1918. Its object is to promote better understanding and cooperation among the Chinese research workers in the United States of America in order to contribute to the advancement of the various branches of science, both natural and social.

The activities of the society for the present consist in promoting lecture meetings for scientific discussions at which distinguished speakers will address the meeting.

The officers of the society have been elected as follows:

President: John Y. C. Watt, Cornell University Medical College.

Vice-president: Chek M. Soo-Hoo, Presbyterian Hospital, New York City.

Secretary: Roberta Ma, New York Botanical Garden.

Treasurer: Raymond Yoh, Bank of China, New York City.

Members of the Committee: Katherine Li, Memorial Hospital, New York City; Min Pung Tien, Columbia University; Van Y. S. Hong, Syracuse University.

THE AMERICAN COMMISSION ON SCIENTIFIC NOMENCLATURE IN ENTOMOLOGY

THE disturbed condition of the world during the last few years has interfered with the activities of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, and there is no prospect that this commission will again function successfully for several years to come. Entomologists in the United States have felt that this situation should not be allowed entirely to stifle progress in the development of nomenclature and the clarification of nomenclatorial problems. At the meetings of the Entomological Society of America and the American Association of Economic Entomologists in San Francisco, in December, 1941, a plan was adopted which called for the establishment of an American Commission on Scientific Nomenclature in Entomology.

In accord with the terms of this plan, C. F. W. Muesebeck and Professor G. F. Ferris were appointed to organize the commission. That organization has now been completed and the commission is ready to function. It includes Professor J. C. Bradley, of Cornell University; W. J. Brown and G. Stuart Walley, of the Division of Entomology of the Department of Agriculture of Canada; Professor G. F. Ferris, of Stanford University; Professor T. H. Hubbell, of the University of Florida; Professor H. B. Hungerford, of the University of Kansas; Dr. E. G. Linsley, of the University of California; Professor Clarence E. Mickel, of the University of Minnesota; C. F. W. Muesebeck and P. W. Oman, of the U. S. Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine; Professor A. G. Richards, Jr., of the University of Pennsylvania; Dr. Herbert H. Ross, of the State Natural History Survey of Illinois; Professor C. W. Sabrosky, of the State Agricultural College of Michigan; Dr. R. L. Usinger, of the College of Agriculture of California. Professor G. F. Ferris has been elected as chairman.

The commission will receive, consider and advise upon such nomenclatorial problems as are presented to it. All acts of the commission will be in harmony with the International Rules of Zoological Nomenclature, although recommendations for the clarification, extension and improvement of these rules may be made. The commission will report to the two parent societies at their next annual meeting. Communications concerning matters within the province of the commission may be addressed to any of its members.

G. F. FERRIS

MEETING OF EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGISTS IN OREGON

A MEETING of experimental biologists was held at Portland, Oregon, on May 9.

Forty-seven workers from colleges and universities in the States of Oregon and Washington attended the meetings, during which papers were presented on varied subjects ranging from plant and animal physiology to ecology, embryology and genetics, and so forth.

The meeting was organized as the result of a general agreement as to the need for some annual meeting at which biologists interested in experimental work in the Pacific Northwest could get together. Held at Reed College, the program of papers was followed by a dinner at which the subject of the future organization of the group as well as the need for a general biological society in the region was discussed.

It was agreed that for the time being, at least, the organization should remain informal, though with the papers limited to the experimental fields, and that it should remain affiliated with no existing society or institution. It was agreed that the diversity of the subjects in the program as well as the general informality of the meeting were factors contributing to its success.

Dr. Orlin Biddulph, plant physiologist of the State College of Washington, was elected to head a committee to organize a similar meeting in the spring of next year.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY conferred on June 2 at its 188th commencement exercises the doctorate of science on Dr. Jekuthiel Ginsburg, professor of mathematics and head of the department at Yeshiva College; on Dr. Alfred Newton Richards, professor of pharmacology at the University of Pennsylvania; on Dr. Robert

R. Williams, chemical director of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, and on Dr. Roger John Williams, professor of chemistry at the University of Texas.

THE doctorate of laws was conferred on June 2 at the commencement exercises of the University of Pennsylvania on Dr. Vannevar Bush, president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington and director of the Office of Scientific Research and Development.

THE doctorate of science was conferred by Ohio Wesleyan University, at the recent centennial exercises, on Dr. Arthur Bevan, of the class of 1912, State Geologist of Virginia since 1929.

PARK COLLEGE on May 25 conferred the honorary doctorate of science on Dr. Ross A. McFarland, of Harvard University, who gave the commencement address. The honorary degree of doctor of laws was conferred on Dr. Paul Prentice Boyd, professor of mathematics and dean of the College of Arts and Sciences of the University of Kentucky.

AT the commencement exercises of the Michigan College of Mining and Technology, honorary degrees were conferred on the commencement speaker, Dr. Robert C. Wallace, and on Harlan S. Emlaw, mining engineer and industrial leader, of New York City, of the class of 1895. Dr. Wallace is principal of Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, and has served as president of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE, at its commencement on May 25, conferred on Dr. James Montrose Duncan Olmsted, professor of physiology at the University of California, the degree of doctor of science. Dr. Olmsted gave the Phi Beta Kappa address on "The Place of Physiology in a University Curriculum."

THE Duddell Medal of the Physical Society, London, which was awarded to Dr. William David Coolidge in recognition of his pioneer work in the production of ductile tungsten and of his invention and the subsequent development of the hot-cathode high-vacuum x-ray tube, was formally presented to him on May 1 by Viscount Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, at a dinner of the American Physical Society at Baltimore.

THE Cornelius Amory Pugsley Gold Medal of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society was presented on June 2 to Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Department of the Interior.

DR. ESTHER CARPENTER, assistant professor of zoology at Smith College, has been awarded the Elizabeth Clay Howald scholarship of the Ohio State University for the coming year. The scholarship, carrying an annual stipend of $3,000, was endowed by the late Ferdinand Howald, in memory of his mother, and goes each year to "a person who has shown marked ability in some field of study and has in progress work the results of which promise to constitute important additions to our knowledge."

DR. EDWARD ADLER has been awarded the Author's Prize of $100 by the Electrochemical Society for the best paper of the year 1941, published in the *Transactions* of the society.

DR. J. B. COLLIP, head of the department of biochemistry of McGill University, was elected on May 30 to succeed Judge F. W. Howat, of New Westminster, B. C., as president of the Royal Society of Canada.

NEWLY elected officers of the Sigma Xi Club of the University of Tennessee are Dr. Samuel L. Meyer, botany, *President;* Dr. Edgar D. Eaves, mathematics, *Vice-president;* and Dr. Samuel H. Winterberg, soil chemistry, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

AT the meeting of the American Branch of the International League against Epilepsy, held in Boston on May 18, the following officers were elected: *President,* Wilder G. Penfield, Montreal; *Vice-president,* Charles D. Aring, Cincinnati; *Secretary-Treasurer,* Frederic A. Gibbs, Boston.

DR. JOHN BITTING SMITH NORTON, of the University of Maryland, having reached the retirement age, was made on April 1 professor emeritus in the departments of plant pathology and botany. Officers of the department of botany honored Dr. and Mrs. Norton at a banquet on April 7, when he was presented with tokens of esteem by his colleagues and former students. He will continue work on the university botanical herbarium and will carry on projects in plant breeding and taxonomy.

DR. CHARLES BROOKS, plant pathologist of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, who was retired on April 30, has accepted a research position with the Brogdex Company, of Pomona, Calif.

DR. WILLIAM R. WORK, since 1921 head of the department of electrical engineering at the Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh, has been appointed assistant director of the College of Engineering.

DR. C. E. F. GUTERMAN, assistant director of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Cornell University, has been made director of the station.

DR. ALFRED C. REED has resigned as professor of tropical medicine at the University of California, and has become associate clinical professor of medicine at the Stanford University Medical School.

DR. GEORGE D. STODDARD, head of the department of psychology, dean of the Graduate College of the State University of Iowa and director of the Iowa Child Welfare Research Station, will take up his work as New York State Commissioner of Education on July 1.

DR. WILLIAM OTIS HOTCHKISS, since 1935 president of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, has been made assistant director general of the Army Specialist Corps.

ADOLPH G. ROSENGARTEN, JR., has resigned as director of Merck and Co., Inc., Rahway, N. J., because of duties with the Army, and is succeeded by his uncle, J. G. Rosengarten, Jr.

IT is reported in the London *Times* that Dr. C. K. Mingle has been released from the U. S. Department of Agriculture at Washington to cooperate with British scientific men in the prevention of contagious abortion, a disease which, it was estimated just before the war, cost Great Britain more than £10,000,000 a year through reduced milk production and loss of cattle.

DR. ALFRED C. KINSEY, Indiana University, is in charge of the research project on human sex behavior for which the Committee for Research on Problems of Sex of the National Research Council has made a grant of $7,500 for use during the coming year. The research program has been under way for four years. During the past year, it was supported jointly by Indiana University and a grant from the National Research Council. Clyde E. Martin and Glenn Ramsey are collaborators in the research.

THE commencement address at Rutgers University was delivered by Dr. Cecilia Payne Gaposchkin, astronomer at the Harvard College Observatory.

DR. MELVILLE J. HERSKOVITS, of Northwestern University, who is at present engaged in anthropological field-work in Brazil, on May 6 delivered an address inaugurating the educational activities of the newly formed faculty of philosophy of Bahia.

A PSYCHOLOGICAL examiner is being sought by the Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission to use psychological tests and other clinical techniques in the study of juveniles, and to make interpretations and recommendations on the basis of the tests given. University graduates, aged from 21 to 55 years, with a Ph.D. in psychology and 500 hours of clinical experience, or a master's degree in psychology and 1,000 hours of clinical experience, should file applications at 102 Hall of Records in Los Angeles on or before June 19.

DR. LLOYD W. FISHER, of Bates College, writes that it seems inadvisable to conduct the New England Intercollegiate Geological Excursion in the autumn. It has also been suggested that no trips be held for the duration of the war.

THE Brush Foundation, which is affiliated with the Western Reserve University School of Medicine, has received from an anonymous donor a gift of $250,000 to be used for the research and educational work of the foundation under the supervision of Dr. William Walter Greulich, director of the Brush Foundation and professor of physical anthropology and anatomy in the School of Medicine.

THE Committee on Scientific Research of the American Medical Association has made the following grants: Barnett Sure, University of Arkansas, vitamin B complex; Paul Thomas Young, University of Illinois, appetite and food preferences in the rat; Deborah V. Dauber, Michael Reese Hospital, Chicago, atherosclerosis in the chick (Jay Conger Davis Research Fund); Milton Mendlowitz, Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, digital circulation (Jay Conger Davis Research Fund); Jacob Rabinovitch, Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn, effect of heparin on thrombosis; and Robert W. Virtue, University of Denver, sulfur metabolism in cystinuric dogs.

AN Associated Press dispatch from Calcutta dated May 19 states that fifteen physicians and scientific men of the U. S. Public Health Service mission, who directed malaria control and sanitation for approximately 200,000 workers on the Yunnan-Burma Railway, escaped from territory overrun by the Japanese and are awaiting reassignment in India. The mission, headed by Dr. Victor H. Haas, of Memphis, Tenn., had been working since October in the southernmost 300 miles of the 700-mile route which was to link Kunming with Lashio to speed defense supplies to China. William Jellison, of Hamilton, Mont., and Henry A. Johnson, sanitary engineer, of Memphis, saved $5,000 worth of microscopes and other scientific apparatus when they left Yun Hsien.

THE new research laboratories of the Overly Bio-Chemical Research Foundation, at 254 West 31st Street, New York City, are nearing completion. The foundation has recently been incorporated under the laws of the State of New York as a non-profit research organization which for the duration of the war will devote its work to problems of interest to military medicine, and which later on will deal with fundamental problems in biochemistry. The staff includes Dr. Kurt G. Stern, protein research chemist, formerly of the Yale Medical School; Dr. Arthur L. Schade, bacteriologist; and James S. Wallerstein, biological chemist, who is also president of the foundation. The scientific policies of the foundation are determined

by a board of scientific directors whose members include Dr. Dean Burk, of the National Institute of Health; Dr. Leo Edelman, Dr. Leo Stieglitz and Dr. O. Alan Rose, all of New York City.

ACCORDING to the *Experiment Station Record,* a grant of $150,000 from the General Education Board for the conduct of a five-state regional study of land tenure and farm labor problems has been announced at the University of Arkansas. The university has been designated as fiscal agent. The research will include field studies of land tenure and farm labor problems in Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas and Oklahoma. A regional staff, headed by Dr. H. C. Hoffsommer, professor of rural sociology and sociologist at Louisiana State University and Station, will be employed, and a regional research laboratory will be set up at the university on a three-year basis. The project will be under the direction of the southwestern land tenure research committee, of which Dr. C. O. Brannen, head of the department of rural economics and sociology and assistant director of research, is chairman.

THE American Coordinating Committee on Corrosion is planning a revision of its confidential Directory of Technologists actively engaged in studies on corrosion and its prevention. The committee comprises delegates from the seventeen major technical societies together with representatives from the principal industrial research institutes and the National Bureau of Standards. Its directory lists some four hundred investigators in corrosion-preventive fields, selected on the basis of questionnaires circulated to the member societies of the committee. It requests that all those actively engaged in corrosion researches who have not received applications for information from the committee write to the secretary, Dr. G. H. Young, 4400 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa., for further details and application forms for directory listing.

DISCUSSION

SOIL FERTILITY AND MANURING IN CHINA

BEGINNING in 1935, the Soils and Fertilizers Department of the National Agricultural Research Bureau has been investigating the fertility of the soils of China, with especial reference to the limiting effect of plant food deficiencies, and to the possibility of increasing crop production by the use of fertilizers. The investigation is based in the first place on field experiments, chiefly "NPK Tests" consisting of modern factorial designs at two and/or three levels. The standard rate of application throughout is 8 *catties* per *mou* (about 0.5 cwt./acre), of N, P_2O_5 and K_2O. The experimental crops are rice, wheat, maize, rapeseed, cotton, millet, barley, sugar cane, Irish and sweet potatoes and mulberries (chiefly the first five). The experiments have been carried out either by this department directly, or in cooperation with provincial institutes, universities and other organizations. The field experiments are supplemented by laboratory, chemical tests for "available" nutrients in the soils of the experiments.

The results of over 170 of these field experiments, widely scattered through fourteen provinces of China, are now available. The work is still continuing, and yield results already obtained are still being analyzed, but although the investigation is thus incomplete, it is desired to put the broad results on record, in case the work should be interrupted. It is realized that the number of experiments is not large, in relation to the area covered (a consequence of the difficult conditions which have existed here since 1937), but none the less the general results are quite consistent within the various regions or soil groups, and it is believed that further extension of the work will not greatly alter the picture. It is thought that the findings will have some general interest to agriculturists and geographers, while the implications are important for the future of China.

Eighty-three per cent. of the soils tested in the field experiments gave significant responses to one or more nutrients: in other words, soil fertility is likely to be limited by plant food deficiencies in at least four fifths of the soils of China. (Early statements about the high fertility of Chinese soils were usually based on a superficial acquaintance with the rich soils of alluvial plains and deltas; much of interior China consists of relatively poor, hilly land.) Nitrogen deficiency was most general (74 per cent. of the soils); next came phosphate deficiency (38 per cent.); potash deficiency was uncommon (12 per cent.), probably because of the general use of ashes and local manures. There were clear relationships between the Great Soil Groups (as described by James Thorp), and nutrient supply or deficiency, which there is not space here to set out in detail. Briefly, the pedocal soils of north China (J. Lossing Buck's Wheat Region) were often deficient in nitrogen, but they were generally well supplied with phosphate and potash; the pedalfer soils of central and south China (Buck's Rice Region) were still more deficient in nitrogen, often seriously deficient in phosphate and sometimes deficient in potash. The red and yellow earths were the most seriously nutrient-deficient soil groups, and those on which fertilizers were most strikingly effective in increasing yields.

Estimates were made of the probable extent to which crop production could be increased in China, by using artificial fertilizers in addition to the present