

Southend-on-Sea. It is built on the villa system, to accommodate 1,032 patients in nearly a score of separate buildings, and is claimed to be the most up-to-date hospital devoted to mental disease. The gallery of the Agricultural Hall gave a useful survey of what is being done for mental defectives by occupational therapy. The stands there displayed handwork of many kinds, the work of patients at mental institutions in different parts of the country.

The body of the hall was largely devoted to bulky motor vehicles, including new types of sweeping, refuse-collecting, watering and gully-emptying machinery such as are in use by the sanitary departments of municipalities. Demonstrations were given in the adjoining Gilbey Hall, which had been laid with a patent iron paving. To show that this paving is as effective a safeguard against skidding as any yet introduced, a motor-cycle combination was ridden with one wheel in the air, or driven from the side-car, or with the rider standing on the saddle, and so on. Among the motor transports on show there were also motor ambulances, and a piece of apparatus which at short notice can be attached to a municipal vehicle for spraying highways with anti-gas chemicals. The Department of Scientific and Industrial Research had a large exhibit to which about twenty research establishments contributed.

STUDY OF AIRPLANE VIBRATION AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

THE Daniel Guggenheim School of Aeronautics at New York University will make a detailed survey of airplane vibration and flutter in cooperation with the New York State Aviation Commission and the WPA.

It is planned to investigate the effect of high speeds on airplanes which test strong under slow speeds and have passed satisfactorily all static tests showing a high factor of safety, but which develop serious vibrations and flutter under increased speeds. These planes often cause grave accidents with the complete failure of the wing surface.

Dr. Alexander Klemin, director of the Guggenheim School; Professor Frederick Ketchman and Everett B. Schaefer will represent the university in this study, which will be participated in by twenty-five investigators. The project will involve:

1. A complete bibliography of literature on vibration and flutter, which will be published in many languages. Technical translators and research workers are being supplied by the WPA.

2. Equipment will be developed for experimental investigation of the subject, along with mathematical investigations.

3. Wings will be vibrated on the ground by means of a special vibrometer in order to study the characteristics while the surface is being disturbed by violent air forces.

4. In the large air tunnel of the university, carefully designed and built models will be mounted to study flutter and oscillation under disturbed air conditions.

5. Equipment will be developed for the study of vibrations in actual flight with the cooperation of leading airplane construction companies, and plane operators, in the vicinity of New York City, and records will be made by mechanical and electrical pick-ups and by oscillographs, which will give actual flight conditions.

The work has also been endorsed by the New York City Commission of Docks, the Department of Commerce, and prominent construction firms. Engineers and mechanics will be assigned through the Works Projects Administration and will be under the supervision of New York University experts.

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TROPICAL MEDICINE

THE thirty-second annual meeting of the American Society of Tropical Medicine was held in Baltimore from November 18 to 20.

Thirty-six papers were presented in five sessions, one of which was in conjunction with the National Malaria Committee. Officers elected for the ensuing year are: *President*, Dr. Herbert C. Clark; *President-elect*, Dr. Mark F. Boyd; *Vice-president*, Dr. Karl F. Meyer; *Councilors*, Major James S. Simmons, Dr. Robert A. Lambert and Dr. H. H. Anderson. Dr. N. Paul Hudson and Colonel Charles F. Craig were reelected to the offices of secretary-treasurer and editor of the journal, respectively.

The first awards of the Walter Reed Medal were made on November 19, at the luncheon of the society. Dr. Henry E. Meleney, president of the society, presided. The medal was conferred on Mrs. Walter Reed by Colonel Joseph F. Siler and received by her son, Major-General Walter L. Reed. In compliance with the condition of award to "an individual or an institution in recognition of meritorious achievement in tropical medicine," a second medal was awarded through Dr. Richard P. Strong to the Rockefeller Foundation for meritorious achievement in the study and control of yellow fever. It was accepted by Raymond B. Fosdick, president of the foundation. The committee of award was composed of former presidents of the society, Dr. Richard P. Strong, Colonel Joseph F. Siler and Admiral E. R. Stitt.

The Charles Franklin Craig Lecture in Tropical Medicine was inaugurated at the meeting. It was given by Dr. Ernest Muir, of London, the general and medical secretary of the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association. His topic was "The Control of Leprosy." Dr. Muir was a guest to the United States of the American Leprosy Foundation.

N. PAUL HUDSON,
Secretary