

names of the scientific and professional individuals of the nation, are of the utmost importance in our present crisis. They must be replenished and kept current in order that there will always be a supply of trained men and women to handle any situation or carry on any research which is essential to our war effort. Registering with the National Roster is one way in which the trained individual can do his part. There may never arise an occasion where an individual would be asked by the Government to serve. On the other hand, there may be a time when persons with certain skills will be vital to the welfare of the nation either as full-time workers, part-time workers, or as consultants. Nothing has ever been lost through preparedness. Therefore, it is again urged that all with special training register immediately with the National Roster of Scientific and Specialized Personnel at Washington, D. C. This can be accomplished by writing to the National Roster of Scientific and Specialized Personnel in Washington, asking for necessary blanks. Also the required forms are being distributed to senior classmen in the country's colleges and universities.

#### THE LUCIUS N. LITTAUER FUND OF NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY has received nearly a quarter million dollars from Lucius N. Littauer. The gift will be used to establish "The Lucius N. Littauer Fund" in the College of Medicine. The income will be expended, as Mr. Littauer designated, "for research in psychiatry, neurology and related fields, in order to increase and diffuse knowledge of the biological and other factors which influence thought and conduct; and thereby to prevent and correct abnormal human behavior through experimental and clinical approaches."

A statement made by Chancellor Harry Woodburn Chase in regard to the gift, reads:

A fair yet liberal part of the income will be devoted to fellowships for graduate students in medicine of superior ability, to be known as "Littauer Fellows," to be trained to practice psychiatry and those branches of medical science concerned with the activities of the mind and factors influencing it, thereby recruiting physicians specially devoted to the conservation and restoration of mental health.

We have a very deep appreciation of this generous gift by Mr. Littauer. For many years he has been interested in our College of Medicine and has given generously toward the support of special projects. This larger gift, coming at such a time, is heartening indeed. It is the first substantial gift which has been made to any university since our entry into the war and I can but see in it striking witness of the fact that intelligent and far-

sighted citizens will not falter in their support of the purposes of higher education through this emergency.

Mr. Littauer had previously given the university nearly \$120,000 for research on the prevention and cure of pneumonia; on venereal diseases, and for scholarships and fellowships in the College of Medicine, Washington Square College of Arts and Science, the College of Dentistry and other divisions of the university.

Mr. Littauer, president of the Gloversville Knitting Company and Fonda Glove Lining Company, is a former member of Congress from New York, and from 1912 to 1914 was a Regent of the University of the State of New York.

#### THE OBSERVATORY OF THE BUHL PLANETARIUM

THE Buhl Planetarium and Institute of Popular Science at Pittsburgh opened its new \$30,000 People's Observatory on November 19. According to *Museum News*, the observatory is on the third floor of the planetarium, in two rooms separated from each other by a glass partition. The outer room, open to the air, contains the objective lens and mirror of a siderostat telescope; the inner room, kept at constant 72-degree temperature, contains the eyepiece and controls of the telescope. The objective lens, 10 inches in diameter, was made of glass imported from Europe and ground in America. There are six eyepieces ranging from 65 power to 490 power. A 12-foot horizontal steel tube supports the lens system and keeps out stray light. All this part of the telescope remains stationary. The image of the star or planet being observed is reflected to the lens by an aluminum-coated pyrex mirror 18 inches in diameter which can be set to follow automatically the movement of the celestial object. Nine electric motors power the control apparatus, which can direct the mirror to any part of the sky. The apparatus can even be set to find automatically the object wanted: the observer determines from a guidebook the celestial latitude and longitude of the object, sets the controls for that location, and starts the mirror moving; when the mirror stops the desired image appears in the eyepiece and a press on a button makes the mirror follow the movement of the object automatically. The observer stands or sits in a normal position and looks through the always horizontal apparatus; the mirror does all the adjusting. A recorded voice tells the spectator the story of the object being observed. The telescope was built by the Gaertner Scientific Corporation of Chicago.

The dedicatory address was delivered by Dr. Harlow Shapley, director of the Harvard College Obser-