

and the Natural Bridge national forests in Virginia. The new proclamation will add a small area of the Mountain Lake National Forest purchase unit to the George Washington. This area is the northern tip of the former Mountain Lake Unit, north of U. S. Highway 60, between Clifton Forge and Lexington and readily accessible to headquarters at Harrisonburg.

At the same time, that portion of the old Natural Bridge unit south of the James River has been detached from the George Washington and added to the new Jefferson Forest. The gross area of the George Washington National Forest as proclaimed is approximately 1,756,000 acres, of which 855,000 acres are now owned, or are in process of purchase, by the United States. Not all the gross area within the boundaries of the forest will be purchased by the government, as certain areas are suitable for farming or purposes other than forestry.

The Monongahela National Forest, proclaimed in 1928, lies on the headwaters of the Monongahela, Potomac, James and Kanawha Rivers. With the boundary readjustment, it will have an area of approximately 1,674,000 acres, of which 779,000 acres have been bought or are now being acquired. Large portions of both these national forests formerly bore dense stands of commercial timber. Much of the timber has been logged off and the lands burned over. Many other portions have been farmed, and the attempts at agriculture and grazing have in many cases resulted in severe erosion. Practically all the area, however, is suited to timber growing and will be managed by the Forest Service for the production of timber crops and for watershed protection. Areas with outstanding scenic features and recreational possibilities will be developed for public use.

THE ALPHA EPSILON DELTA CONVENTION

THE Alpha Epsilon Delta National Honorary Pre-Medical Fraternity held its fourth biennial convention with the Texas Beta Chapter at Baylor University, Waco, Texas, on April 9, 10 and 11. This convention marked the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the founding of the fraternity at the University of Alabama on April 29, 1926.

One of the more important actions of the convention was the adoption as a national project of the fraternity, the promotion of a general education in preventive medicine among college students, especially to break down the taboos which prevent the practice of social and mental hygiene. The fraternity went on record to use its influence in encouraging all pre-medical students to take four years of a general cultural course leading to a bachelor's degree as the best preparation for the study of medicine. It was recommended that a closer contact be maintained with the

American Medical Association, the American College of Surgeons and the Association of American Medical Colleges. The office of historian was combined with that of the secretary and designated as the central office of the fraternity.

The installation of the Oklahoma Alpha Chapter at the University of Oklahoma immediately following the convention increased the chapter roll to seventeen active chapters. Only universities and colleges that are members of the Association of American Universities, or other recognized associations, such as the Middle Atlantic Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, etc., and are also on the approved list of colleges compiled by the council on Medical Education and Hospitals of the American Medical Association are eligible to petition for chapter membership.

The fraternity was founded as an honor society for pre-medical students and its aims are fourfold: (1) To encourage excellence in pre-medical work by furnishing a goal toward which the student may strive during the early semesters of his or her pre-medical career. (2) To bind together similarly interested students. (3) To act as a force in crystallizing any movement for the good of the pre-medical students. (4) To bridge the gap between the spirit of the pre-medical school and that of the school of medicine.

Officers elected were: *President*, Dr. Emmett B. Carmichael, School of Medicine, University of Alabama; *Vice-president*, David E. Botter, Jr., University of Texas; *Secretary-Historian*, Dr. Maurice L. Moore, department of chemistry, Yale University; *Treasurer*, W. H. McMurtry, Fairfield, Ala.; *Councilor-in-the-West*, Professor Charles F. Poe, University of Colorado; *Councilor-in-the-East* (to be appointed later).

The fraternity publishes a magazine, *The Scalpel*, which contains articles of general interest to pre-medical students as well as fraternity news.

THE TERCENTENARY SESSION OF THE HARVARD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

FIFTEEN specialists on public health will speak at a symposium on "The Atmospheric Environment and its Effect upon Man" at a special Tercentenary Session of the Harvard School of Public Health extending from August 24 to 29. These meetings will immediately precede the two-week Tercentenary Conference of Arts and Sciences.

The public health symposium will include a series of four lectures daily on such subjects as physical fitness, fatigue, air-borne disease and the occurrence and effects of gases. The speakers will also discuss air-conditioning in modern life and the effects of abnormal temperatures and humidities upon man. Other

lectures will deal with industrial operations in compressed air, the pneumoconioses and their prevention and the design, cost and operation of laboratories of industrial toxicology and industrial hygiene.

The visiting speakers will be: Ole Singstad, chief consulting engineer on tunnels, Port of New York Authority; William P. Yant, supervising chemist of the health laboratory section and supervising engineer of the Pittsburgh Experiment Station, U. S. Bureau of Mines; J. J. Bloomfield, sanitary engineer, U. S. Public Health Service, and W. F. von Oettingen, director of the Haskell Laboratory of Industrial Toxicology, Wilmington, Del.

The following members of the faculty of the Harvard School of Public Health will lecture: Cecil K. Drinker, professor of physiology and dean of the school; David B. Dill, assistant professor of biological chemistry; Wilson G. Smillie, professor of public health administration; William F. Wells, instructor in sanitary science; Laurence T. Fairhall, assistant professor of physiology; Constantin P. Yaglou, assistant professor of industrial hygiene; Louis A. Shaw, assistant professor of physiology; W. Irving Clark, physician to the Norton Company and assistant professor of the practice of industrial medicine; Theodore F. Hatch, instructor in industrial sanitation in the Harvard Schools of Engineering and of Public Health, and Arlie V. Bock, Oliver professor of hygiene.

OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL—1936-1937

THE National Research Council announces the appointment of Dr. Ludvig Hektoen, director of the John McCormick Institute for Infectious Diseases in Chicago, as the chairman of the council for the year beginning July 1, 1936, in place of Dr. Frank R. Lillie, resigned. Dr. Lillie continues as president of the National Academy of Sciences.

The officers of the divisions of science and technology of the council for the coming year, among whom there are several replacements, are as follows:

Physical Sciences

R. A. Millikan, *chairman*; director of the Norman Bridge Laboratory of Physics and chairman of the executive council, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena.

H. A. Barton, *vice-chairman*; director of the American Institute of Physics, New York City.

Engineering and Industrial Research

Vannevar Bush, *chairman*; vice-president and dean of the Graduate School, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Howard Poillon, *vice-chairman*; president of the Research Corporation, New York City.

Chemistry and Chemical Technology

Herbert R. Moody, *chairman*; professor of chemistry and director of the chemical laboratories, College of the City of New York.

Geology and Geography

Edson S. Bastin, *chairman*; professor of economic geology, University of Chicago.

Robert S. Platt, *vice-chairman*; associate professor of geography, University of Chicago.

Medical Sciences

Esmond R. Long, *chairman*; professor of pathology, School of Medicine, and director, Henry Phipps Institute, University of Pennsylvania.

Howard T. Karsner, *vice-chairman*; professor of pathology and director of the Institute of Pathology, Western Reserve University.

Biology and Agriculture

R. E. Coker, *chairman*; professor of zoology and chairman of the Division of Natural Sciences, University of North Carolina.

H. P. Barss, *vice-chairman*; principal botanist and associate in experiment station administration, Office of Experiment Stations, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Anthropology and Psychology

W. S. Hunter, *chairman*; professor of psychology, Brown University.

J. R. Swanton, *vice-chairman*; ethnologist, Bureau of American Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

At a meeting of the Royal Society held on June 25 the following were elected foreign members: Professor Siegmund Freud, the distinguished psychiatrist of Vienna; Professor Ludwig Jost, formerly of Heidelberg, "whose researches on the growth and irritability of plants have contributed much to the advancement of botany"; Professor F. A. Vening Meinesz, of Utrecht, "who devised a means of determining gravity at sea and has carried out a large amount of practical work on this subject in submarines"; Professor

Hermann Weyl, of Princeton, "well known for his work in mathematics and mechanics, and especially for his discovery of non-metrical space." At the same meeting of the society, Sir Thomas Middleton, formerly professor of agriculture at the University of Cambridge, later from 1906 to 1919 assistant secretary of the British Board of Agriculture, was elected a fellow under the statute which provides for the occasional election of "persons who either have rendered conspicuous service to the cause of science or are such