

been organized with an appropriation from the Legislature of \$20,000 for cooperation in the establishment of a fishery products laboratory in Alaska.

The members of the commission are the governor of Alaska, Dr. Ernest Gruening; J. W. Mendenhall, of Ketchikan, member for industry, and Seton H. Thompson, member for the bureau. At a meeting on August 20 Governor Troy, who has since resigned, was elected chairman and Mr. Mendenhall, secretary. It was then decided to enter into a cooperative agreement with the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries for the operation of the laboratory.

At this meeting it was also decided to establish the office of the commission at the laboratory building in Ketchikan, when constructed, and Mr. Mendenhall was designated as liaison officer with authority to consult appropriate officials of the Bureau of Fisheries regarding construction, maintenance and operation.

A site has been selected on which to construct the laboratory, and the sum of \$50,000 has been allocated for this purpose by the Public Works Administration. The building will be approximately 60,000 cubic feet in size.

The laboratory will serve as headquarters for the Alaska technical and economic research staff, who will conduct studies on the capture, preservation and marketing of Alaska fishery products.

In general, it is proposed to conduct research along the following lines:

Improvement of processes and methods of capture, handling and preserving of species now utilized.

Development of new methods for processing species now utilized.

Preparation of useful commodities from species not utilized.

The purpose of this work will be to extend the processing or fishing season over a longer period of the year. At present most of the fishing and packing business is done in the summer.

#### THE BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH DIVISION OF THE EDMUND NILES HUYCK PRESERVE

THE Edmund Niles Huyck Preserve at Rensselaerville, Albany County, New York, was incorporated in 1931. The purpose of the preserve, as outlined in the certificate of incorporation, is to

preserve the natural beauty of Rensselaerville Falls, Lake Myosotis, Lincoln Pond and the lands around them in the town of Rensselaerville; to increase the general knowledge and love of nature, particularly that of trees and wildlife, by maintaining a demonstration of reforestation and forest culture, and by providing means for increasing and protecting the birds, wild animals and fish within the boundaries of said land.

The preserve covers nearly a square mile of diversi-

fied habitats. Two lakes, one of eighty acres, numerous streams, dense beech-hemlock stands and arable fields provide a diverse attraction for the naturalist. The elevation is 1,650 feet above sea. As a preliminary step to the possible establishment of a biological station on the preserve a study of the biota was made during the summers of 1937 and 1938.

Three fellowships (two of three months each and one for the entire year) have been provided, the recipients to conduct basic zoological investigations in the field of animal behavior or ecology. Donald Griffin, of Harvard University, and Dr. E. C. Raney, of Cornell University, were awarded the 1939 summer fellowships. Dr. Eugene P. Odum, a graduate of the University of Illinois, has accepted the post of resident naturalist for 1940.

Members of the Scientific Advisory Committee are Dr. W. J. Hamilton, Jr., *chairman*; Dr. Lewis A. Eldridge; Dr. John R. Greeley; Dr. G. Kingsley Noble; Dr. Thomas Ordway and William Vogt. Inquiries regarding the Biological Research Division should be addressed to W. J. Hamilton, Jr., Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

#### AWARDS OF THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

THERE have already been given in *SCIENCE* the names of those who received the awards of the Royal Geographical Society at the annual meeting in London on June 26. The citations made by Field Marshal Sir Philip Chetwode, president of the society, follow:

With the approval of His Majesty, the Founder's Medal has been awarded to Mr. Arthur M. Champion. Mr. Champion has spent thirty years in East Africa, largely in the administrative service of Kenya. For some years he was in administrative charge of the Turkana Province. On his appointment, Mr. Champion made it his duty to carry out the first systematic survey of the Province on a trigonometrical framework, producing a valuable map in six sheets on the scale of 1/250,000. In addition to this he investigated the physical geography and geology of the area, and more particularly of Teleki's Volcano and the lava fields south of Lake Rudolf. He has communicated the results of his work in valuable papers to the society, and has recently shown to us the film which he made on a motor journey across Africa from Cape Verde to Nairobi, carried out after he had retired from the Colonial Service. Mr. Champion has now made his home in Kenya, and we look forward to further contributions from him on the geography of East Africa.

His Majesty the King has approved of the award of the Patron's Medal to Professor Hans Ahlmann, of the University of Stockholm, for his exploration and glaciological studies in the Arctic. He has specialized in studying the work of ice and snow and for this purpose he organized and led the two Swedish-Norwegian expeditions to Spitsbergen in 1931 and 1934, and the Swedish-Icelandic expedition to Vatnajökull in 1936-37. The many important

scientific monographs resulting from these expeditions have been noticed from time to time in the *Geographical Journal*, and we have had the pleasure on a former occasion of hearing a paper by him upon the physical characteristics of glaciers. Professor Ahlmann's work has stimulated much interest in this important branch of our science, and younger explorers and students owe a great deal to his encouragement and assistance. He is leaving in a few weeks' time to continue his researches in northeast Greenland.

The Murchison Grant has been awarded by the council to Mr. Robert Bentham for his surveys and geological investigations in Ellesmere Land. Mr. Bentham first went to the Arctic with the Oxford University Exploration Club's Ellesmere Land Expedition in 1934. In 1936 he returned by himself to the police post at Craig Harbour, Jones Sound, where he spent two years making a plane-table survey of southeast Ellesmere Land and in geological and archeological work. He also made an extended journey to the northwest.

The Back Grant has been awarded by the council to Lieutenant-Commander R. E. D. Ryder, R.N., for his captaincy of the *Penola* and his marine surveys on the British Graham Land Expedition. Commander Ryder's achievement in navigating the *Penola* in high latitudes and often in uncharted waters, with a crew which had little nautical experience before leaving England, was a fine feat of resourceful seamanship. He also took every opportunity of extending our hydrographical knowledge of the island-strewn waters and coasts of western Graham Land, and his surveys have been incorporated in the official charts. Commander Ryder being absent on duty, I shall ask his father, Colonel Ryder, to accept the award on his behalf.

The Cuthbert Peek Grant has been awarded by the council to Mr. W. V. Lewis for his physiographical studies in Great Britain and Iceland. Mr. Lewis, who is university demonstrator in geography at Cambridge, has taken part in one expedition and led another to Iceland. His interests are chiefly in the evolution of glacial features and of shore-lines and he had also pursued these studies in Great Britain. At various times he has imparted to us the results of his observations on Dungeness Foreland, the Chesil Beach and elsewhere on the English coast, as well as upon the coast of southeast Iceland.

The council has awarded the Gill Memorial to Mr. J. V. Harrison for many years' exploration in Central and South America and southern Iran. Mr. Harrison, who is a geologist by training, saw active service during the war with the Royal Engineers in Mesopotamia. Since then he has been engaged on topographical and geological surveys in Iran, Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, Honduras and the West Indies. In particular he has described to the society his journeys and surveys of the mountainous and inhospitable Bakhtiari and Kuhgalu country in southwestern Iran, formerly difficult of access to travelers and unsurveyed, the homes of restless tribes. Mr. Harrison's work has not only provided us with our first precise knowledge of the topography of these regions, but has also contributed to the elucidation of some major problems of the earth's structure. He is now at work in the Central Andes

of Peru, and I shall ask Dr. G. M. Lees to accept this award on his behalf.

### SURVEY OF RESEARCH IN INDUSTRY

THE appointment of Raymond Stevens, vice-president of Arthur D. Little, Inc., of Cambridge, Mass., as director of a nation-wide survey of research in industry which is to be started at once, has been announced by Dr. Ross G. Harrison, chairman of the National Research Council. The announcement followed the first meeting of a special committee held at the Engineers' Club in New York City to formulate initial plans. Mr. Stevens has obtained leave of absence that will permit him to devote a principal portion of his time to the survey, the headquarters of which will be in the National Research Council Building in Washington. He is known as an authority on the organization of large-scale research programs, as well as the application of research for the solution of specific problems in industry.

In announcing the appointment, Dr. Harrison stated that while funds for the work had been made available by the National Resources Planning Board, of which Frederic A. Delano is chairman, the survey would be conducted and the report prepared by the National Research Council. This is in accordance with plans approved by an advisory committee of leading scientific men, industrial research directors and executives, of which F. W. Willard, president of the Nassau Smelting and Refining Company, New York, is president. The report will be submitted in printed form by the council next year and will present "an objective study of industrial research as a national resource, as a means of aiding in its further development and utilization."

The National Research Council is composed largely of the accredited representatives of about eighty-five national scientific and technical societies. It was established in 1916 at the request of President Woodrow Wilson, by the National Academy of Sciences, to co-ordinate the research facilities of the country for work on war problems involving scientific knowledge. An executive order by President Wilson in May, 1918, complimented the National Academy and the National Research Council on war services and requested that the academy perpetuate the National Research Council with six peace-time objectives: to stimulate research in natural sciences for national defense and public welfare; to survey larger possibilities and formulate comprehensive research projects; to promote cooperation in research at home and abroad; to promote active cooperation with War and Navy Departments and civil branches of the government; to direct attention of scientific workers to war problems and to make available scientific information at home and abroad in cooperation with other agencies.