Geographic Society is now having large rubber balloons fabricated. In the meantime improved instruments for detecting ozone and for radioing information back to earth are under construction in the laboratories of the National Bureau of Standards.

COURSES IN MODERN MANUFACTURING AND RESEARCH

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn and the Stevens Institute of Technology, in cooperation with the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, have announced a series of post-graduate courses in industry which will enable selected graduate engineers to study modern research and manufacturing methods and earn credit for masters' and doctors' degrees.

These courses are the first to be held in the New York metropolitan area in which an industrial concern has cooperated with a group of educational institutions to provide training for advanced degrees to graduate students. They will be similar to those held with the cooperation of Professor H. E. Dyche, head of the school of electrical engineering at the University of Pittsburgh. As a result of graduate study in these classes in the past twelve years, sixty-six students have been awarded masters' degrees and six students Ph.D. degrees.

Students chosen for enrolment in the New York classes will include graduate engineers now employed by the Westinghouse Company and graduate students in engineering from the three cooperating schools. A joint committee, including Dean Erich Hausmann, of the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn; Dr. H. J. Masson, of New York University; Dean F. C. Stockwell, of Stevens Institute of Technology, and J. H. Belknap, manager of technical employment and training for the Westinghouse Company, will examine students and supervise the courses.

Among the first courses authorized will be classes in advanced illumination and in symmetrical components. D. W. Atwater, manager of the commercial engineering department of the Westinghouse Lamp Division and past president of the Illuminating Engineering Society, has been appointed Westinghouse lecturer for the class in advanced illumination. The course, following advanced study procedure in technical schools, will consist of two-hour lectures each on Monday nights, for sixteen weeks at the Westinghouse offices in New York City. The course on symmetrical components, dealing with electrical distribution systems, will be taught by B. V. Hoard, engineer of the Westinghouse Meter Works at Newark, N. J., and S. H. Wright, of the engineering department at Pittsburgh. Instruction will include details of technical procedure in current laboratory research and commercial production. Engineers in the industry will present the latest developments in each field.

MOUSE GENETICS

A CIRCULAR letter signed by L. C. Dunn, W. H. Gates, G. D. Snell and W. L. Russell was recently forwarded to biologists interested in mouse genetics, asking for opinions with regard to the possible establishment of a Committee on Mouse Genetics Nomenclature and of a Mouse Genetics News Service. As a result, at the meeting of the International Congress of Genetics at Edinburgh Professors F. A. E. Crew and L. C. Dunn and Dr. G. D. Snell were appointed a Committee on Mouse Genetics Nomenclature.

A meeting with Dr. A. L. Hagedoorn (Holland) in the chair was called to consider a set of nomenclature rules drawn up by the committee and to discuss details of the News Service. Twenty-five members of the congress were present. The recommendations of the meeting as regards nomenclature were submitted to the committee.

The offer of the director and staff of the Roscoe B. Jackson Memorial Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine, for the publication in mimeographed form of the *Mouse Genetics News* was gratefully accepted. It was suggested that a register of stocks and the various Pure Lines should be drawn up in order to end the confusion in the naming of Pure Lines used in various laboratories which has arisen during the last few years. It was recommended that stock lists of all the laboratories concerned should be published from time to time. It was further suggested that notice should be given by a laboratory before any stocks are discontinued; it has happened several times in the past that valuable material has been irretrievably lost, because every laboratory has relied on other places for its maintenance. It is proposed that the News Service should also arrange for exchange of stocks, and it is hoped that its activities may be extended to rabbits and other rodents, and it is suggested that an appeal be made to all laboratories concerned to collaborate wholeheartedly by promptly answering correspondence and sending information.

The meeting discussed the establishment of centers, preferably in the United States for the maintenance and safe keeping of stocks, particularly of genes (pathological and otherwise). It was pointed out that the continuity of genetical work depends on keeping genes alive, as genes which have died out are as irrevocably lost as extinct animal or plant species. It was urged that this matter should receive the immediate consideration of the News Service and that an appeal should be made to the Carnegie and Rockefeller Foundations for financial assistance.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

THE San Francisco meeting of the American Association of Museums, which met from June 26 to 28,