contributions to the *Atlantic Monthly* and others of our literary journals, he exerted a potent influence upon the evolution of American scientific life.

When about 1930 he found himself stricken with the incurable malady known as Parkinson's disease, the quiet fortitude with which, with unimpaired mind but failing body, he faced this sentence won the admiration of all who knew him intimately. On August 8, in the sanitarium at Hartford, Connecticut, four months before he had reached his threescore years and ten, Vernon Lyman Kellogg left the scenes in which he had played an active and a worthy part in a momentous period of American life.

ROBERT A. MILLIKAN

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

EXPEDITIONS OF THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES OF PHILADELPHIA

THE Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia has nineteen expeditions in the field gathering new material for study and for museum display. One expedition, led by Dr. Edgar B. Howard, acting curator of the department of geology and paleontology of the academy, has unearthed a small and perfect stone point that is presumably the work of Folsom Man, near Portales, New Mexico. Near the locality in which this expedition is working, James A. G. Rehn, his son, John W. H. Rehn, and Vernon S. L. Pate, of Cornell University, are collecting grasshoppers, wasps, mantids and earwigs.

Dr. Francis W. Pennell, curator of the department of botany, is collecting plants along the portion of the trail made by the Lewis and Clark expedition in the Bitterroot Mountains between Idaho and Montana. Dr. Walter M. Benner, associate in the botanical department, is making a general survey of plant life south of Dr. Pennell's work in Colorado, Nevada, Utah and California. M. A. Carriker, Jr., of the academy, and Gordon Howes are continuing their three-year study of the migration and distribution of the birds of Bolivia.

There are four separate expeditions of field workers gathering a representative collection of fish from the West Indies, the eastern portion of the United States and the Pacific. Laurence L. Reeve, of Haverford, Pa., is working on the Island of Mona, off Puerto Rico, and Henry W. Fowler, curator of the department of fishes, is gathering further material in Pennsylvania, Virginia and New Jersey for his forthcoming publication on the fishes of northeastern North America.

As reported in SCIENCE for August 13 the George Vanderbilt expedition brought back from the Southern Pacific extensive collections of fish, birds and plants. Frederick Crockett, of Boston, who is leading an expedition to Dutch New Guinea, collected on islands along the route of the Vanderbilt expedition during the late spring and early summer. Four expeditions are concentrated on the study and collection of mammals in Panama, Mexico, the West and the Yukon Territory. Shells and invertebrates are the subject of two field trips; Dr. Henry Pilsbry, curator of the department of mollusks, worked in Florida during part of the winter months, and in the West Indies, a joint project of the Museum of Comparative Zoology in Cambridge and the academy is making a study of land shells.

Other members of the staff who are engaged in collecting include Samuel Gordon, associate curator of minerals, who has gathered specimens from Vermont; John W. Cadbury, who is making collections of insects in the New Jersey pine barrens, and James Bond, of the department of birds, who completed work on the study of West Indian birds during his thirteenth trip this past winter. Collections of fishes and birds have been received at the academy from collectors stationed in Siam.

THE HOLDEN EXPEDITION OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

AN expedition led by Dr. William Ball Holden, staff surgeon of the American Museum of Natural History, left New York on August 21 to carry on scientific exploration in the Amazonian jungles of South America. The expedition will maintain contact with the outside world from the interior of British Guiana and Brazil by means of direct linkage with the National Broadcasting Company, and will attempt to chart its course through the jungle by means of special radio equipment.

In addition to Dr. Holden, the members of the party will include Dr. A. C. Smith, associate curator of the New York Botanical Garden; Robert Snedigar, of the department of herpetology of the American Museum of Natural History; William G. Hassler, official photographer; Neil MacMillan, field assistant, and Orison W. Hungerford, radio engineer.

The main object of the expedition, which is expected to take about six months and to remain in the jungle for about three months, will be to carry out an intensive study of the diseases and drugs of the Indian tribes which live along the northern tributaries of the Amazon River. At the same time the other members of the party will collect reptiles, amphibians, small mammals and insects as well as botanical specimens. The section to be explored is the little known Sierra

Akarai range of mountains in the southernmost portion of British Guiana along and within the Brazilian border.

On reaching Georgetown, British Guiana, the expedition will embark on two specially built river boats. The party will travel far into the interior to establish a base camp about 600 miles from the coast. At this camp the main radio equipment will be installed, which has been constructed to allow for humidity and high temperature. Direct communication with Riverhead, Long Island, will be maintained. The route branches off to the west toward Venezuela, then south through the gorges of the Kanaku Mountains. About 150 miles up the Rupunnuni, the party will reach the village of John Melville, the half-Scottish, half-Indian chief of the Wapisianni tribe. At this point, not far from Dadanowa and Wichabei, Dr. Holden will offer his first broadcast from the interior, which will be heard over the National Broadcasting Company network. Thereafter the progress of the expedition will be described once or twice weekly.

The party will leave its boats and travel about 65 miles to the Kissikityu River and down the river by native dugouts until the waters again join the Essequibo. After a short distance along the Essequibo, the base camp will be established. Most of the members of the party will conduct their investigations within about a day's traveling distance from this camp, but Dr. Holden, with Mr. Hassler and a group of Indians, will travel across the frontier of Brazil, making their way through the tropical rain-forest.

THE A. W. MELLON EDUCATIONAL AND CHARITABLE TRUST

THE residue of the estate of the late Andrew W. Mellon is bequeathed to "the A. W. Mellon Educational and Charitable Trust," which was established in December, 1930. With the exception of bequests amounting to $180,000 to his personal employees, in appreciation of their loyalty and efficiency, and such household effects as are contained in his residence, the entire estate will go to charitable and educational purposes.

In explanation of his reason for making no bequests to his children, Mr. Mellon stated that they already had been adequately provided for. His son, Paul Mellon, his son-in-law, David Bruce, and his attorney, Donald D. Shepard, who are the surviving trustees of the A. W. Mellon Educational and Charitable Trust, were named as executors under the will.

It is provided that the funds and properties of the trust be "administered and operated exclusively for the benefit of, and the trust estate shall be distributed by the trustees exclusively in aid of such religious, charitable, scientific, literary and educational purposes as shall, in the judgment of the trustees, be in furtherance of the public welfare and tend to promote the well-doing or well-being of mankind and/or for the use of the United States, any state, territory, or any political subdivision."

Up to April, 1935, five years after it was established, the trustees had distributed $255,443 for religious, charitable and educational purposes and have bought $34,300 worth of pictures. Contributions or gifts were made to thirty-seven separate organizations. The trust by 1935 received rare paintings which cost $19,000,000 and $1,250,000 in cash and securities. Of that amount Paul Mellon gave $191,000.

The paintings, valued in the neighborhood of $50,000,000, have since been given to the Government for a national art gallery. Mr. Mellon gave more than $10,000,000 for a building, for which ground is now being cleared in Washington.

It is reported that the estate, which is estimated at from seventy-five to two hundred million dollars, will not be subject to federal or state inheritance taxes.

PROPOSED BUILDINGS FOR THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH

PLANS for the construction of three new buildings to provide better facilities for the National Institute of Health have been announced and are described in the *Star,* Washington.

The buildings will be erected on a 45-acre tract of wooded land, 1½ miles beyond Bethesda, Md., on the Rockville highway. The property was donated to the United States Public Health Service for this purpose in 1935 by the late Luke I. Wilson, of Washington. A total allotment of $1,143,000 from the emergency construction program acts of 1934 and 1936 is available for construction. The National Cancer Institute, recently authorized by Congress, probably will be built on the same tract of land and its work coordinated with that of the National Institute of Health.

The three new buildings involved in the present plans will be erected on the central high plateau of the 45-acre tract, beyond a small ravine. A roadway on the north side will lead to the buildings from the Rockville highway. They will serve as the nucleus for a projected national research center and will house activities of the National Institute of Health which are now scattered at different places. The plans make provision for the future construction of two more buildings in the group. The institute will retain its present headquarters at Twenty-fifth and E streets until completion of the latter group.

The structures will be of Georgian design, with exterior brick walls, stone trim and pitched hip slate roof, fireproof throughout. There will be a modern air-conditioning and air-heating system. Each building will consist of basement, subbasement, three stories and attic.