

a necessary and well-established condition of America's share in the equipment of our forces. Surely it is clear that the greatest gain which can come to us, and to the world, from a war in which so much has been and must yet be sacrificed, is this closer and more conscious unity between peoples who have always been bound together, not merely because they speak the same language and share so much of history and tradition, but because their ideals and their outlook on life are, in very truth, essentially identical. To see in the promotion of such unity the best hope for the future, to work for it in every way and to guard it from the weakening effects of sectional aims and factitious differences, seems to be the best acknowledgment that the medical and scientific men of Britain can at present make to the American colleagues who, with a noble and simple generosity, are showing their desire to be identified with our cause.

#### THE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY OF NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

It is expected that the new building of the Institute of Technology of Northwestern University, erected at a cost of \$6,735,000, which was made possible by a grant from the Walter P. Murphy Foundation, will be opened in the autumn. The institute is conducted on the cooperative plan, under which students alternate work in industry with study in the classroom on a quarterly basis. The first class entered in the autumn of 1939.

In the new building there is an air-distribution room, where the mercury will reach zero, designed so that smaller rooms may be constructed within, thus permitting control of external temperature. This room will test for air leakages, insulation defects and strain upon building materials.

The cold room for civil engineering, to which specimens of cement, concrete, steel and building materials will be brought for analysis, is a heavily insulated 6 by 7 foot laboratory, in which quick changes in temperature will subject materials to the most rigorous of tests.

A low temperature research room is being built for the department of mechanical engineering. In a compartment large enough to house an automobile, the temperature may be driven to 75 degrees below zero. Tests will be conducted under these conditions of moving engine parts. The room is insulated with twelve inches of cork. It is tile covered and separated by an air space from the ground beneath. The latter permits the floor to expand or contract as the temperature varies.

Special research in low temperatures is planned for the cold room of the department of physics, where temperatures of 20 degrees below can be produced. In addition, chemistry will have two "variable temperature compartments," which will reach 4 degrees

below. These rooms will serve the purpose of storing organic samples which need to be kept frozen.

Besides the so-called "cold rooms," there will be thirty-two controlled temperature rooms, cooled by a seventy-five horse-power air conditioning machine in the basement. These will be used for a variety of experiments calling for specific temperatures.

Approximately \$1,000,000 worth of new equipment is now being installed. This includes apparatus for producing lightning and rain to test insulation and electrical equipment, "bomb rooms" with 12-inch walls to guard against explosions from experimentation, an artificial river to test boat models and vibrationless rooms which float in space.

#### THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR INFANTILE PARALYSIS

THE distribution by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis of grants amounting to \$195,030 with which to carry on its battle to conquer infantile paralysis has been announced by Basil O'Connor, New York, president of the foundation.

These grants include:

A grant of \$40,000 to the newly organized School of Public Health at the University of Michigan, which continues aid given to the school to create facilities for the study of virus diseases and to train virologists, with particular emphasis on infantile paralysis; also a grant of \$7,400 has been made to the department of pediatrics of the university for the purpose of investigating the various forms of treating experimental infantile paralysis by the use of biologic and chemical agents.

A grant of \$4,250 has been made to the Medical School of the University of California, San Francisco, to continue a study involving precise analysis of the movements of the various joints of the body, a project of particular importance in the treatment and prevention of after-effects of the disease.

A study aimed at determining the disposition of the infantile paralysis virus neutralizing antibodies among residents of an urban community, under what circumstances and at what rate persons develop such antibodies and the correlation of these data with the occurrence of infantile paralysis will be made under a grant of \$9,300 to the School of Medicine of the Johns Hopkins University.

Two grants amounting to \$6,300 to the Children's Hospital, Boston, will make possible the continuation of a study aimed at determining the effects of infantile paralysis on the growth of lower extremities. A study of the gastrointestinal tract as the portal of entry of the virus in paralysis will be made under a grant of \$3,000 to the Boston City Hospital. Under a grant of \$9,200, the Strong Memorial Hospital, at the University of Rochester, will continue studies to determine the functional indices in normal and abnormal locomotion. The University Hospital of the State University of Iowa, under a grant of \$7,100 will continue an evaluation of treatment in the