

pattern established by this molecule, but the idea is not incompatible with what has already been learned about enzymal action. Because they bridge the gap between the "dead" simpler protein molecules and the unquestionably living smaller bacteria, the viruses are

irresistibly attractive to all who are interested in attaching precise meaning to the term "alive." By supplying some of these viruses in pure form the ultracentrifuge permits a new experimental approach to this question.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

SCIENTIFIC AWARDS IN CHINA

THE following prizes and awards are recorded in "Science Notes" issued by the College of Natural Science, Yenching University, Peiping, China.

At the annual meeting and dinner of the Peking Society of Natural History held in April, Dr. Chenfu F. Wu, chairman of the department of biology of Yenching University, was the recipient of the King Medal. This medal is awarded annually for distinguished work in the biological or geological sciences. The award this year was bestowed upon Dr. Wu in recognition of his work on "The Catalogue of Chinese Insects."

Recent announcement has been made of the following new fellowship appointments by the China Foundation: Cho Ting-wei (M.S., 1937), for work in general physiology at Wu-Han University; Lin Cho-yuan (M.S., 1934), for research studies in ceramics at Pennsylvania State College; Ch'en Shang-yi (M.S., 1934) for work in spectroscopy at the University of California; Ho Ch'i (B.S., 1928) and Chang Tso-kan (B.S., 1932) for research abroad in biology. A research grant has also been made to Hsu Peng-cheng (M.S., 1935), instructor in chemistry, in support of nutrition studies at Yenching University.

A scholarship for study in England has been awarded to Tai Wen-sai (Graduate Yuan) by the British Boxer Indemnity Fund for work in astrophysics. Pu Chih-lun (Graduate Yuan) has received the Sun Yat-sen Memorial fellowship for work at Yenching University in biology.

In physics, Yuan Chi-liu (M.S., 1934) has been appointed a research fellow at the California Institute of Technology, and Lu Ho-fu (B.S., 1936) has received a similar appointment at the University of Minnesota. Kuang Jung-lu (B.S., 1935) has been awarded a fellowship in veterinary medicine at Cornell University.

Of the four prizes offered to B.S. graduates for the best research theses in physics for the year 1936, in a nation-wide contest sponsored by the Sino-Belgian Boxer Indemnity Committee, two of the prizes were awarded to Lu Ho-fu and Ch'eng Li-ch'ang of the department of physics of Yenching University.

ARCHEOLOGICAL PROJECTS

WATSON DAVIS, director of Science Service, reports that government funds, available through the Works

Progress Administration, may be used to give unemployed men and women work on archeological projects which meet with official requirements. It is not, however, within the province of the WPA to seek suggestions for such projects, but they are interested in helping scientific research in cases where WPA workers can be employed and they welcome the cooperation of scientific organizations and of scientific men.

A few years ago, Science Service, with the cooperation of the Division of Anthropology and Psychology of the National Research Council, conducted a plan known as the Archeological Minute Men. By that arrangement, rumored discoveries in archeology were reported and were investigated as promptly as possible, and accurate reports were furnished to newspapers. No funds, however, have hitherto been available for excavation.

If an archeological site is discovered which seems worth excavating, a WPA project can be undertaken, provided the project is properly sponsored and supervised, and there is relief labor available in the area. All WPA projects must be sponsored by some public institution or organization such as a public museum, state university, municipal government, state government or board of education. An individual or a private institution must arrange for official sponsorship. The Smithsonian Institution is cooperating with the WPA in reviewing projects.

The WPA will not approve any project which does not have a supervisor with training and ability approved by the WPA coordinating anthropologist. It is requested that names be suggested of individuals who might act in this capacity. It is planned to obtain complete reports on these projects, and to see that the collections obtained are placed in public institutions where they will be properly cared for. A further service that experienced archeologists can render will be to report any vandalism or careless excavation.

Science Service is glad to act as an intermediary in bringing archeologists and the WPA into contact, both because of its desire thus to assist in the promotion of scientific research and because incidentally such excavations should be reported to the public through the service.

A FEDERAL CANCER RESEARCH INSTITUTE

A BILL establishing a Federal Cancer Research Institute at Washington, for which an appropriation of

\$75,000 is provided, has been passed by the Senate and by the House and has gone to the President for signature.

The bill authorizes also an appropriation of \$700,000 annually. The institute would be established under the direction of the surgeon-general of the Public Health Service. The surgeon-general would serve as *ex-officio* member and chairman of a national advisory cancer council composed of six physicians and scientific men, to be appointed by him with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury.

The bill directs the council: To review research projects or programs submitted to or initiated by it relating to the study of the cause, prevention or methods of diagnosis of cancer; to collect information as to studies which are being carried on anywhere as to the cause, methods of treatment or diagnosis of the disease; to review applications from any university, hospital, laboratory or other institution, whether public or private, for grants in aid of research projects.

The surgeon-general is authorized to buy radium for use of the institute, or for lending it to those engaged in cancer research.

The Treasury could accept gifts, made unconditionally by will or otherwise, for study, investigation and research into the causes or treatment of cancer. It provides that for all donations of \$500,000 or over the council shall acknowledge them with suitable memorials in the institute.

The measure was first introduced by Senator Bone, and subsequently his colleagues asked that their names be placed upon it as sponsors.

THE TREUB FOUNDATION OF BUITENZORG, JAVA

IN 1934 Fairchild and Barbour¹ presented certain facts concerning "The Crisis at Buitenzorg." Since that time it has not been possible for the Government of Netherlands India to support the biological establishments at Buitenzorg as they were once supported. Indeed, the appropriations have been reduced from Fl. 376,000 in 1929 to Fl. 133,500 in 1935. During the same period the sums available for the purchase of materials has been reduced from Fl. 92,000 to Fl. 20,700, and the scientific staff has dwindled from seventeen persons to six.

In order gradually to ameliorate this condition the Treub Foundation has been established with a distinguished group of trustees, which assures the conservative investment and care of any funds which come into their hands. Sundry donations from various parts of the world have already been received, and the Government of Netherlands India has given permission for the sale of surplus plants from the Botanic Garden at Buitenzorg and the Mountain Garden at

Tjibodas to private persons and institutions who could formerly obtain them free, and the moneys thus secured have been and are being put into the Treub Fund. An appropriation has already been granted which has made possible the publication on the flora of Krakatau by Dr. D. van Leeuwen. While publication is considered for the future, the object of the foundation is to cooperate in maintaining and extending the scope of the scientific institutions at Buitenzorg and Tjibodas, and, later on, support of the Marine Laboratory at Batavia will also be considered when funds permit.

The foundation recognizes as donors corporations contributing a sum of at least Fl. 1,000 or individuals who contribute a sum of at least Fl. 500; patrons, contributing Fl. 100, and subscribers, contributing at least Fl. 10 a year. Persons who have in the past aided the gardens or who have conducted scientific research in Netherlands India may be appointed corresponding members. These persons are expected, in their own country, to consider the interests of the Buitenzorg institutions, to solicit and receive contributions to be forwarded to the treasurer of the Treub Foundation and in any other way possible to facilitate with advice or information persons who may consider going to Java to make use of the facilities of the scientific establishments there.

The undersigned have been asked to serve as corresponding members of the Treub Foundation in the United States, and they have gladly consented so to serve and hope that, as great results in the past have often come from small beginnings, institutions or individuals who may read these lines and who know of the immeasurably great influence which Buitenzorg has played in the lives of unnumbered naturalists and in the contributions to knowledge which have appeared as a result of the inspiring environment which Dr. Treub brought into existence and which has been continued by his distinguished successors may feel inclined, in great or small degree, to aid in the support of one of the greatest biological establishments in the world.

We recall what Bradford wrote in his "History of Plimmoth Plantation" concerning the origin of Harvard College, when he spoke hopefully concerning the future growth of the university: "Thus out of small beginnings greater things have been produced by His hand that made all things of nothing, and gives being to all things that are; and as one small candle may light a thousand, so the light here kindled hath shone to many, yea in some sort to our whole nation." And Sir Walter Mildmay, when he founded Emmanuel College at Cambridge and was chided by Queen Elizabeth for so doing, as she had no approval for the establishment of a Puritan Foundation, replied, "No, Madam, far be it from me to countenance anything contrary to

¹ SCIENCE, 80: 2063, 33-34.