

4. "De solido intersolidum naturaliter contentor," by Nicolas Steno.
5. "Origin of Species," by Darwin. A reprint of the first edition (1859).
6. "Expériences pour servir à l'histoire de la génération des animaux et des plantes," by Lazaro Spallanzani.
7. "Disquittio de sexu plantarum," by Linnaeus.

FLOOD CONTROL RESEARCH AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Flood control measures for the southern tier counties of New York State and the adjoining counties in northern Pennsylvania are under intensive study at Cornell University by the War Department, the School of Civil Engineering cooperating. Benjamin K. Hough, Jr., of the U. S. Army Engineering Corps, has a staff of 35 men working in Ithaca on problems of soil mechanics. A. N. Vanderlip with Professor Ernest W. Schoder and other members of the Cornell engineering faculty are conducting research in hydraulics. The War Department is making extensive use of the Hydraulics Laboratory of the College of Engineering and has erected on the campus a new soil mechanics laboratory, equipped with two carloads of apparatus from the abandoned Passamaquoddy Dam project in Maine.

Research is proceeding in two major directions: problems in channel improvement, construction of check dams and other water control measures; and studies of foundation conditions and suitable materials for earth embankments and earth dams where needed. The first important problem in the hydraulic group necessitated the construction of a scale model of the Chenango River through Binghamton, where disastrous floods occurred in 1935 and 1936.

The model, constructed in the Beebe Lake canal above the Hydraulics Laboratory and built to exact scale of 12 inches to 75 feet, has made possible studies of the Chenango River for two miles above its junction with the Susquehanna. The flow of water in the model is regulated in proper proportion to that in the river for its various flood stages and is measured and recorded very accurately for flood control study.

A serious difficulty has been to secure accurate data to guide the operation of the model. Few reliable records were made before the flood of July, 1935. The preliminary tests had to be run under three conditions: (1) with the river partly blocked by sections of the bridge, as immediately after the flood, (2) with the river partly blocked in a different way by contractors' trestles for the new bridge structure, and (3) with the river flowing freely under the new bridge. Now that the reliability of the model as an accurate reproduction of the river to scale has been established, each test still has to be done three times, with different levels of flow in the Susquehanna.

Careful experimental studies have shown the probable effects of a number of proposed channel improvements designed to lower the Binghamton flood stage at least a foot—a margin which would have had important beneficial effects during both recent floods.

Most of the dams and embankments to be constructed will be of earth. Hence the properties of the earth to be used assume great significance. Samples from various sites are under continuous scientific study. On the basis of these tests, army engineers are selecting sites and designing structures which will eventually control the flow of water through the entire Susquehanna Valley, and will, it is hoped, completely eliminate the danger of serious floods in the future.

WILD LIFE WEEK

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT has set aside the week of March 20 to 26 as Wild Life Week. The week, sponsored by the General Wild Life Federation at the recent Baltimore meeting, will be devoted to raising funds for restoration work in all branches of wild life conservation.

The proclamation follows:

WHEREAS, One of the most important phases of the conservation of our natural resources is the protection and preservation of our wild life; and

WHEREAS, This is a work in which virtually our entire citizenship can participate wholeheartedly and enthusiastically, whether resident in the large metropolitan centers, with limited access to the great out-doors, or permitted to enjoy at first hand the wonders of nature; and

WHEREAS, The carrying into effect of any program for the conservation of our hereditary wild life—in the past seriously diminished and depleted by destructive exploitation and lack of proper understanding and sympathy—must enlist the support of all of our citizens if the mistakes of the past are to be avoided in the future in dealing with this important resource of incalculable social, economic, esthetic and recreational value:

Now, therefore, I, Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim and designate the week beginning March 20, 1938, as National Wild Life Week, and do earnestly appeal to all of our citizens first to recognize the importance of the problem of conservation of these assets in wild life, and then to work with one accord for their proper protection and preservation. To this end I call upon all citizens in every community to give thought during this period to the needs of the denizens of field, forest and water, and intelligent consideration of the best means for translating good intentions into practical action in behalf of these invaluable but inarticulate friends. Only through the full cooperation of all can wild life be restored for the present generation and perpetuated for posterity.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this 14th day of

February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and thirty-eight, and of the independence of the United States of America the one hundred and sixty-second.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

Stamps bearing pictures of American wild animals and birds, designed by Jay N. ("Ding") Darling, cartoonist, already have gone on sale throughout the nation.

AWARD OF THE MEDAL OF THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

At the stated meeting of the New York Academy of Medicine on the evening of March 3 the medal of the academy was presented to Dr. Béla Schick, discoverer of the Schick test in 1913, on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the publication of his work on immunity in diphtheria. Dr. James Alexander Miller, president of the academy, made the presentation. He spoke as follows:

To you, Dr. Béla Schick, the Council of the New York Academy of Medicine has awarded the academy medal and upon this occasion I have the privilege of presenting this medal to you.

This is a well deserved honor.

Since you received your medical degree, in 1900, at the Karl Franz University at Graz, Austria, you have devoted your energies not only to clinical medicine but also to medical investigation and to teaching.

As early as 1905 you, with Clemens von Pirquet, also a distinguished pupil of Theodore Escherich, published the classical monograph—*Serumkrankheit*. This not only gave the first description of serum sickness, but also

established fundamental principles of allergy. In 1912, with Escherich, you published the celebrated clinical monograph on scarlet fever. You had meanwhile promulgated the idea that post-scarlatinal diseases were allergic in nature. This is now a firmly established fact, of wide significance.

You have also made important studies of the nutrition of the newborn, of infantile tuberculosis, of metabolism in infectious diseases, as well as of other subjects.

It was in 1913 that you published the discovery which has given you the widest fame—the reaction which so justly carries your name. This was no chance observation, but was the result of careful studies carried on over a number of years.

Through this discovery you made it possible to determine who is and who is not susceptible to diphtheria, and this laid the basis for the present-day effective campaign of prevention against this dreaded disease. Your place is, therefore, amongst the great benefactors of mankind.

It is an honor to present to you the Medal of the New York Academy of Medicine upon this date, made notable by the fact that it is the twenty-fifth anniversary of the announcement of the Schick reaction.

Dr. Schick was born in Boglar, Hungary, on July 16, 1877, and was graduated from the medical school at Graz, Austria, in 1900. Since 1923 he has been pediatrician-in-chief at Mount Sinai Hospital. He is also clinical professor for diseases of children at Columbia University, pediatrician in chief at the Sea View Hospital and consulting pediatrician at the Willard Parker Hospital and the New York Infirmary for Women and Children.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Kelvin Medal Award Committee has awarded the Kelvin Medal for 1938 to Sir Joseph J. Thomson, master of Trinity College, Cambridge, in recognition of the eminent services he has rendered to engineering science. The presentation will be made by Lord Rayleigh at the Great Hall of the Institution of Civil Engineers on May 3.

THE University of Oxford will confer the degree of doctor of medicine on four newly appointed Nuffield professors. They are H. W. B. Sairns, R. R. Macintosh, J. Chassar Moir and J. A. Gunn, Nuffield professors of surgery, anesthetics, obstetrics and gynecology and therapeutics, respectively.

At a special convocation on February 21 at the University of Manitoba, presided over by Sidney E. Smith, president of the university, the doctorate of laws was conferred on Dr. E. V. McCollum, professor of biochemistry and head of the department at the School of Hygiene and Public Health of the Johns Hopkins University, in recognition of his contributions

to medical science. Premier John Bracken represented the Manitoba Government at the ceremony.

DR. HOWARD A. KELLY, professor of gynecology, emeritus, at the Johns Hopkins University, the only surviving member of the group that was instrumental in the founding of the Medical School, celebrated his eightieth birthday on February 20.

A DINNER in honor of Howard S. Warren, director of the protection development department of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, was given by his associates on March 2 in observance of his sixty-fifth birthday. On this occasion he was presented with a bronze desk set. Mr. Warren retires at the end of the present month, having served the Bell Telephone System for thirty-nine years.

DR. W. A. SETCHELL, professor of botany, emeritus, at the University of California, has been elected a foreign member of the Royal Society of Science and Arts of Göteborg, Sweden.