

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-

tion, probably the most important and the largest private collection in the world, contains about 280,000 specimens, including 55,000 birds of North and South America and 25,000 sea birds.

According to the *New York Herald Tribune*, Dr. Robert C. Murphy, curator of oceanic birds at the museum, who supervised the sorting, indexing and packing of the birds in England, states that by the acquisition of the Tring collection there are added to the museum collection birds of Europe, Asia and Africa, the Indo-Malayan and Melanesian districts, Australia and New Zealand, a large proportion of extinct species from many localities and many very valuable hybrids and aberrant forms of numerous families, in which Lord Rothschild always took a special interest.

The Tring collection contains many genera not, up to the present, represented in the American Museum; it gives also a relative wealth of species, known heretofore only from unique specimens. Types—specimens, that is, the particular skins on which the original description of species or races are based and which therefore serve as the standard of comparison—number about 3,000. Among the rarities are a great auk, two Labrador ducks, and a series of passenger pigeons and Guadalupe caracaras. More important scientifically than these, however, are the remarkable aggregation of birds of paradise, including all but four or five of the known species as well as several extraordinary hybrid forms, collections of Hawaiian honey-creepers and Old World sunbirds and the 6,000 American humming birds.

Aside from the rarities, historic specimens and birds of gorgeous plumage, the greatest resources that the Tring collection offers to ornithology in America lie in the series of entire Old World families and lesser groups, which, by comparison with American groups, impart new meaning to the subjects of evolution and geographical distribution. It is invaluable from a taxonomic standpoint.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION

THE American Pharmaceutical Association and affiliated organizations will meet in Portland, Oregon, from August 5 to 10, with the Hotel Multnomah as headquarters. The North Pacific Branch of the association will have direct charge of arrangements for the meeting under the supervision of the local secretary, Dean A. O. Mickelsen, of the North Pacific College of Pharmacy, Portland, and with the active cooperation of committees representing the pharmacists of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California and Montana. This is the first time that the association has met in this section and every effort is being exerted to make it an outstanding event.

The Pharmaceutical Associations of Oregon, Washington and Idaho will hold their annual meetings, jointly, in Portland on Monday and Tuesday, August 5 and 6. The Plant Science Seminar and the National Conference on Pharmaceutical Research will hold their annual meetings during the previous week, the latter on Saturday, August 3. The National Association Boards of Pharmacy and the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy will hold their annual meetings, as usual, on Monday and Tuesday, August 5 and 6.

The sessions of the American Pharmaceutical Association, including those of the Conference of Pharmaceutical Association Secretaries and of the Conference of Pharmaceutical Law Enforcement Officials, will be held on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, closing on Friday evening.

A joint banquet for all groups, including those attending the state association meetings, is scheduled for Tuesday evening, August 6. On Saturday, all visitors will be taken on an all-day trip by bus, over the Columbia River Highway, during which an outdoor luncheon will be served. Other entertainment features will be scheduled during the week and every opportunity will be provided to see the many unusual points of interest. The arrangements for the various business sessions and the entertainment features will be announced as they are completed.

The American Chemical Society will hold its summer meeting in San Francisco during the week of August 19, which will be convenient for those who wish to attend both meetings.

Portland has ample hotel facilities for the convention. The Hotel Multnomah will be given over to the business sessions and entertainment of the delegates and visitors to the American Pharmaceutical Association and related organizations. The headquarters of the state associations will be located in other hotels within easy access to the Multnomah, so that visiting will be easy.

The committee on transportation of the American Pharmaceutical Association will soon make an announcement in reference to rates and time. The certificate plan will not be necessary because of the unusually low round-trip or single rates, including choice of routes and full stop-over privileges. Special train accommodations will be offered from Chicago and other points, and a variety of interesting side-trips will be available.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGISTS

THE annual meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists will be held at the Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology, Philadelphia,