

2,113 acres and designated as the Tionesta Natural Area, is dedicated primarily to scientific research.

The report points out:

This area is admirably suited for studying the response of the forest to climatic and biologic cycles, the development of the climax type, and the natural rejuvenation that results in the perpetuation of the climax. It is equally valuable for studying how completely the virgin forest supplies the life needs of the various animals found therein, and of how the forest with its multitude of different plant and animal forms influences the local climate, the soil and the regimen of streams. This natural area is in effect a primeval laboratory and as such it is open to all interested scientists for use. It is the desire of the Forest Service that full use be made of this tract as a center for research in forest and animal ecology.

Those who are interested may secure further information concerning the possibilities for research in this tract from the Allegheny Forest Experiment Station, Philadelphia.

EXPLORATION ON THE WEST AFRICAN COAST

GEORGE H. TATE, assistant curator of mammals of the American Museum of Natural History, has returned to New York after spending eighteen months in exploration and collecting in the rain forests of the West Coast of Africa.

In spite of torrential rains, once 14 inches in one day, the effects of the war in African colonies and a hurricane on his journey home, Dr. Tate has succeeded in bringing to the American Museum collections of more than 200 specimens, ranging from lemurs to pangolins. The main purpose of this expedition was to collect chimpanzees and mandrills, as well as foliage and other accessories for two new African Hall habitat groups. Dr. Tate was accompanied on part of the expedition by Robert Kane, artist and preparator of the staff of the museum.

Dr. Tate arrived at Tabou on the French Ivory Coast in April, 1939, and identified the chimpanzee habitat in the western part of the Ivory Coast, near the Liberian border. A collection was made in this region before the winter rains. The French Cameroons were next visited to obtain the mandrill apes that live in the dense tropical forests.

Three days after the arrival of the expedition at the port of Douala, war was declared in Europe, but in spite of the rigid wartime precautions that immediately went into effect, the French authorities allowed Dr. Tate to keep all hunting equipment. Soldiers were stationed at important points and road bridges, and it was necessary to show identification papers every few miles along the road.

Dr. Tate reports:

In a region ten miles square, about half way between Kribi and Yaoundi, we located the mandrill bands and collected specimens for the Akeley African Hall group. We found that the mandrills traveled in large bands, numbering from 15 to 20 individuals and always led by an old male, larger and of the true mandrill coloring in red- and blue-skinned face. When danger approached, the band would scamper into the upper branches of the trees, while the old "head man" galloped away through the forest on the ground.

Bad news came to us after the completion of this part of the expedition. Due to the rainy season, our collection of chimpanzee skins had arrived at the museum in New York unfit to mount as group specimens. We went back to the Ivory Coast to replace the first collection and found that we could not enter because our visas had expired. In the end, a second collection was obtained by going into Liberia and approaching the chimpanzee country at the Cavally River from the west, with headquarters at the Firestone plantation.

TECHNOCHEMICAL LECTURES AT THE MELLON INSTITUTE—1940-1941

A SERIES of fourteen lectures on the present condition of the American Chemical Industry will be presented by technologic specialists of Mellon Institute of Industrial Research during 1940-41. These discourses will be delivered on alternate Thursdays, in the fourth period (11:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.), throughout both semesters, in the auditorium of the institute. They will be open to all students of industrial chemistry and chemical engineering in the University of Pittsburgh, as well as to the members of the faculty.

- October 3. Dr. E. R. Weidlein, "Trends in the Chemical Industry."
- October 17. Dr. F. W. Adams, "Development of the Manufacture of Heavy Chemicals."
- October 31. Dr. B. G. Wilkes, "Some Industrial Products of Synthetic Organic Chemistry."
- November 14. Dr. H. J. Rose, "Engineering Opportunities in Fuel Technology."
- December 5. Dr. W. A. Gruse, "Progress through Research in Petroleum Technology."
- January 2. Dr. R. L. Wakeman, "Engineering Opportunities in Plastics Technology."
- January 16. Dr. F. L. Jones, "Optical Glass—A Key Industry."
- February 20. Dr. H. E. Simpson, "Engineering Opportunities in Building Material Technology."
- March 6. R. H. Heilman, "Engineering Importance of Heat-Insulating Materials."
- March 20. Dr. G. H. Young, "Corrosion from the Engineering Standpoint."
- April 3. Dr. R. C. Johnson, "Utilization of Some Mineral Wastes."
- April 24. Dr. P. J. Wilson, Jr., "Progress through Research in Industrial Waste Disposal."
- May 8. R. D. Hoak, "Industrial Stream Pollution Problems and Their Solution."

May 22. Dr. H. B. Meller, "The Important Place of Health in the Chemical Industry."

THE PROMOTION OF INTER-AMERICAN CULTURAL RELATIONS

UNDER the terms of the Convention for the Promotion of Inter-American Cultural Relations the United States has now arranged exchanges of students and professors with nine of the American republics. Ten graduate students from the other American republics have been selected for study in the United States and four additional students will soon be chosen. Eight graduate students and three professors from the United States have been invited to study and teach in other American countries. One of these is Dr. Carroll William Dodge, professor of botany at Washington University, St. Louis, who has been selected by the Government of Guatemala as exchange professor. These arrangements have been made between the United States and the Governments of Chile, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Haiti, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and Venezuela. In addition the United States has been informed that the Governments of Brazil and Peru will undertake similar arrangements in the near future. Plans for these exchanges have been worked out jointly by the Department of State and the Office of Education of the Federal Security Agency. In addition the Governments of Chile, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and Peru have indicated their desire to receive a professor from the United States and negotiations are now in process.

The present status of exchanges under the Convention for the Promotion of Inter-American Cultural Relations is therefore as follows:

The Government of *Brazil* has officially notified this government of its intention to inaugurate exchanges in the near future.

The Government of *Chile* has awarded fellowships to two American students and the Government of the United States has awarded fellowships to four Chilean students. Chile is also negotiating for an American professor.

The Government of *Costa Rica* has awarded fellowships to two U. S. students and the Government of the United States will shortly award two fellowships to Costa Rican students. Costa Rica is also negotiating for an American professor.

The Government of the *Dominican Republic* has awarded fellowships to two American students and the Government of the United States has awarded fellowships to two Dominican students. The Dominican Government is also negotiating for an American professor.

The Government of *Guatemala* has selected an American professor.

The Republic of *Haiti* has submitted a panel of students for consideration by the United States.

The Government of *Nicaragua* has selected an American professor and negotiations are in process for the exchange of students.

The Government of *Panama* has awarded a fellowship to an American student and the Government of the United States has awarded fellowships to two Panamanian students.

Fellowships have been awarded by the United States to two students from the Republic of *Paraguay*.

The Government of *Peru* has notified the United States that it will shortly initiate exchange arrangements.

The Government of *Venezuela* has selected an American professor, who is now in Venezuela, and has awarded a fellowship to an American student.

The Buenos Aires Convention was signed by each of twenty-one American Republics at the Inter-American Conference for the Maintenance of Peace held in Buenos Aires in 1936 and has been ratified by thirteen countries. The exchange program is directed toward the development of a more realistic understanding.

The expenses involved in the exchange program are shared by the participating governments. The nominating governments will pay the round trip travel costs of students together with other incidental expenses. The receiving government will pay tuition, subsidiary expenses and board and lodging at the institutions in which the visiting students are enrolled.

GRANTS IN AID OF RESEARCH

THE American Association for the Advancement of Science awards grants in aid of research at its annual meeting in December. Since the income from the association's permanent fund has never been great and is declining somewhat with decreasing rates of return from investment, the grants are necessarily small, rarely exceeding \$250. Awards are often made to assist in completing investigations already under way or for supplementing funds available from other sources. There are, however, no established limitations on fields or purposes for which grants may be awarded.

Grants in aid of research are awarded upon the recommendation of the committee on grants, which consists of eight members, two elected each year by the council for a term of four years. The members of the committee on grants are chosen from among the various sciences so that every principal field of science is represented.

In order that applications for grants from the association may be examined and passed on by the committee on grants in time to make a report to the council at the meeting in Philadelphia in December, they must be filed in the office of the Permanent Secretary by November 10. After the applications are received they are mimeographed and copies of them are sent to each member of the committee on grants. Application forms and full instructions respecting the information that must be submitted will be furnished by the office of the Permanent Secretary, the Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C.