No one with the ability to carry on advanced studies should be denied the opportunity through the accident of financial responsibility to pay the cost of the regular college courses. It is not expected that this unit will ever become a branch of the parent institution, extensively duplicating the educational facilities in Ann Arbor. The plan will be to offer here courses most in demand with the thought that they will serve the need both of those who seek merely a limited amount of training beyond the high-school level.

The two wings of the building, which is of white limestone, are owned separately by the university and the engineering society. They flank a central section which contains an auditorium with a seating capacity of 1,000 and a large banquet hall, both of which are available to either institution.

The facilities of the engineering unit include a dining room, a small auditorium, large lounge and social rooms, a library, meeting rooms for the seventeen affiliated societies of the society and offices for the executive staff.

Twenty-one classrooms in the university unit are capable of accommodating approximately 1,000 students at one time. Special classroom facilities are provided for radio and specialized speech courses, science, mathematics, engineering and the social sciences. There is in the central section a spacious library, which will be conducted as a branch of the general library of the university and which overlooks the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Detroit Public Library. The university unit also provides office and classroom space for the graduate curriculum in social work of the Institute of Public and Social Administration.

It is pointed out that centralization of the program of extension courses in the Detroit area will do much to unify and expand the program of the Extension Service, which for years has offered courses in churches, schools, "Y" buildings, hotel rooms and other scattered locations. Provision of office space in close proximity to the classrooms will also simplify administrative procedures. There was an enrolment for the first semester this year of more than 3,000 students.

ADVANCED INSTRUCTION AND RESEARCH IN MECHANICS AT BROWN UNIVERSITY

CONTINUING the work offered during the summer of 1941 and the present academic year, Brown University will offer opportunity for instruction and research in mechanics and allied branches during an eleven weeks period beginning on June 15, as well as during the next academic year. During the summer the emphasis will be on preparing for the present national emergency; during the academic year, attention will be directed primarily toward a long-range program of preparation in applied mathematics for university instructors and for research workers.

To review the work of the Summer School of 1941 and to make recommendations on a nation-wide basis, an evaluating committee, composed of eminent scholars in engineering, physics and mathematics, was appointed. This committee—consisting of Marston Morse, Institute for Advanced Study, *chairman;* Theodore von Kármán, California Institute of Technology; Mervin J. Kelly, Bell Telephone Laboratories; George B. Pegram, Columbia University, and Warren Weaver, Rockefeller Foundation—in its report stressed the present need for developing a program in applied mathematics and endorsed the experiment made at Brown University. It is also aiding in shaping plans for the future.

Courses are offered for the summer of 1942 under the direction of a distinguished faculty of eight. These include Professor Leon Brillouin, Professor Willy Prager, Dr. Stefan Bergman, Professor Ivan S. Sokolnikoff, Professor J. D. Tamarkin, Professor Willy Feller, Dr. Sergei A. Schelkunoff and Professor Richard von Mises. Under another program there will be lectures directed by Professor R. B. Lindsay. In addition there will be single lectures or short series of lectures by visiting experts, some stressing the practical side and others the theoretical. During the next academic year eight courses will be offered in addition to opportunities for research. Substantial fellowships will be available for selected students.

Because this work is supported by the Engineering, Science and Management Defense Training Program of the U. S. Office of Education, the Carnegie Corporation of New York and the Rockefeller Foundation, no fees will be charged. In the summer the participants will be limited to eighty in number, of which twenty will devote their time primarily to research; during the academic year the number will be limited to forty.

Information in regard to each of these programs may be obtained from the Dean of the Graduate School, Brown University, Providence, R. I.

THE RESEARCH COUNCIL ON PROBLEMS OF ALCOHOL

IN an outline of its program of its objectives, resources and progress, the Research Council on Problems of Alcohol makes a report of researches now in progress. These are:

A critical survey of all work completed to date on the effects of alcohol on the individual—by the College of Medicine of New York University, with a grant of $25,000 from the Carnegie Corporation.

A study of toxic factors in alcoholism—by the New York State Psychiatric Institute, with a grant of $1,500 from The American Philosophical Society. Minimum

value of services and facilities contributed by the institute—$2,200.

A study of the role of alcohol in liver cirrhosis—by the College of Medicine of New York University, with two grants, $2,100 and $1,500, from The Dazian Foundation for Medical Research. Minimum value of services and facilities contributed by the university—$7,200.

A study of reactions resulting from the ingestion of alcohol, for the ultimate purpose of discovering how a craving for alcohol is established—by the Phipps Psychiatric Clinic of Johns Hopkins University, with a grant of $1,800 from the council's research fund. Minimum value of services and facilities provided by the clinic—$3,750.

What happens to patients discharged as "cured" from institutions for alcoholics—by Columbia University, with a grant of $7,500 (for the first year) from the council's research fund.

The effects of maternal alcohol ingestions on the fetal cortex—by the University of Virginia Medical School, with a grant of $1,315 from the council's research fund. Minimum value of services and facilities provided by the Medical School—$500.

An informal survey of a town of 4,000 people to reveal the extent of alcoholism and the adequacy of measures now in use for its treatment—by E. M. Jellinek of the Laboratory of Applied Physiology of Yale University. This study is being carried on to provide for the experimental use of techniques being considered for a more extensive study.

GRANTS-IN-AID OF THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

THE Committee on Scientific Research of the American Medical Association has made grants-in-aid as follows:

T. T. Chen, University of California, illustrations of malarial parasites.

W. W. Cahill, Wayne University, Detroit, self-selection of food in relation to tumor growth.

Timothy Leary, Boston, Massachusetts, cost of extra illustrations in article on atherosclerosis.

Reginald Fitz, Boston, Massachusetts, the clinical beginning of hyperthyroidism.

I. M. Tarlov, Jewish Hospital, Brooklyn, plasma clot as nerve suture.

F. J. Braceland, Loyola University School of Medicine, Chicago, carbohydrate disturbances in schizophrenia.

A. M. Lassek, Medical College of the State of South Carolina, retrograde degeneration in pyramidal tract.

Charles W. Turner, University of Missouri, mechanism of lactation.

Robert P. Ball, Columbia University, roentgen pelvimetry.

A. McGhee Harvey, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, secretion of thymus gland.

John R. Paine, University of Minnesota, oxygen poisoning.

Hans Popper, Cook County Graduate School of Medicine, Chicago, vitamin A in tissue.

Wesley W. Spink, University of Minnesota, nutrition and immunology of staphylococci.

Oliver P. Jones, University of Buffalo, effect of antianemic principle on embryonic blood cells.

Enid Rodaniche, University of Chicago, chemotherapeutic agents on intestinal flora in infectious conditions.

Ben Vidgoff, University of Oregon, morphology of endocrine and secondary sex organs in male white rat.

Daniel J. Glomset, Des Moines, Iowa, cardiac conduction.

L. R. Cerecedo, Fordham University, New York, vitamin-B deficiency in rats and mice.

Catharine Macfarlane, Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, periodic pelvic and breast examination.

Peter P. H. de Bruyn, University of Chicago, osteogenic substances in laying birds.

THE FIRST WESTERN MEETING OF BIOMETRICIANS

ON the initiative of Dr. C. I. Bliss, chairman of the Committee of the Biometric Section of the American Statistical Association, a committee of biologists and statisticians was appointed recently to organize a meeting of western biometricians. Such a meeting was held on the Berkeley campus of the University of California on December 29 and 31, 1941. The theme of the meeting was: "The Potential and Actual Contributions of Statistics to the Solution of Biological Problems." Sessions were held concurrently with those of the two national entomological societies whose members have shown considerable interest in applications of mathematical statistics. A joint session was held with these two groups in San Francisco on the afternoon of December 30.

The committee that arranged this first western meeting of biometricians interpreted the word biometry in a very broad sense and encouraged the attendance of biologists and mathematicians from as many fields as possible. Six separate sessions were held, each devoted to a general field. These included: (1) botany—population studies, plant breeding and genetics; (2) general biology—bacteriology, irradiation by x-rays and by neutrons; (3) mathematics—statistical techniques; (4) entomology—population studies and sampling problems; (5) forestry—growth, genetics and sampling problems.

Twenty-four papers were presented in all and many of them created lively discussions. The meeting was well attended by both biologists and mathematicians, the former predominating. This testified to the widespread interest of biologists in the application of statistical methods in their research. The growing usefulness of statistics in biology was clearly evident in the tone of the meeting. It was felt that similar western meetings called at regular intervals, perhaps conjointly with the meetings of the Pacific Coast Section