into these reserves until in 1926–7 they were once more just about dragging on bottom, when a slow but steady climb again set in with naturally a decided spurt in the boom year of 1929 and lasting well into 1930, again building up a substantial reserve sufficient to more than completely meet actual deficits suffered in 1931 to 1933, as well as to permit the corporation to continue its grants for pure scientific research at the Smithsonian Institution and a number of universities and other research centers, totalling $50,000 to $75,000 a year. The past two years have again been "in the black" and 1937 opens with encouraging prospects.

Nearly a decade ago, when the Research Corporation began to feel itself gradually emerging from the effects of the post-war depression and keenly realizing the difficulties of too closely mixing operation and construction technique with research in a new field, it decided to set up a modest branch laboratory, primarily for this latter purpose, in Washington, D. C., which would also supply a much needed link with a large store of technical information available there through the libraries and information services of the various scientific departments.

Through the friendly cooperation of the Smithsonian Institution modest temporary quarters for this step were soon found and work started, particularly along lines growing out of activities to which the Research Corporation was already committed. One of the more important projects resulting from this move and which will serve to illustrate the work in a general way, was the cooperative investigation undertaken with the Tennessee Valley Authority (then just established) and the Department of Agriculture, having to do with semi-commercial tests and development in the application of blast furnace technique to the production of phosphate fertilizers.

By the end of 1934 the work at Washington had developed to a point where the directors of the Research Corporation felt it expedient, in conformity with the general policy of decentralization indicated above, that this Washington work should be given a more independent status and thus, among other objects, stimulated to become more definitely and rapidly self-supporting and eventually take its place alongside of the Research Corporation, functioning in much the same way but on separate technical projects and with an entirely separate board of its own.

It was felt that this budding-off process might become one of the most effective ways of providing for wider public service in this promising field and also to a drafting in and giving full scope to new personal initiative.

Accordingly, the Research Associates, Inc., was chartered on January 3, 1935, and has been operating ever since with a staff of ten or a dozen people housed in several temporary small laboratory buildings, mostly relics of the chemical warfare unit of war days, on about an acre of ground, part of the campus of the American University and immediately adjacent to the old Fixed Nitrogen Research Laboratory of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Thus far the new corporation has been supported almost entirely by grants from the Research Corporation, but it is hoped that by the end of the present year it will have become self-supporting from its own developments. The first to emerge will probably be in the field of non-glare automotive lights on the one hand, and certain improvements in the soap and detergent industry on the other; with a more ambitious long range program already well under way on fundamental improvements in heat exchange, especially in high temperature chemical and metallurgical industries and power production. But the new corporation, though an interesting and lusty youngster, is still distinctly not out of its swaddling clothes, and, as even in this modern age the old adage that "children should be seen but not heard" is still reasonably applicable, Junior, I trust, may, with this brief introduction, be allowed to retire again to the nursery until there are more definite accomplishments to report.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY AT COLD SPRING HARBOR

THE summer activities of the Biological Laboratory of the Long Island Biological Association at Cold Spring Harbor will open on June 21 with the first meetings of the course in surgical methods in experimental biology and the course of experimental endocrinology. The class in surgical methods, which is now over-registered, is again being given by Dr. George W. Corner, of the University of Rochester, while that in experimental endocrinology is being given by Dr. H. O. Haterius, of the Ohio State University, and Dr. Robert Gaunt, of New York University. The Davenport Laboratory, in which these classes are being held, has been completely remodeled, and accommodations for an animal colony have been added.

The fifth of the Cold Spring Harbor symposia on quantitative biology begins on June 22 and continues for five weeks. This year the subject is that of internal secretions, with special emphasis on their chemical aspects and on bio-assay. The program falls into three main sections—I. Pituitary and gonad hormone chemistry (first week); II. Pituitary-gonad relations (second and third weeks), and III. Hormones and

metabolism (fourth and fifth weeks)—and is made up of 45 papers read by 43 contributors. The participants will be in residence at the laboratory for all or an appreciable part of the five weeks' period. Investigators who are interested may attend and take part in the discussion of the papers, and programs will be sent on request. The papers, together with edited discussion, will be published as Volume V of the Cold Spring Harbor Symposia on Quantitative Biology and will be ready for distribution early in November.

Commencing on August 2, the laboratory is offering courses in marine and fresh-water zoology, given by Dr. Herman T. Spieth, of the College of the City of New York, and Dr. William A. Castle, of Brown University, and in plant sociology, given by Dr. Stanley A. Cain, of the University of Tennessee. These combine laboratory work with field work, making use of the great variety of habitats which are found within easy working range of Cold Spring Harbor.

The research work which will be in progress during the summer is in part a continuation of the all-year-round work in biophysics and physiology, and in part the work planned by visiting investigators. The problems of special interest this summer include: the study of surface conductance and the interpretation of impedance measurements on cell membranes; the effect of x-rays on various complex organic molecules; electrophoretic investigations of protein surfaces and of the surfaces of red and white cells under various conditions; the estimation of histamine in blood by iontophoresis; investigations on intravascular hemolysis, particularly in relation to toxic benzol derivatives; the synthesis of simple hemolytic glucosides; the metabolism of different varieties of white cells, and the light transmission cell properties of cell suspensions. Drs. Haterius, Gaunt, Nelson and Donahue will also be working upon a number of problems in endocrinology, and it is hoped this summer to commence projects on the hematology of the fishes.

As in past years, a series of evening lectures on scientific topics of general interest have been arranged, and these lectures are given each Tuesday throughout the season. Dr. Harold A. Abramson will also give a series of five lectures on "Allergy and its Mechanisms" on Fridays from June 25 onwards. These lectures will deal with allergic phenomena from the standpoint of physics and physical chemistry.

Those interested may obtain further information by writing to Dr. Eric Ponder at the Biological Laboratory.

THE NEW ORLEANS MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

Museum News reports that the New Orleans meeting of the American Association of Museums, which met on May 3, 4 and 5, drew an attendance of 200 members, of whom more than 150 were out-of-town delegates.

Papers read at this, the first meeting in the South since the Charleston meeting of 1923, brought out the fact that museum conditions in that section have changed materially in the past year and a half. At least ten new museum buildings have been constructed in the South during that period, work has been begun on an eleventh, and plans have been drawn and work done on exhibits for a twelfth. In addition two old buildings have been converted to museum use; a number of new museums have been opened in National Park and Monument headquarters, and many old structures have been made into historic house museums. Every state south of the Mason and Dixon line has shown some new museum activity, and in the number of new museum buildings erected Texas led the nation.

Herbert E. Winlock, director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, was reelected president of the association. Section chairmen were elected as follows: Art Section, Wilbur D. Peat, director, John Herron Art Institute, Indianapolis; Education Section, Thomas Munro, curator of education, Cleveland Museum of Art; History Section, Henry C. Shetrone, director, Ohio State Museum, Columbus; National and State Parks Section, William H. Carr, director, Bear Mountain Trailside Museums, Palisades Interstate Park; Public Relations Section, Sarah Newmeyer, publicity director, Museum of Modern Art, New York; Science Section, Charles M. B. Cadwalader, president, Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia; Science Technical Section, Charles R. Toothaker, curator, Philadelphia Commercial Museum; Superintendents Section, John W. McCabe, superintendent, Cleveland Museum of Art. Morgan C. Marshall, director, Walters Art Gallery, Baltimore, continues as chairman of the Art Technical Section and H. L. Story, registrar, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, of the Registrars Section. A new section, the Children's Museum Section, was organized, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Dean Clay Osborne, chairman of the Women's Auxiliary of the Brooklyn Children's Museum.

The association passed a resolution endorsing the efforts of the State of Louisiana and the City of New Orleans to preserve historic buildings and areas and commending the work already done toward this end.

At the invitation of all the museums of the city Philadelphia was chosen as the meeting place for 1938.

HONORARY DEGREES CONFERRED BY CLEMSON COLLEGE

ON the occasion of the dedication of Long Agricultural Hall at Clemson College on May 12, the doctorate of science was conferred on the following: