

many enduring friendships, covering many important developments in America's mathematical history, in

the formative days of fields now of the utmost importance.  
LOUIS C. KARPINSKI

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OF BRAZIL

THE correspondent of the *Journal* of the American Medical Association at Rio de Janeiro writes: "President Getulio Vargas has signed a decree reorganizing the national department of health. This reorganization and enlargement emphasize the interest that the present government has taken in problems relating to public welfare and gives to the federal bureau of health a status near that of a ministry. All activities related to problems of health under the federal government, with the exception of those concerning the child, have been consolidated under a general director in the Ministry of Education and Health. Even the well-known Oswaldo Cruz Institute, which previously enjoyed the position of an independent institution of research and study in the general field of experimental medicine, has been included in the new organization. The decree states that the national department of health will promote surveys, research relating to health, sanitation and hygiene, the epidemiology of diseases and the methods of their control and treatment and will directly administer the activities connected with these problems and others related to health.

"Dr. J. de Barros Barreto, an able sanitarian and executive, has been appointed director general of the department.

"The national department of health is composed of several divisions: the division of public health organization, which cooperates with the states and counties to create and conduct local health units; the division of hospitals, which is intended to foster throughout the country the creation and improvement of hospitals, a matter in which Brazil is well below her necessities, and the division of tuberculosis and the division of leprosy. The federal government has already appropriated and paid to more than twelve of the twenty states of Brazil the means to build and equip sanatoriums, preventoriums and leprosariums. The division of yellow fever includes the well-known organization developed with the cooperation of the International Health Board of the Rockefeller Foundation. The work against Aedes in the cities, which have been practically free of the disease for several years, and the work against 'jungle yellow fever,' still prevailing in many rural communities, including the extensive use of viscerotomy and vaccination, is already being performed by Brazilian personnel. The Rockefeller Foundation

conducts the Yellow Fever Laboratory, built within the premises of the Oswaldo Cruz Institute, where research is carried on and the vaccine is prepared. The division of malaria is expected to expand the antimalarial work. The Federal Bureau of Health was already doing the work against malaria, especially in the Federal District (suburbs of Rio de Janeiro City), in the neighboring state of Rio de Janeiro and in the Gambia infected northeast area (states of Ceara and Rio Grande do Norte), the latter area where the Rockefeller Foundation has cooperated extensively. Other divisions are devoted to mental diseases, health education, plague, vital statistics, maritime quarantine and the licensing of drugs.

"Among the new functions of the Oswaldo Cruz Institute is the education of public health medical specialists, as the course in hygiene and public health has been transferred from the medical school of the University of Rio de Janeiro to the institute."

### GRANTS OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

AMONG the grants authorized in May by the council of the Geological Society of America are the following:

*General, Geomorphology and Stratigraphy*—\$3,624.50.

Fritiof M. Fryxell, Augustana College, will spend ten weeks, with Leland Horberg, University of Illinois, and two assistants, studying the structure, erosional history and glacial geology of the Teton Range, Wyoming. \$440.

Lewis B. Kellum, University of Michigan, will return to northern Mexico to complete the mapping of Sierra de Tlahualilo and Sierra del Rosario in further study of the Coahuila Peninsula and the position of the continental margin in Mesozoic time. The University of Michigan will contribute an equal sum. \$2,000.

L. L. Ray, Michigan State College, and J. Fred Smith, Jr., Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College, will spend ten weeks mapping the geology of the Cimarron Range, New Mexico, in continuation of their study of the structure, physiography and geologic history of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. \$525.

H. T. U. Smith, University of Kansas, will study periglacial phenomena, particularly those related to intensified frost action, in the Blue Mounds, Baraboo and Trempealeau regions of the Driftless Area of Wisconsin. \$87.

Arthur N. Strahler, Columbia University, will spend six weeks in the east Kaibab monocline and adjacent parts of the Grand Canyon region completing a study of the geomorphic history of the region in which in 1939 and 1940 he had assisted Donald L. Babenroth, deceased. \$287.50.

J. Stewart Williams, Utah State Agricultural College,