

others are in preparation, on bird migration, the continental distribution of animals, and adaptation of form to movement.

With the advantage of its background, its great collection of wild animals, its scientific staff, its laboratories and its technical publication, the trustees plan to expand the scientific work of the society.

The retirement of Dr. W. Reid Blair as director of the Zoological Park on May 1 left a vacancy which was filled temporarily, at a meeting of the Board of Trustees on July 15, by the appointment of H. R. Mitchell as acting director. As already announced in *SCIENCE*, Allyn R. Jennings, general superintendent of the Park Department, was appointed general director of the Zoological Park and the Aquarium, and Harry Sweeny, Jr., director of parks in Queens and Manhattan, was appointed assistant general director.

Under the new form of management, Mr. Jennings will have general charge of operations both at the Zoological Park and the Aquarium. Dr. Charles M. Breder, Jr., continues as director of the aquarium but will be freed to a considerable degree of administrative duties, giving him more time to spend on scientific work.

#### SYMPOSIUM ON NEW TEXTILES OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

A SYMPOSIUM on "New Textile Fibers, Fabrics and Finishes" will be held in connection with the hundredth meeting of the American Chemical Society in Detroit, September 9 to 13. Dr. Gustavus J. Esselen, president of Gustavus J. Esselen, Inc., Boston, has been appointed chairman of the symposium, sponsored by the Division of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry. Ten authorities in the field will deliver addresses.

Kenneth H. Barnard, of the Pacific Mills Print Works, Lawrence, Mass., will describe recent progress in textiles in New England. Pointing out that chemistry was largely responsible for taking the textile industry out of New England and transplanting it in the South, he will report how research, new uses, faster colors and modern finishes for textiles are overcoming the economic handicaps of the Northeastern region.

Robert Boyer, of the Ford Motor Company, will discuss "The Experimental Production of Fibers from Soybean Proteins." Dr. F. Bonnet, director of textile research and the standards laboratory of the American Viscose Corporation, will describe "vinyon," a copolymerized vinyl resin made of vinyl chloride and vinyl acetate. Vinyon yarn, largely utilized in industrial filter cloth, will invite many other uses because of its remarkable properties, including resistance to strong acids and alkalis at ordinary temperatures. It is asserted to be practically water-repellant and as strong when wet as when dry.

Dr. G. P. Hoff, director of nylon research of E. I.

du Pont de Nemours and Company, will speak on "Nylon as a Textile Fiber." Dr. Games Slayter, of the Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corporation, will outline in what ways fiberglas, a new basic raw material, is being employed.

Dr. D. H. Powers, of the Röhm and Haas Company, Philadelphia, will show how synthetic resins for textile fabric modification improve the tensile strength, resilience, durability, luster and firmness of the fabrics without altering surface appearance, imparting to vegetable fibers many of the properties of animal fibers.

The forms, properties and uses of the cellulose acetate rayons will be the topic of Dr. Harold DeWitt Smith, of A. M. Tenney Associates, New York. Acetate rayons, according to Dr. Smith, account for approximately 30 per cent. of the total rayon production.

F. C. Atwood, of Atlantic Research Associates, Newtonville, Mass., will read a paper on "Protein Fibers." Electrocoated pile fabrics will be described by N. E. Oglesby and L. E. Hoogstoel, of the Behr-Manning Corporation, Troy, N. Y. To date, two types—dress goods and all-over covered pile material for upholstery—of textile products employing the electrostatic process are being manufactured commercially. The distinctive feature of a pile fabric manufactured by the electrostatic process is the density of pile attainable. This density is reflected in the wearing properties of the product.

#### THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

BEGINNING in September, each of the seventy-one local sections of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in the principal industrial areas of the nation will sponsor several local meetings on the engineering problems of national defense and invite those present to make recommendations for their solution.

The parent society is planning a series of national regional meetings which will bring together the outstanding engineers and manufacturing executives of the country to discuss the engineering phases of the various elements of defense. It has announced the following dates and places for these meetings:

September 3 to 6, 1940—Fall meeting, Hotel Davenport, Spokane.

November 7 to 9, 1940—Joint American Society of Mechanical Engineers-American Institute of Mechanical Engineers meeting on fuels, Hotel Tutwiler, Birmingham.

December 2 to 5, 1940—Sixty-first annual meeting, Hotel Astor, New York.

April 1 to 3, 1941—Spring meeting, Atlanta.

June 16 to 20, 1941—Semi-annual meeting, Kansas City.

October 12 to 15, 1941—Fall meeting, Louisville.

The Inland Empire Section of the society has ex-

tended an invitation to mechanical, civil, electrical and mining engineers to attend the autumn meeting at Spokane.

Twenty-eight papers are announced for presentation at thirteen simultaneous technical sessions to be held on Tuesday, September 3, and Thursday, September 5. Twelve of these papers will cover the design, construction, mechanical equipment and potential uses of the Grand Coulee Dam, the world's largest masonry structure. Other subjects to be discussed include hydraulic problems, deep-well pumps, wood-working, coal, kiln drying, wood-waste utilization and material handling in the lumber industry.

Two luncheons, one dinner and a banquet are part

of the program. At the luncheon on Tuesday, L. V. Murrow, Washington Toll Bridge Authority, speaks on the "Lake Washington Pontoon Bridge." At the dinner on Tuesday, Major S. E. Hutton and F. A. Banks discuss the "Columbia Basin Reclamation Project." Following the luncheon on Thursday, Sid Jenkins will describe "One Hundred Years of Logging in the White Pine Forests of Idaho." The speaker at the banquet on Thursday evening will be R. L. Neuberger, author of "Our Promised Land." Trips on Wednesday and Friday will be made to the Grand Coulee Dam, a lumber mill in Lewiston, Idaho, the Coeur d'Alene mining district and local plants of interest.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

IN recognition of "distinguished contributions to the science of genetics" two honorary degrees were conferred at commencement on Dr. George H. Shull, professor of botany and genetics at Princeton University. He received the degree of doctor of science from Lawrence College and the degree of doctor of laws from Antioch College, from which he graduated in 1901.

HONORARY fellowship of the Royal Society of Medicine, London, has been conferred upon Dr. Mervyn H. Gordon, Sir Leonard Rogers, C. H. Usher, Dr. Louis Martin, Paris; Professor Felix Nager, Zurich; Professor G. Roussy, Paris, and Dr. Ralph Pemberton, professor of medicine in the Graduate School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania.

DR. FRANK H. BETHELL, of the University of Michigan, has received one of the two annual Henry Russel awards for his "direction of field studies of anemias of pregnancy in Hillsdale County" in cooperation with the W. K. Kellogg Foundation.

THE Heberden Society has awarded the Heberden Medal for 1939 to Major W. S. C. Copeman for his paper entitled "Notes on Treatment of the Rheumatic Diseases in the British Expeditionary Forces."

DR. GEORGE W. CRILE, emeritus professor of clinical surgery at the Medical School of Western Reserve University, has been made an honorary member of the Academy of Medicine at Cleveland.

At the time of the annual meeting of the American Surgical Association at St. Louis, there was founded a new organization, designed particularly for the closer association of the younger surgeons of the Middle West and adjacent Canadian provinces. This is to be known as the Central Surgical Association. The officers elected at the organization meeting were: *President*, Dr. Roy D. McClure, of Detroit; *Presi-*

*dent-elect*, Dr. Grover C. Penberthy, of Detroit; *Secretary*, Dr. George M. Curtis, of Columbus; *Treasurer*, Dr. Max Zininger, of Cincinnati; *Recorder*, Dr. Henry K. Ransom, of Ann Arbor, and *Councillors*, Drs. Willis D. Gatch, of Indianapolis; Kellogg Speed, of Chicago, and Carl H. Lenhart, of Cleveland. The organization was further developed during the annual meeting of the American Medical Association in New York City. Its first regular meeting is to be held during the latter part of February next at the university hospital at Ann Arbor, Mich.

PROFESSOR H. H. NEWMAN, for twenty-nine years a member of the department of zoology of the University of Chicago, will become professor emeritus on October 1.

DR. ROGER B. CORBETT, dean and director of the College of Agriculture of the University of Connecticut, has been named director of the Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Maryland to succeed Professor J. E. Metzger, who died last winter.

DR. CHARLOTTE HAYWOOD, associate professor of physiology at Mount Holyoke College, has been appointed chairman of the department of physiology, succeeding Dr. Abby Turner, who has retired.

DR. MARTIN SCHWARZSCHILD, of the Harvard College Observatory, has been appointed lecturer in astronomy at Columbia University.

J. C. CROCKER, senior lecturer, has been appointed head of the department of chemistry of the Chelsea Polytechnic, London, to succeed C. Dorée, who, after serving for sixteen years, will retire on August 31.

THREE of the five members of the faculty of Adelphi College, Garden City, Long Island, who were dismissed last spring, are bringing damage suits of \$20,000 each against the college administration. It is stated by the