

The executive council recommends that the accelerated program consist of four full academic sessions of not less than thirty-two weeks each and that graduation shall not follow sooner than thirty-five months after first matriculation as a freshman.

The executive council recommends that as many colleges as can do so start instruction of the next freshman class on or about July 1, 1942, and subsequent freshman classes at approximately nine-month intervals until July 1, 1945.

The executive council recommends that, in admitting students for the accelerated program, eligibility requirements for admission be not lowered from the present minimum standards set by the Association of American Medical Colleges.

The Association of American Medical Colleges requests that the Federation of State Medical Boards recommend to its members that they arrange to make whatever changes are necessary in state licensing laws and/or board regulations to legalize licensure of students graduating under the accelerated program adopted by medical schools to meet the needs of the national emergency.

Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States.—WHEREAS, As a war emergency measure several approved medical schools of the United States are contemplating accelerating the courses of medical education so as to comprise four full academic sessions of at least thirty-two weeks each and that at least thirty-six months shall elapse between the beginning of medical instruction and graduation; and

WHEREAS, The medical schools initiating such an accelerated curriculum will be able to maintain the personnel, facilities and equipment necessary to give a medical education without deterioration of the quality of the medical instruction and in conformity with the statutes and licensure regulations of their respective states and territories of the United States and the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, The proposed accelerated course of medical education as a war emergency measure is expected not to extend beyond the present period of war emergency; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States in annual session assembled in Chicago, February 17, 1942, hereby endorse the proposed accelerated course of medical education and recommend it in principle as a war emergency measure for favorable consideration by the licensing authorities of the several states and territories of the United States and the District of Columbia.

In adopting these resolutions, all three agencies emphasized the importance of the maintenance of high standards of medical education in connection with any program adopted.

THE SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB

THE seventy-fifth anniversary celebration of the Torrey Botanical Club will be held from June 22 to 27 at Columbia University, the New York Botanical Garden, the Brooklyn Botanical Garden and the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, Yonkers. The history of the institutions at which the meeting is held will be given at the opening session of each as follows:

The History of Botany at Columbia University, by Dr. John S. Karling, professor of botany.

The History of the New York Botanical Garden, by Dr. William J. Robbins, director.

The History and Organization of the Boyce Thompson Institute, by Dr. William J. Crocker, director.

The History of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, by Dr. C. Stuart Gager, director.

During the week symposia are planned as follows:

June 22 Symposium on Morphology: Speakers: Dr. F. T. Lewis, Dr. C. E. Allen, Dr. R. H. Wetmore and Dr. E. W. Sinnott.

June 23 Symposium on Taxonomy: Speakers: Dr. H. A. Gleason, Dr. H. K. Swenson, Dr. E. D. Merrill and Dr. F. D. Kern.

June 24 Symposium on Growth: Speakers: Dr. L. O. Kunkel, Princeton, N. J., Dr. P. W. Zimmerman and Dr. Oscar Riddle.

June 25 Symposium on Genetics: Speakers: Dr. George H. Shull, Dr. Stanley Cain, Dr. George M. Reed and Dr. A. F. Blakeslee.

Dr. Robbins will give a public lecture at the American Museum of Natural History on the afternoon of June 24. It will be entitled "Plants Need Vitamins Too."

The anniversary banquet will be held on the evening of June 22. There will be luncheons, inspection tours of the gardens and laboratories and a two-day field trip under the direction of Dr. John H. Small, of the New Jersey College for Women.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

ACCORDING to a United Press dispatch, the Russian Academy of Sciences has elected to honorary membership three Americans and two Englishmen, the first foreigners to be so honored since the Russian revolution. The Americans are Dr. Walter Bradford Cannon, George Higginson professor of physiology at Harvard University; Dr. Gilbert Newton Lewis, professor of chemistry, and Dr. Ernest Orlando Lawrence,

professor of physics, both of the University of California. The Englishmen are Sir Henry Hallett Dale, president of the Royal Society and director of the National Institute for Medical Research, and Dr. John B. S. Haldane, professor of biometry, University College, London.

At its fifty-seventh annual meeting in Atlantic City,

the George M. Kober Medal of the Association of American Physicians was presented to Dr. Donald D. Van Slyke, member of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York. Dr. Van Slyke was cited in recognition of "his contributions to the treatment of diabetes and Bright's disease, as well as for his work on the oxygen treatment of pneumonia."

THE Willard Gibbs Medal meeting of the Chicago Section of the American Chemical Society will take place at the Stevens Hotel on May 22. Thomas Midgley, Jr., vice-president of the Ethyl Gas Corporation, recipient of the award, will deliver an address on "A Critical Examination of Some Concepts in Rubber Chemistry."

THE award for "distinguished service in the interpretation of higher education" of the American College Publicity Association was presented on May 9 at the closing session of the twenty-fifth annual convention to Watson Davis, director of Science Service. He was cited for his "years of faithful interpretation of research in science and its translation into terms understandable to the reading public with no loss of dignity or essential meaning."

THE Howard Taylor Ricketts Prize of \$200 of the Division of the Biological Sciences of the University of Chicago has been awarded to Dr. José Oliver-Gonzalez, a Puerto Rican by birth, research associate at the university, in recognition of his work indicating that trichinosis is caused by two forms of parasite and therefore immunity to the disease can be produced only by the formation of two antibodies. The prize was established in 1913, in honor of Dr. Howard Taylor Ricketts, of the University of Chicago, who discovered the cause of Rocky Mountain spotted fever. He died in 1910.

At the annual Buckstone Browne luncheon of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, honorary fellowship was conferred on Professor Antoni Jurasz, dean of the Polish Faculty of Medicine of the University of Edinburgh.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY conferred on May 3 the honorary doctorate of science on Francis Eugene Bibbins, chief pharmacist of Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis.

DR. HERBERT F. PRYTHERCH, director of the U. S. Fishery Biological Laboratory at Beaufort, N. C., was elected to the presidency of the North Carolina Academy of Science at its recent annual meeting in Greensboro.

At the twenty-seventh annual meeting of the South Dakota Academy of Science held at the University of South Dakota, Vermillion, on May 1 and 2, the following officers were elected for the coming year: Dr.

Edwin H. Shaw, Jr., University, *President*; Dr. Orin Lofthus, Augustana, *First Vice-president*; Dr. Lester Guss, State College, *Second Vice-president*; and Dr. A. L. Haines, University, *Secretary-Treasurer*. Dr. Walter F. Loehwing, head of the department of botany of the State University of Iowa, was the guest speaker. His address was entitled "Recent Advances in Botanical Research." The academy will meet next year at Huron College.

DR. CHARLES N. FREY, director of research of the Fleischmann Laboratory of Standard Brands, Inc., was elected chairman of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society at the annual meeting on May 8. Professor Vincent du Vigneaud, head of the department of biochemistry at the Cornell University Medical College, was chosen chairman-elect to take office in 1943.

DR. GEORGE BLUMER, since 1920 David P. Smith clinical professor at Yale University Medical School, was elected president of the Association of American Physicians at the Atlantic City meeting. He succeeds Dr. James H. Means, Jackson professor of clinical medicine at the Harvard Medical School. Dr. Warfield T. Longcope, of the Johns Hopkins University, was elected vice-president; Dr. Joseph T. Hearn, Cleveland, secretary, and Colonel Hugh J. Morgan, of the U. S. Army Medical Corps, councillor.

KARL P. SCHMIDT, chief curator of the department of zoology of Field Museum, Chicago, was elected at the New York meeting president of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. Mr. Schmidt has been appointed a special lecturer for a period of three years in the department of zoology at the University of Chicago.

THE Virginia Chapter of the Sigma Xi held its annual meeting at the University of Virginia on May 5. Twenty-six members were initiated. Lieutenant-Commander Thomas F. Ball, U. S. Naval Academy, was elected from the alumni and Professor Charles Henderson from the faculty of the University of Virginia. The annual speaker was Dr. Forest Ray Moulton, permanent secretary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

PROFESSOR RALPH S. HOSMER, since 1914 head of the department of forestry of Cornell University, will retire on June 30.

DR. H. W. KOSTMAYER has been named to serve as acting dean of the School of Medicine of Tulane University of Louisiana during the absence of Dean Maxwell E. Lapham, now on assignment in the Navy.

DR. J. MONTEATH ROBERTSON, senior lecturer in physical chemistry at the University of Sheffield, has been appointed Gardiner professor of chemistry at

the University of Glasgow. He will succeed in October Professor T. S. Patterson, who has been for forty years a member of the department. Dr. Robertson was from 1928 to 1930 a Commonwealth fellow at the University of Michigan and at the Gates Chemical Laboratory of the California Institute of Technology.

THE War Department has activated the 118th general hospital unit, which is one section of the Johns Hopkins University Hospital Unit. It will be under the command of Colonel George Finney, the son of Colonel J. M. T. Finney, who was at the head of a similar unit in France during the last war.

DR. DINSMORE ALTER, director of the Griffith Observatory, Los Angeles, has been called to active service as Colonel of Coast Artillery in the Army of the United States. During his absence, Dr. C. H. Clemmshaw, the assistant director, will be acting director.

DR. JULIAN HUXLEY, whose post as secretary of the Zoological Society, London, was suspended by the council for the duration of the war while he was lecturing in the United States, has returned to England. At the annual meeting of the council on April 29 a body of fellows nominated Lord Horder for the presidency and Dr. Huxley for the secretaryship, which they say was "illegally" suspended.

THE *News Bulletin* of the Institute of International Education states that Dr. Hernane Tavares de Sá, professor of biology at the University of São Paulo, is making an eight-month tour of the United States during which he expects to visit seventy-five North American colleges and universities. The Institute of International Education and Westminster College, Fulton, Mo., have cooperated in awarding to him a travel fellowship for a study of the educational systems of the United States.

DR. EUGENE M. K. GEILING, professor of pharmacology at the University of Chicago Medical School, will deliver the eighth and last Harvey Society Lecture of the current series at the New York Academy of Medicine on May 21. He will speak on "The Comparative Anatomy and Pharmacology of the Pituitary Body."

THE James Arthur Lecture was given on May 14 at the American Museum of Natural History by Dr. George Pinkley, of the department of comparative anatomy of the museum. The lecture was entitled "A History of the Human Brain."

LORD RAYLEIGH delivered on April 16 the first Sir Joseph J. Thomson Memorial Lecture of the British Chemical Society.

THE annual meeting of the American Home Economics Association will be held in Boston from June 21 to 24. Dr. George R. Minot, director of the Thorn-

dike Memorial Laboratory of the Harvard Medical School, will be among the speakers.

THE twentieth annual meeting of the American Institute of Chemists will be held on May 16 at the Hotel Claridge, Atlantic City, N. J. New officers will be elected at the business meeting in the morning. The afternoon meeting will be devoted to a symposium on "The Chemical Industry at War," with the following speakers: Dr. Gustav Egloff, Universal Oil Products Company, "The Petroleum Chemist at War"; Dr. Donald Price, technical director, National Oil Products Company, "The Chemist in To-day's Industry"; Dr. A. B. Ray, Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Corporation, "The Technical Point of View"; and Colonel O. C. Wyman, liaison officer, third Regional Labor Supply Committee, "The Chemical Industry, Selective Service and the War Effort." The medal of the institute will be presented to Dr. William Lloyd Evans, professor emeritus of the Ohio State University, at a banquet to be held in the evening. Dr. H. B. Hass, head of the department of chemistry of Purdue University, will discuss the "Career of the Medalist." Dr. Evans's acceptance address is entitled "Some Chemical Reactions of the Reducing Sugars in Alkaline Solutions."

THE ninety-third annual session of the American Medical Association will be held in Atlantic City from June 8 to 12. The House of Delegates will convene at 10 A.M. on Monday. The sixteen scientific sections of the association, the Medical Corps of the Army, the Medical Corps of the Navy and the Public Health Service are entitled to one delegate each. The Scientific Assembly will open with a general meeting, to be held at 8 P.M. on Tuesday, June 9. The sections will meet on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, June 10, 11 and 12. Dr. Frank H. Lahey, Boston, is president of the association. The president-elect is Dr. Fred W. Rankin, of Lexington, Ky.

THE annual spring meeting of the Pennsylvania Conference of College Physics Teachers was held on April 17 and 18 at Immaculata College, Pennsylvania. One hundred and forty-two delegates representing thirty-five colleges were in attendance. The Reverend J. Joseph Lynch, S.J., chairman of the department of physics of Fordham University, addressed the conference on "The Interior of the Earth" on Friday evening. The Saturday morning program was given over to a symposium on "Physics During the War and Post-war Peace" conducted by Dr. Wheeler P. Davey, professor of research physics at the Pennsylvania State College.

ON the occasion of the meeting of the American Mathematical Society in Chicago on April 17 and 18 there was read a telegram from a group of Russian

mathematicians addressed to all American mathematicians, expressing feelings of scientific unity and a belief in the triumph of our common cause.

Nature reports that the Parliamentary Secretary of the British Ministry of Information (Ernest Thurtle, M.P.) opened a conference of British scientific and technical institutes on March 9 at which Sir John Russell, adviser to the Soviet Relations Branch of the Ministry of Information, took the chair. The conference, which took place in the rooms of the Royal Society, was called to discuss an intensification of the exchange of technical and scientific information between the U.S.S.R. and Great Britain. Some sixty scientific organizations and learned societies of Great

Britain sent representatives to the conference, and it was decided to set up a standing committee to assist the Ministry of Information in this work and to act as a clearing-house between organizations in Great Britain and the U.S.S.R. A representative of the Soviet Government will be invited to join the subcommittee.

M. N. SHAFFNER, secretary and treasurer of the Field Conferences of Pennsylvania Geologists, states that the opinion of many of the members appears to be that in view of the accelerated schedule in many schools and the rubber shortage, it is doubtful if a meeting in 1942 would be well attended. Therefore, it has been decided to postpone the meeting until 1943, and probably for the duration of the war.

DISCUSSION

AN UNTRIED METHOD OF FEDERAL REAPPORTIONMENT

SINCE 1928, when *SCIENCE* opened its columns to a discussion of the best method of Federal reapportionment several problems then before the country have been solved and several new issues raised.¹ Two bills on the subject have become laws² and for some years at least no more legislation is likely. The time is ripe, therefore, for a survey of the gains and the outlook.

The gains include:

(a) A guarantee against a repetition of that failure to reapportion after a decennial census which aroused Congress and the country between 1920 and 1930.

(b) A check since 1910, probably a permanent check, upon the steady enlargement of the House under which it grew between 1790 and 1910 from 106 to 435 seats, a decennial average of 27 seats.

(c) A reduction in the number of methods mentioned in the law of 1929 from two to one, thus decreasing the likelihood that Congress will have to struggle again with the troublesome problem of method.

(d) A probability that each future apportionment will be made automatically, thus withdrawing a time-consuming subject from the floor of Congress.

The issues still open concern three questions:

- (1) What is the best method of apportionment?
- (2) Can a process of slight automatic decrease in the size of the House after each census be started?
- (3) Can the rapid growth of rotten borough Congressional districts in a few States which State legislatures have failed to stop be ended by Federal legislation?

I must not ask for space in your columns to explain these gains or even to examine at length the second or

third of the open issues. About the second let me say only that if the words in the law of 1929 "under an apportionment of the then existing number of Representatives" should be changed to "under an apportionment of five (perhaps even ten) less than the existing number of Representatives" such a change would not endanger the automatic feature of the law and would start a process of reducing the size of the House towards the three hundred members often mentioned in Congressional debates as a desirable but unattainable goal.

A longer amendment requiring approximate equality in the population of Congressional districts would stamp out the growing evil of rotten borough Congressional districts. That the evil is serious appears from the following figures of the average percentage of excess in the population of the largest Congressional district over that of the smallest in the same State.

Date of census	Average percentage of excess
1900	41
1910	54
1920	86
1930	107

Both of these amendments I may be able to explain and defend in quieter times before the appropriate Congressional committees.

But as neither of these changes is of especial interest to scientists I pass them by to raise again two fundamental questions about method. (1) What should the scholar regard as the best method of apportionment? (2) How would that method be regarded by Congress?

The two outstanding men in American history who have examined the question of method are Thomas Jefferson, who had charge of the first census, and Daniel Webster. The method of major fractions which was introduced in 1910 and has now been super-

¹ For earlier contributions to this discussion see *SCIENCE*, 67: 509, 1928; 68: 579, 1928; 69: 163, 272 and 356, 1929; *Sociometry*, 4: 278, 1941.

² Acts of June 18, 1929, Sec. 22, and amending Act of November 15, 1941.