

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

GIFTS TO SCIENCE AND EDUCATION

THE annual report for 1940 of Dr. Frederick P. Keppel, president of the Carnegie Corporation, gives a list of large sums given or bequeathed for scientific and educational purposes during the period covered by the report. These include a new foundation with a capital of \$8,000,000 that has been established through the will of the late Charles E. Culpeper, of New York, for the support of charitable, religious and educational organizations. Significant additions to the resources of existing foundations have been made as follows: to the Kresge Foundation, \$7,650,000 from S. S. Kresge, of Detroit; to the Kress Foundation, \$1,000,000 from Samuel H. Kress, of New York; and to the Murry and Leonie Guggenheim Foundation, \$5,000,000 by bequest of Murry Guggenheim to enable its dental division to erect, equip and operate a dental clinic for the children of Greater New York. Eventually, a large part of the estate of Edward S. Harkness will go to the Commonwealth Fund.

Many of the largest gifts of the past year for educational purposes have centered about the Chicago area. From the estate of Mrs. Clara A. Abbott \$1,500,000 has been left to Northwestern University, and \$1,000,000 to the University of Chicago, for the advancement of medical, chemical and surgical science. The University of Chicago has also received \$2,000,000 through a bequest of the late Orson C. Wells for medical education and research. From the estate of Mrs. Margaret Gray Morton \$2,000,000 has been given for the erection and endowment of a hospital for medical research, to be the fourth unit of the Northwestern University Medical School at Chicago. Wesley Hospital is now constructing on this campus the third unit, made possible by a gift of \$1,660,000 from G. Herbert Jones. The Field Museum of Natural History during 1939 received gifts totaling over \$700,000. In addition to these benefactions, large gifts of real estate have been made by Albert D. Lasker and Marshall Field, III, to the University of Chicago.

Omaha's art museum, the Joslyn Memorial, has received a further gift of \$2,500,000 from Mrs. Sarah H. Joslyn. Among other large gifts reported are: from the estate of Frederick W. Vanderbilt, over \$1,500,000 to Vanderbilt University; from the estate of Dr. John M. Vincent, \$1,500,000 to Johns Hopkins University; from the estate of R. Wistar Harvey, an estimated \$1,000,000 to be divided between the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the Pennsylvania Hospital; and from the estate of Mrs. Cora Ligett Fowler, of St. Louis, \$1,000,000 for a hospital.

Announcement has recently been made in Cape

Town of provision for a trust fund valued at about \$1,000,000 under the will of the late Sir Abe Bailey, leading citizen of South Africa and one of the principal mine owners of the Transvaal. Its purpose is to encourage the teaching of Afrikaans in English schools, to send students, particularly Afrikaans, as visitors to England and other parts of the Empire, and to assist the Salvation Army.

THE STANDARDS COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN STANDARDS ASSOCIATION

THE Standards Council of the American Standards Association met in New York on April 10. The council which is in charge of all technical work reported progress on many projects of interest to business as a whole.

In line with the recently announced plans to speed up work on standards needed for defense production, it was announced that the following safety standards on toxic substances would be developed under the Emergency Procedure: Acetone, Azides (lead and sodium), Cadmium, Ether, Manganese, Tetrayl, TNT and Xylol. These and other safety standards are needed to help industrial concerns protect the large number of employees now being turned into jobs requiring contact with toxic or explosive substances. These projects will be developed as quickly as possible under the new Emergency Defense Procedure of the Association. Committees have already been appointed to do the technical work of drafting these standards.

At the request of the committee in charge of developing standards for toxic dusts and gases, the council approved adding a representative from the U. S. Bureau of Mines to this committee. The bureau is carrying on research work in the field which will be valuable to the committee in its future work.

Acting on advice of the Advisory Committee on Ultimate Consumer Goods which coordinates all work in the consumer field, a representative of the Mail Order Association of America was added to that committee. This association includes in its membership the 4 large mail order houses that do a country-wide business—Sears, Roebuck, Montgomery Ward, Spiegel's, and Chicago Mail Order. It naturally has a very vital interest in standardization work in the field of consumer goods. Its members are already active on a number of technical committees.

Still in the consumer field, the Standards Council approved starting a project to work toward more uniform methods of testing color fastness of textiles and to extend work on color fastness into fields not now covered. This work grows out of a need felt on the part of both consumer and retailer groups for some

adequate method of determining the relative color fastness of materials.

A safety code for dry-cleaning operations is planned. This code will deal with the mechanical hazards in dry-cleaning operations and with the toxicity of fumes. The National Association of Dyers and Cleaners has agreed to take leadership in the technical work.

Two standards of general interest to consumers have been initiated. One of these is to develop standards for household electric ranges covering definitions, methods of test, performance, durability, safety, etc. The other is to develop a similar set of standards for electric water heaters.

A progress report received from the committee on sizes for children's clothing indicates that the first standard in this field—body sizes for boys from kindergarten to junior high school—will soon be completed. This will constitute the first step in development of a more uniform and more accurate method of sizing girls' and boys' clothing.

The committee in charge of work in the mining field reported progress on a number of jobs. A preliminary draft code covering quarry operations, including open pit and strip mining, has been completed and will serve as a basis for the work of the committee developing the standards. Progress was reported also on the revision of a standard on electrical equipment in coal mines, on the revision of a standard on wire ropes for mines, and on revision of a standard for ladders and stairs for mines.

A subcommittee was appointed to study the present methods of protecting workers against health hazards arising from dusts and gases in mines.

THE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, NEW YORK CITY

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL for the Treatment of Cancer and Allied Diseases will spend approximately \$130,000 on education and research concerning the cause and treatment of cancer during this year, according to the report of Dr. Cornelius P. Rhoads, director of the hospital.

New gifts are being sought for this purpose and about \$70,000 has recently been obtained toward the hospital's research budget. Contributors include Harry Payne Bingham, of New York; M. M. Rippa, of Miami Beach, Florida; Noel D. Sidford, of New York; Lucius N. Littauer, of New York; the Jane Coffin Childs Fund; the Commonwealth Fund; the Egbert C. Fuller Trust; the Holmes Foundation; the Pierre S. du Pont Fund; the J. J. Lerner Dental Fund; the Charles Lerner Research Fund; the Elise Strang L'Esperance Fund; the Research Corporation; Standard Brands; the Rockefeller Foundation, and the Community Trust. Some of these have made previous gifts for the purpose. A bequest also was

received from the estate of Lucy A. Kutz, of New York.

The Rockefeller Foundation recently renewed a grant of \$60,000 a year for two years, similar to the amount heretofore given by the General Education Board. This is earmarked for clinical and laboratory education and research, as well as for the training of nurses in cancer work.

The hospital conducts a broadly organized program of clinical and fundamental research into the cause, symptoms and treatment of neoplastic diseases. There are eight laboratory departments covering the natural sciences, each with its special staff of scientific experts and assistants. The research covers the field of pathology, chemistry, bacteriology, biology, physics and biophysics and includes study of radiation treatment with x-ray and radium. Particularly important experiments are being carried on in the field of chemical research, including vitamins, spectroscopy and hormones.

Much of the work of the ten clinical services also yields important cumulative data on results of various forms of treatment.

Important research is done in physics. The Department of Radiation Therapy is equipped with all approved apparatus, much of it original, including x-rays from 50 volts to 1,000,000 volts, full body x-radiation and telerradium therapy for the treatment of tumors by four grams of radium at a distance. The hospital has nine grams of radium in use. There are two low-voltage and five high-voltage x-ray therapy units and one Phillips contact treatment tube.

AWARDS OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL

EIGHTY awards, amounting to \$75,000 for the academic year 1941-42, have been announced by the Social Science Research Council, New York City. The awards provide for study and research in the fields of economics, political science, sociology, statistics, political, social and economic history, cultural anthropology, social psychology, geography and related subjects.

Seven of the awards, carrying a basic stipend of from \$1,800 to \$2,500, plus travel allowances, cover post-doctoral research training fellowships to men and women under thirty-five years of age who possess the degree of doctor of philosophy or its equivalent. These fellowships are granted for the purpose of enlarging the research training and equipment of promising students through advanced study and field experience.

Thirteen appointments are pre-doctoral field fellowships which carry a basic stipend of \$1,800 plus travel allowance. The recipients are graduate students under thirty years of age who have completed