

opens with statements by the president, F. Trubee Davison, and the director, Dr. Roy Chapman Andrews.

The report of the director states:

The year 1939 was distinguished for the amount of new material placed on exhibition.

Ten years ago Harry Payne Whitney gave three quarters of a million dollars, matched by the city, to construct the Whitney Wing. Now this building stands as a model museum unit. Eight groups in the Hall of Pacific Island Birds were finished at the time of the formal opening in June, and a ninth is being built through the generosity of Richard Archbold. Cornelius Vanderbilt Whitney, adding to the already great benefactions of himself and his family, has given funds for the completion of the remaining groups, so that this hall, one of the loveliest in the entire museum, will be finished as soon as we can gather and prepare the requisite material.

Mr. Andrews reports that with the installation of two groups in 1939 the entire second floor of the Akeley African Hall is now completed. One expedition is at present in Africa collecting materials for two groups, and as soon as seasonal conditions are favorable, a collector will secure specimens of the cheetah. This is the final group, and in the not distant future the entire exhibit will be complete.

For many years all fossil reptile specimens on exhibition have been crowded into one hall. The addition of the new Jurassic Hall, opened this year, provides space not only for the visitor to see the larger mounted skeletons in a proper perspective, but for an arrangement of the fossil reptile collection as a whole in chronologic order from the early Permian forms to those of the late Cretaceous.

In the new North American Mammal Hall the group of Rocky Mountain goats is finished, and the construction and preparation staffs are engaged in preparing cases and group accessories and animals for the remainder. Funds, the vital necessity before any construction can be undertaken, have been pledged by various friends and benefactors for all the larger groups in this hall.

Summarizing the accomplishments of the Ten Year Development Program for 1939 it is stated in the report that 1,235 subscriptions were received from all sources amounting to \$133,825, of which \$121,869 is applicable to 1939 operation; a new activity in 1939 enlisted New York City members in a membership campaign. Three hundred and fifty new members were obtained and the ground-work has been laid for further development. The Women's Century Fund Committee, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Winthrop W. Aldrich, raised \$23,109 during the year, and the Men's Committee, with Mr. S. Sloan Colt as chairman, obtained \$51,875. The efforts of the program in 1939 resulted

in raising the amount needed to balance the budget and provided a cash reserve for 1940.

THE EIGHTH SUMMER CONFERENCE ON APPLIED SPECTROSCOPY AT THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

A PROGRAM of some thirty papers on the applications of spectroscopy to problems of biology, chemistry, geology, metallurgy, medicine, physics and various industries has been arranged for the eighth summer conference on spectroscopy and its applications, to be held in the George Eastman Laboratories of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on July 15, 16 and 17.

As in previous years, morning and afternoon sessions will be held on all three days. The earlier sessions will be devoted to discussion of recent advances in spectrographic analysis of materials, both by emission and absorption methods, while later sessions will deal with specific applications of these techniques to the various scientific and industrial fields. The type of material to be discussed is represented in the proceedings of the fifth, sixth and seventh conferences, published by John Wiley and Sons.

Copies of the detailed program of the conference will be sent on request to any one interested. Since the attendance is limited to two hundred, and as there are usually more than this number of applications, persons expecting to attend from a distance are urged to write in advance for reservations. No fees of any kind are charged in connection with the conference.

The usual summer courses on practical and applied spectroscopy and a new course on line spectra will be offered between June 12 and July 22. Requests for special bulletins describing courses and conference, for reservations at the conference or for the conference program, should be addressed to Professor George R. Harrison, Department of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass.

THE BICENTENNIAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

A BICENTENNIAL CONFERENCE will be held by the University of Pennsylvania, beginning on September 16 and closing on September 20, as part of the program marking the observance of the two hundredth anniversary of the founding of the university. Membership in the conference will be by application, and is open, within the limit of accommodations, to members of the staffs of invited institutions and organizations.

The program will consist of lectures and papers by a group of distinguished European and American scholars and leaders in the various fields of science and

thought. The offerings will represent the broad interests and significant contributions to learning. In the field of the humanities the symposia are planned to bring out the continuity of culture. In other fields they will deal with trends of modern thought and the advances of science. Each paper is on a topic on which the published writings and researches of the speaker give him a peculiar right to speak.

An elaborate series of lectures and symposia has been arranged. In the natural sciences, lectures announced for September 17, 18 and 19 are:

Subject to be announced. Sir Robert Robinson, Waynflete professor of chemistry, University of Oxford.

Engineering Progress and the Social Order. Dr. Frank Baldwin Jewett, president, Bell Telephone Laboratories, New York City; president, National Academy of Sciences, Washington.

The Beginnings of Social Behavior in Unicellular Organisms. Dr. Herbert Spencer Jennings, professor of zoology, University of California.

Aspects of Modern Psychology. Dr. Charles Samuel Myers, formerly director of Psychology Laboratory, University of Cambridge.

According to the preliminary program the following symposia will be presented:

Botany—Fundamental Aspects of the Problem of the Conservation of Renewable Natural Resources; History of Sciences—Round Table; Chemistry—Chemical Kinetics; Natural Products; Engineering—Fluid Mechanics; Statistical Methods in Engineering; Zoology—Cytology, Genetics and Evolution; Cytogenetics and Evolution; Cytology and Genetics of Protozoa; Physiology of the Nucleus; Psychology—Contributions of Psychology to Education

and Business; Physics—Nuclear Physics, and Geology—The Geophysical and Paleontological Problems in Shiftings of Sea Floors and Coast Lines.

In the Medical Sciences lectures are announced as follows:

Subject to be announced. Dr. Thorvald Madsen, director, State Serum Institute, Copenhagen, and chairman of the Health Committee of the League of Nations.

The Study of Man. Dr. Lawrence Joseph Henderson, professor of biological chemistry, Harvard University.

Two Centuries of Surgery. Dr. Evarts Ambrose Graham, Rixby professor of surgery, School of Medicine, Washington University, St. Louis.

A Challenge to Scholarship. Dr. William Mansfield Clark, director of the department of physiological chemistry, the Johns Hopkins University.

The subjects of the symposia in the Medical Sciences are:

Problems and Trends in Virus Research, Therapeutic Advances in Psychiatry, Medical Problems of Old Age, Nutrition, Female Sex Hormones, Clinical Considerations, Hypertension, Genesis of Cancer, Dental Caries, Development of Occlusion, Intestinal Obstruction, The Relation of Diseases in Lower Animals to Human Welfare, Modern Aspects of the Antituberculosis Problem, Chemotherapy, The University and Public Health Statesmanship.

Throughout the week there will be dinners and entertainments in the evening. On Thursday night a University Bicentennial Concert will be given by the Philadelphia Orchestra at the Academy of Music. A Fête on the Schuylkill River in Fairmount Park will be held on Friday night. It is hoped that those who are able to attend the conference will remain for these events.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE ninety-first annual session of the American Medical Association will be held in New York City from June 10 to 14. At the opening general meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria on the evening of June 11, the association will be welcomed to New York by Governor Herbert H. Lehman and by Mayor Fiorella La Guardia, following which the president-elect, Dr. Nathan B. Van Etten, of New York City, will be introduced and installed as president of the association and will deliver his presidential address. A medal will be presented to the retiring president, Dr. Rock Sleyster, of Wisconsin, and the distinguished service medal will be presented to Dr. Van Etten.

UNDER President Roosevelt's reorganization plan, the Bureau of the Biological Survey, hitherto in the Department of Agriculture, and the Bureau of Fisheries, hitherto in the Department of Commerce, were on June 1 merged with the name of "Fish and Wildlife Service" and were placed under the Department

of the Interior. Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, who was chief of the Biological Survey, has been appointed head of the new service. Charles E. Jackson, acting commissioner of fisheries, and W. C. Henderson, associate chief of the Biological Survey, have been made assistant directors.

DR. VLADIMIR N. IPATIEFF, director of chemical research of the Universal Oil Products Company, Chicago, and professor emeritus of chemistry of Northwestern University, received the 1940 Willard Gibbs Medal at a dinner meeting of the Chicago Section of the American Chemical Society on May 23. Dr. Ipatieff, who was born in Moscow in 1867, was cited for chemical discoveries basic to petroleum refining and to the organic synthesis of artificial rubber and of many other industrial products. The medal presentation was made by Dean Samuel C. Lind, of the Institute of Technology of the University of Minnesota, president of the American Chemical Society.