resentative of all and constituted on a basis of complete equality. Clearly in such a case every decision taken must be unanimous; there can be no question of voting, for no scheme could proceed with any prospect of success if there were even one dissentient."

He continued:

The present work of the Imperial Agricultural Bureaux aims at keeping research workers in close touch with all that is going on throughout the world in their respective fields of science. The course of scientific work in the sciences related to agriculture is proceeding so rapidly that such an information service is essential. The service incidentally is available on payment to workers outside the Empire.

The information side of the council's work is financed strictly on the principle laid down by the Imperial Committee on Economic Cooperation and Consultation. The executive council has other duties in which Commonwealth Governments are interested. One in particular affords an example of a scientific activity in which all Commonwealth Governments are either actually or potentially interested, and which is therefore peculiarly suitable for inter-Imperial treatment. This is the parasite laboratory established at Farnham Royal, Slough, to study and distribute throughout the Empire the insect parasites which attack injurious insects and noxious weeds. Certain Dominions are making more use than others of its services at the moment, but all realize the potential value of the work. Hence all are concerned to preserve intact the basic staff, while the individual requests for help can be dealt with on the basis of payment for services rendered.

To a less extent the same principle applies in the case of the Institutes of Entomology and Mycology, dealing respectively with insects and fungi. Their work is partly information in providing plant pathologists throughout the Empire with summarized accounts of the progress of scientific development, and partly the identification of specimens submitted. The extent to which the various Dominions and Colonies benefit from this service determines the contributions made towards its maintenance. Finally, the executive council provides an avenue through which certain Dominions may contribute to research projects in which they are specially interested, such as wool research at Torridon, Leeds, and low temperature storage and transport research at Cambridge and the Ditton laboratory.

NEW ADDITION TO VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL SCHOOL

THE new addition to the Hospital and Medical School of Vanderbilt University, which is now under construction and will be completed by the autumn of 1937, will provide an increase of about 1,500,000 cubic feet to the present medical building. This is expected to add greatly to the efficiency and range of service in the University Hospital. Facilities of the Medical School will be increased also and better adapted to the needs of medical education. This development has been made possible by the donation of $2,500,000 from the General Education Board of the Rockefeller Foundation. Of this amount about $950,000 will be expended on the equipment and building.

This gift affords facilities for improving the teaching, especially in obstetrics and gynecology and pediatrics. An increased number of beds will be provided and the laboratory facilities will likewise be increased for research.

There will be 155 additional beds in the new addition, which will mean, including those in the present building, a total number of about 375 beds. Of this number as many as 90 beds will be used for private and semi-private patients. There will be about 40 beds for teaching pediatrics and 30 beds for clinical instruction in obstetrics. A ward will be provided also for gynecology, including 18 beds.

The Out-patient Service will be enlarged so as to provide special quarters for obstetrics and gynecology and pediatrics. The Department of Radiology will be moved to the second floor level in the south end of the new addition. This will afford increased space and better equipment for this service. The Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health will be moved into the north wing of the new addition, and the rooms now occupied by this department will, in large measure, be used for the extension of the stock room of the Medical Library. This will make it possible to enlarge the reading room of the library.

THE ASIATIC PRIMATE EXPEDITION

INVESTIGATORS from Harvard University, Bard College and the Johns Hopkins University, according to an announcement in *The Harvard Alumni Bulletin*, left at the end of December for Siam, Borneo and Sumatra in order to study the Asiatic anthropoid apes, especially the gibbon, in their native forests. Others will start in January.

Harold J. Coolidge, Jr., assistant curator of mammals at the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology, who has made many studies of anthropoid apes, leads the group. The other members are: Dr. Adolph H. Schultz, associate professor of physical anthropology at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, primate morphologist; Dr. C. R. Carpenter, lecturer in psychology at Bard College, who has made studies of the social life of monkeys in Central America; Sherwood L. Washburn, who holds a Sheldon traveling fellowship in anthropology; John A. Griswold, Jr., research assistant in the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology; Andrew Wylie, of Washington, D. C., special assistant for the collecting of large mammals, and John T. Coolidge, Jr., of Milton, Mass., artist and photographer.

Some members of the expedition sailed from New

York for Singapore on December 29 on the *Kota Tjandi;* the others will go from Vancouver on the *Empress of Japan* on January 9. The two groups will connect at Singapore and proceed thence by rail, by way of Bangkok, to Chiengmai in northern Siam, where a camp will be established from which Dr. Carpenter will study for three or four months the social life of the gibbon.

Early in May, the whole expedition, except Dr. Carpenter, will go to British North Borneo. One group, using Jesselton as a base, will make collections on the higher slopes of Mt. Kinabalu, and the other, using Sandaken as a base of supplies, will make studies and collections in the lowland forest on the east coast of the island. The North Borneo investigation will terminate in August so that certain members of the expedition may return to the United States in time to resume their college work in the autumn.

In July, when the rainy season begins in northern Siam, Dr. Carpenter will move his camp to the mountains of northern Sumatra, where Harold J. Coolidge will later join him; they will make studies of the orang-utan. At the conclusion of the work in north Borneo, Mr. Coolidge will spend a month in Java and another in Sumatra making a survey of wild life; that study is sponsored by the American Committee for International Wild Life Protection and will be supported by a special grant from the Bureau of International Research of Harvard University and Radcliffe College.

The project as a whole will be known as the Asiatic Primate Expedition. It will be financed by the Carnegie Institution, the Columbia University Council for Research in the Social Sciences, the Milton Fund at Harvard, and also by private donations.

THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL TESTING CONGRESS

AT its first congress, held in Zurich in September, 1931, the International Association for Testing Materials has, according to the *Bulletin* of the American Society for Testing Materials, accepted an invitation from the committee representing British members to hold the next congress in Great Britain, and recently the permanent international committee approved the suggestion that the congress be held in London from April 19 to 24, 1937.

The object of the congresses held by the International Association for Testing Materials is to obtain international cooperation in the study of materials and their testing and to provide facilities for the exchange of views, experience and knowledge with regard to all matters connected with this subject.

The proceedings will be based on selected papers, which, by invitation, have been contributed by leading authorities in their respective fields throughout the world. Most of these invitations have been issued, and approximately 150 papers have been promised. Some twenty-two papers to be presented at the congress will be prepared by American authors. Matters in connection with American participation are being directed by W. H. Fulweiler, representative on the permanent committee. The organization of the congress has been undertaken by a congress organizing and reception committee, which consists of the British committee and representatives of many leading British institutions.

The subjects selected for discussion are divided into four groups dealing respectively with metals, inorganic materials, organic materials and subjects of general importance. The following subdivisions have been made:

Group A—Metals: (1) Behavior of metals (mechanical and chemical) as dependent upon temperature, particularly in regard to high temperatures; (2) progress of metallography; (3) light metals and their alloys; (4) wear and machinability.

Group B—Inorganic Materials: (1) Concrete and reinforced concrete; (2) erosion and corrosion of natural and artificial stone; (3) methods of testing ceramic bodies.

Group C—Organic Materials: (1) Textiles; (2) wood cellulose; (3) timber preservation; (4) aging of organic materials; (5) colors and varnishes.

Group D—Subjects of General Importance: (1) Relation between the results of laboratory tests and behavior in use and service; (2) the bearing of recent advances in physics and chemistry on the knowledge of materials; (3) the properties of materials for the thermal and acoustic insulation of buildings.

A Congress Book will be issued, which will contain, in addition to the papers presented, an account of the proceedings, articles by each of the four group presidents, in which attention will be directed to the principal additions to knowledge recorded in the papers and discussions. The papers as presented will generally not exceed 1,000 words each in length. They will be printed in English, French or German, in which languages the proceedings of the congress will be mainly conducted.

In addition to the technical sessions of the congress, numerous visits to places of scientific and industrial interest will be arranged, as well as excursions and social functions, including a banquet, a dance and official receptions.

Detailed information will be issued in due course. All requests for further information and inquiries should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary of the Congress, Mr. K. Headlam-Morley, at the offices of the British International Association for Testing Materials Committee, 28 Victoria St., London, S. W. 1. Sir Frank Smith, secretary of the Royal Society of Great