earnings, trend of prices in the future, elastic and inelastic markets for chemicals.

A third symposium will be devoted to materials of construction in the building industry. The chairman will be Professor James R. Withrow, of the Ohio State University. A group of papers will outline the latest developments in new materials of construction important to the chemical industries. These papers will cover a wide range of materials, including metals, ceramics, plastics, rubber and alloys.

Sessions are scheduled by the nineteen professional divisions of the American Chemical Society. On Tuesday evening, April 23, the William H. Nichols Medal of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society will be bestowed upon Father Julius A. Nieuwland, of Notre Dame University.

Numerous allied organizations, industrial and scientific, are aiding in the plans for the tercentenary events. Among them are the Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturers Association and the chemical societies of the metropolitan district.

THE BANTING RESEARCH FOUNDATION

THE work carried out under grants from the Banting Research Foundation during the past year is reported by the secretary to have been very satisfactory. Further, during the year reports and printed papers have been received from workers whose grants terminated during the year 1932–33. As a result, the secretary is able to report that 20 papers have been published during the past year and several are in preparation or have been submitted for publication. The number of printed papers would have been increased had not the depression led editors of scientific journals to refuse three or four papers on account of their length, or the necessity of a larger number of illustrations than their funds allowed them to accept. This difficulty has shown itself most acutely in regard to the grants made for the study of the racial factor in labor by Dr. Cates, representing the committee in charge, and Dr. Goodwin. One paper in this series has now been accepted and there is hope that others will also appear during the next year.

Papers published during the year include that of Dr. A. C. Abbott, of the University of Manitoba, whose paper on constriction of the trachea confirms and extends the work of Breitner and others on the effect of oxygen restriction on the thyroid gland; that of Dr. J. Beattie and P. R. MacDonald, of McGill University, which forms an important contribution to the physiology of the lachrymal gland; Dr. Maurice Brodie, of McGill University, whose seven papers on infantile paralysis led up to his work on treatment, which is attracting wide-spread interest; Dr. A. M. Davidson, of the University of Manitoba, in five communications on fungus diseases of the skin, contributed much to our knowledge of these diseases, their animal hosts and their treatment. Dr. R. D. H. Heard and Dr. A. D. Welch, of the University of Toronto, showed that ascorbic acid was the substance which prevented the oxidation of epinephrine in adrenal perfusates. This work also opened up a field of study in the oxidation reduction changes in the body, which had not been previously explained. Dr. R. F. Shaner, of the University of Alberta, published two interesting studies of the embryological development of the eighth nerve nuclei. Miss Armine Alley, of McGill University, published three papers dealing with the mechanism of gastric secretion and with the treatment of hyperacidity.

The grant made annually under the second clause of the foundation's charter to Sir Frederick Banting for the working of the department of medical research of the University of Toronto, was also productive of much valuable work and some thirteen papers. Several of these dealt with the biochemistry of silica in the body, others with the phospholipids and glycerophosphates, their enzymic hydrolysis and the type of phosphoric esters in malignant tissues. To these studies Dr. E. J. King, M. E. Dolan, H. Stantial, A. R. Armstrong, J. J. Rae, J. Fallon, D. A. Irwin and E. L. Outhouse contributed, while H. J. Perkin contributed a paper on the determination of iodine in the blood.

THE ROTHSCHILD COLLECTION OF BIRDS AT THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

THE Rothschild or Tring collection of birds is now being prepared for classification and exhibition at the American Museum of Natural History under the supervision of Dr. Ernst Mayr, associate curator of birds. It was acquired from Lord Rothschild in London in 1932 and was presented to the museum in memory of Harry Payne Whitney by his family, but was never unpacked because of inadequate facilities for storage and display. However, the Whitney Wing, made possible by a gift of $750,000 from Mr. Whitney in 1929 and matched under the terms of the gift by an equal sum from the city of New York, has recently been completed, and in this wing part of the collection will be exhibited, while part will be stored in 52,000 drawers as a study collection. The collec-