

authorities (one for England and Wales and the other for Scotland) responsible for general policy.

The conference remains in being. Its honorary secretary, Dr. G. F. Herbert Smith, Society for the Promotion of Nature Reserves, British Museum (Natural History), London, S.W.7.

### CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS

*Chemical and Engineering News* gives the following account of the work of *Chemical Abstracts*, published by the American Chemical Society:

In spite of war *Chemical Abstracts* published more abstracts in 1941 than in 1940. The small increase (505 abstracts) is to be attributed to success during 1941 in the abstracting of European chemical patents after overcoming difficulties which interfered with this abstracting for a considerable period after the outbreak of war in Europe. The 1941 volume contained 5,541 more abstracts of patents and 5,036 fewer abstracts of papers than in the 1940 volume. The abstracts for 1941 total 52,764 in number as contrasted with 52,259 abstracts published in 1940. Of the 1941 abstracts 35,588 are of papers and 17,176 are of patents.

*Chemical Abstracts* endeavors to cover the chemical literature of the world completely. World-wide warfare presents many serious handicaps in this effort. *Chemical Abstracts* did not approach completeness so closely in 1941 as in normal years. Nevertheless, the record for 1941 is good. Abstracts from many of the papers published during 1941 in the warring or conquered European countries were obtained by some success in getting the needed periodicals (good success until Russia's entry into the war closed the trans-Siberian route), by searching this country for periodicals received in one library or another, and by having abstracts made in Europe, particularly in Switzerland and Germany, and sent by clipper ship.

In general, the policy of *Chemical Abstracts* is to publish informational rather than merely descriptive abstracts. Special emphasis has been placed on this for European and other publications not readily accessible to most Americans at the present time. The average page of *Chemical Abstracts* in 1941 contains 11.5 abstracts of papers or 18.6 abstracts of patents. The corresponding figures for 1940 are 12.1 and 18.0, respectively.

The edition of *Chemical Abstracts* averaged approximately 15,000 copies during 1941.

The much-used list of periodicals abstracted by *Chemical Abstracts*, with its key to library files, is normally published in revised form every five years. The list was due for revision in 1941, but the war has made postponement necessary. Satisfactory revision with American libraries in their present war-handicapped condition is not possible. The *Chemical Abstracts* office is keeping as well informed as possible concerning scientific periodicals and is willing to help users of abstracts locate full papers whenever possible. Hundreds of inquiries are answered monthly.

The only editorial change during the year was the well-earned elevation of Charles L. Bernier to an associate editorship following the regretted resignation of Janet D.

Scott, who left to join the Chemical Warfare Service staff at Edgewood, Md. Miss Scott is continuing to help in the naming and indexing of inorganic compounds. The editor gratefully acknowledges the valuable help of all of the assistant editors and abstractors, many of whom are continuing their work for *Chemical Abstracts* in spite of heavy national defense assignments. Our work is regarded as being in the same category.

### THE FEDERATION OF AMERICAN SOCIETIES FOR EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY

THE Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology will meet in Boston from March 31 to April 4. The general chairman of the meeting is Dr. Albert G. Hogan, University of Missouri, and the general secretary is Dr. Donald R. Hooker, the Johns Hopkins University. The following table gives the date of meeting of the constituent societies, and the names of the presidents and secretaries.

SOCIETY	PRESIDENT	SECRETARY
	<i>April 1 to 2</i>	
American Institute of Nutrition	Dr. Albert G. Hogan University of Missouri	Dr. Arthur Smith Wayne University
	<i>April 2</i>	
American Physiological Society	Dr. Philip Bard The Johns Hopkins University	Dr. Carl J. Wiggers Western Reserve University
	<i>April 2 to 4</i>	
American Society of Biological Chemists	Dr. Rudolph J. Anderson Yale University	Dr. Arnold K. Balls George Washington University
	<i>April 2 to 4</i>	
American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics	Dr. E. M. K. Geiling University of Chicago	Dr. Raymond N. Bieter University of Minnesota
	<i>April 2 to 4</i>	
American Society for Experimental Pathology	Dr. Jesse L. Bollman Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.	Dr. H. P. Smith State University of Iowa

### PHI LAMBDA Upsilon

THE results of the recent election of the national officers of Phi Lambda Upsilon, honorary chemical society, are announced in the January issue of the *Register*, the official publication of the society. Professor William M. Sandstrom, of the department of agricultural biochemistry of the University of Minnesota, was reelected president. Professor T. F. Buehrer, head of the department of agricultural chemistry of the University of Arizona, and for twelve years national secretary-treasurer, was elected to the vice-presidency. Both men have long been identified with the national activities of Phi Lambda Upsilon.