

secondary industries; the training of research workers; the making of grants in aid of pure research; the testing and standardization of scientific apparatus and instruments and the carrying out of scientific investigations connected with standardization; and the establishment of a bureau of information relating to scientific and technical matters.

With the outbreak of the war, the council immediately adopted the policy of reorientating as much as possible of its work into directions of value to the national war effort. As the war progresses, local production of necessary materials becomes more and more diverse and new emergencies bring new demands in their train. The number of opportunities for diversion of activities is thus an ever-increasing one until to-day a large percentage of the council's work is in connection with problems arising out of the war. As before stated, information which might be of value to the enemy can not be publicly disclosed.

In common with other organizations, a percentage of the council's staff has enlisted for one or other of the fighting services. Other officers have been seconded to the Munitions Department and other war-time departments for the period of the war. The chief of the Division of Forest Products and a senior officer of the Division of Industrial Chemistry, for instance, are assisting the Department of Munitions in the control of timber and industrial chemicals respectively; the council's assistant secretary (finance and supplies) is now acting as assistant secretary (administrative) of the same department. Other council officers have gone to other war departments where their training and experience are valuable. Those who are left are endeavoring to keep the former investigations going, particularly those of a long-dated nature on which time and money have already been spent. Here and there, however, it has proved necessary to cease work on projects until happier times arrive.

The total expenditure of the council during the financial year 1940-41 was £363,827, of which £70,996 was contributed from sources other than the Commonwealth Treasury. In addition, £8,000 was contributed by the Government of New South Wales for stone facing at the National Standards Laboratory, Sydney. The council is particularly gratified with the way in which the various contributing bodies continue to support it. Among the many contributions received, reference may be made to those of the Commonwealth Bank, the Australian Wool Board, the Australian Cattle Research Association, the George Aitken Pastoral Research Trust, the Dried Fruit Control Board and the New South Wales Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission.

WORK ON INFANTILE PARALYSIS AT THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

ANNOUNCEMENT of a five-year grant of \$300,000 to the Johns Hopkins University for an intensive and long-time study of the disease of infantile paralysis has been made by Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

This is the largest single grant made by the foundation since it was organized in 1938. It will be used to establish and conduct the Center for the Study of Infantile Paralysis and Related Viruses at the university. The funds which make this and other research projects of the foundation possible are contributed each year at the time of the national celebration of the President's birthday.

In announcing the grant, Mr. O'Connor said:

The establishment of this center at the Johns Hopkins University is the product of the ideas of many investigators who, after years of research experience in the field of infantile paralysis, keenly felt the need for a center in which the talents of numerous scientists with widely diverse backgrounds could be pooled in a concentrated attack upon the problems of the disease. In addition to the separate research work of individuals now supported by the National Foundation in leading institutions throughout the country, there has been a need for units in which all the problems of poliomyelitis could be studied on a comprehensive scale and on a long-time basis. The Johns Hopkins University offers an ideal place for such a center, as a large number of the required staff of epidemiologists, virologists, serologists, neurologists and chemists acquainted with the problems presented by poliomyelitis are available there.

In view of war conditions it is highly desirable, if it can be accomplished without sacrificing defense interests, to keep a nucleus of scientists at work on the problems of infantile paralysis which are so important to human welfare, with the hope that, when peace is established, contemplated expansion in this field may be rapidly consummated.

Work at the center will be under the direction of Dr. Kenneth F. Maxcy, professor of epidemiology in the School of Hygiene and Public Health. Dr. Maxcy will be assisted by a competent group of investigators, some of whom already have made significant contributions to research in this field. Three members of the staff have been appointed and have begun their work. They are Dr. Howard A. Howe and Dr. David Bodian, formerly of the department of anatomy of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, and Dr. Robert C. Mellors, biochemist from Western Reserve University.

In setting up the center, adequate laboratory space and facilities have been provided and the resources of the new grant will permit the investigators to carry on their studies in the field as well as in the laboratory

as opportunity may be presented. The ultimate objective is to gain a more complete understanding of the spread of the poliomyelitis virus not only within the human body, but in the community, from one individual to another.

COMMONWEALTH FUND FELLOWSHIPS IN MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

THE Commonwealth Fund of New York announces that it is offering through the Pan American Sanitary Bureau fifteen fellowships for one year's study of public health subjects or postgraduate medical courses to properly qualified persons who are citizens of the other American republics. Fellowships in public health will be open to physicians, sanitary officers, technicians, public health nurses, etc. These fellows will be selected through a system of cooperation with medical and health authorities of the different countries concerned, and whenever deemed advisable they will be interviewed by traveling representatives of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau. Each fellowship will provide living allowances while the holder is in the United States, travel costs and tuition. Knowledge of the English language will be among the requirements, and also the possession of certain specific qualifications.

The Pan American Sanitary Bureau, the international health agency of the American republics, has been for some time the recognized clearing house for medical and public health fellowships in the United States, nearly a hundred Latin Americans now being in the United States under its auspices.

Application blanks giving complete information are available through the Commonwealth Fund, 41 East 57th Street, New York; the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, Washington, D. C.; or chiefs of American Missions in Latin America.

RADIO PROGRAMS ON THE WAR WORK OF ENGINEERS

ACCORDING to an announcement made public by Dr. R. L. Sackett, of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, who is a member of a committee representing the national engineering societies, the National Broadcasting Company, beginning on Thursday, July 16, will broadcast from 6:30 to 6:45 P.M. over its nation-wide network and possibly also by short wave a series of eleven radio programs dealing with the contributions of engineers to the prosecution of the war.

According to Dr. Sackett, the idea of telling the world by radio about engineers and their war activities came from a series of radio programs put on the air in 1941 by the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. The success of this series led the American

Society of Civil Engineers, the American Institute of Mining Engineers, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers to appoint three representatives of each society to form a committee to consider a possible program and report to each society.

The program is as follows:

July 16. Blackouts. Representative of OCD and Samuel G. Hibben, Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co.

July 23. Protection Against Incendiary Bombs and Gas. Sidney D. Kirkpatrick, president of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, and Dr. Arthur Ray.

July 30. The Resistance of Structures. Professor H. E. Wessman, New York University, and Walter D. Binger, commissioner of works, Manhattan.

August 6. The Navy. Ships. Admiral S. M. Robinson.

August 13. Dry Docks and Ship Repair Bases. Rear Admiral Ben Moreell.

August 20. Tanks and Tools. Prepared by Chrysler Corporation.

August 27. Airplanes. Prepared by Wright Aeronautical Corporation.

September 3. Petroleum Production. Prepared by Robert E. Wilson, president, Pan American Petroleum Company.

September 10. Power—Hydro, Steam, Electric. Glen B. Warren, General Electric Company, and others.

September 17. U. S. Engineers Corps in Peace and War.

September 24. Communications in Action.

HONORARY DEGREES CONFERRED BY HARVARD UNIVERSITY

As already recorded in *SCIENCE*, the honorary degree of doctor of science was conferred at the commencement of Harvard University on Professor Reginald Aldworth Daly, Dr. René Jules Dubos and Dr. Adolf Meyer. The citations read:

REGINALD ALDWORTH DALY: A geologist of rare imagination and wide vision, his enthusiasm has aroused physicists, chemists and astronomers to cooperate in the advancement of his science.

RENÉ JULES DUBOS: A penetrating student of the chemistry of bacteria, from one group of microorganisms he isolates potent compounds which will kill another.

ADOLF MEYER: For many years the leader of psychiatrists of the United States; a pioneer in applying the techniques of medicine to the diagnosis and treatment of mental ailments.

The doctorate of laws was conferred on Dr. Frederick Paul Keppel with the citation:

Wise in his understanding of the needs of education and the arts; under his guidance the Carnegie Corporation has shown how private philanthropy may sow a rich harvest for the nation.