

and of the performance of various new types of household equipment have recently interested some of those working at the Pennsylvania State College, and a study of some of these physical aspects of housing is in immediate prospect.

The institute was named for the first woman to receive a degree in chemistry from one of the great institutions of learning and research in the country, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. As a research chemist and teacher, Ellen H. Richards (1842-1911) devoted her professional life to the application of chemistry and of the scientific method to improving home living conditions, and to establishing household science as a field of study in the improvement of standards of living.

Dr. Pauline Beery Mack, director of research in home economics, who has been on the staff of the School of Chemistry and Physics at the Pennsylvania State College since 1919, will be the first director of the institute, which will be administered jointly through the School of Agriculture and the School of Chemistry and Physics.

EXCHANGE OF ASTRONOMICAL PAPERS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR BART J. BOK, of Harvard Observatory, is chairman of a committee of the American Astronomical Society through which the exchange of astronomical papers is now proceeding regularly in the United States, England, Germany, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium and Poland. Other members of the committee are James Stokley, of Science Service, and Dr. Herbert R. Morgan, principal astronomer, U. S. Naval Observatory. Arrangements for the exchange were begun last September, and have been in effect since December. The Royal Astronomical Society accepted this month the invitation of the American committee to join in the exchange. Under the arrangement astronomers in England and continental Europe are sending scientific papers to Harvard University for mutual exchange.

At least once a month the American Committee, which has mailing headquarters at the Harvard Observatory, ships copies of *The Astrophysical Journal*, *Publications of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific*, *Popular Astronomy* and *The Telescope*, together with abstracts and papers from various observatories, to astronomers in Leyden, Berlin, Brussels, Paris, Florence and London. These astronomers attend to the circulation of the literature to investigators in their own countries. Many American observatories are participating in the plan by sending copies of their publications.

Dr. Bok stated that judging from the scientific papers received at the Harvard Observatory from England and Germany research in astronomy in these

countries is at about one half its normal activity; in the occupied countries astronomers have resumed almost normal activity.

ARMY SERVICE OF MEDICAL STUDENTS AND INTERNS

A RESOLUTION has been adopted by the Committee on Public Health Relations of the New York Academy of Medicine urging that the drafting for Army service of qualified candidates for admission to medical schools, medical students and medical graduates serving as interns in approved hospitals, be deferred until their medical training is completed. The resolution was transmitted in a letter addressed by Dr. Malcolm Goodridge, president of the New York Academy of Medicine, to the President of the United States. The letter reads:

I hope that your appeal for a thousand volunteer physicians for Great Britain may meet with adequate and immediate response. When the press asked my opinion concerning your appeal, I did not hesitate to endorse it wholeheartedly.

The sad shortage of physicians in Great Britain emphasizes the need of wise procedure on our part to forestall a similar situation arising in this country in the future. It can be averted by preventing the drafting for military training of medical students in approved medical schools and interns in approved hospitals.

On behalf of The New York Academy of Medicine, I beg to submit to you a resolution bearing on this subject. This resolution is being sent to the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy as well as to the Surgeons-General of our Armed Forces and to General Hershey.

I realize that this is a detail in comparison with the many important issues now before you, but a detail of such importance that I do not feel hesitant to bring it to your attention.

The text of the resolution follows:

An adequate supply of well-trained physicians is essential for National Defense as well as for the safety of the civil population. To-day there is greater need than ever before for the maintenance of full student quotas in all our medical schools and for the selection of the best qualified candidates for admission to the medical schools. It is likewise essential for the best interests of the country that medical graduates be allowed to complete their basic training as interns in approved hospitals, as without this training they are not qualified to assume the responsibilities of medical practice either in war or peace. The Selective Service authorities must be aware of the serious shortage of trained physicians in some of the beligerent foreign countries because of short-sighted interference with the period of medical training. A similar attitude in this country might have the gravest consequences in the future both for our military forces and our civil establishments.

The New York Academy of Medicine, therefore, urges the Selective Service Administration to give proper con-