membership, meetings, research funds and serial publications. A subject index to each section (United States and Canadian) includes a classification of the activities, funds, periodicals and changes of name as reported in the history. The fourth edition has a personnel index also for each section.

The information for the fourth edition was furnished by the organizations during the period from July 1, 1941, to January 15, 1942.

THE REORGANIZATION OF THE BUREAU OF MINES

Chemical and Engineering News gives an account of the reorganization of the essential operating structure of the U. S. Bureau of Mines to speed the expanded program of providing strategic and critical minerals for the nation's war needs. Three regional offices are being established at Salt Lake City, Utah, for the western states; at Rolla, Mo., for the central states, and at College Park, Md., for the eastern and southern states. Each office will be headed by a regional engineer and an assistant regional engineer, whose functions will be to supervise, initiate and execute approved investigations leading to the more rapid use of mineral resources in the region under their supervision. Under jurisdiction of the regional engineers will be district engineers assigned to states or districts within the respective regions, project engineers, other technologists and scientists and clerical and laboratory help. The regional engineers, under terms of the order, will take over all the functions and duties in the field previously assigned to the Mining, Metallurgical and Nonmetals Divisions of the Technologic Branch, which are now abolished. To advise the office of the director and to perform fact-finding functions and handle reports from the regional engineers, a Resources and Laboratories Service, containing a Mineral Processes Division, a Mining Division and a Laboratories Planning Division, has been established with a small staff in Washington.

The order also provides for the establishment of a Fuel and Explosives Service within the bureau, which will take over the Coal Division, the Petroleum and Natural Gas Division and the Explosives Division, all of which were part of the abolished Technologic Branch. Operation of the helium plant at Amarillo will be under the jurisdiction of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Division, as formerly. All laboratories working exclusively on petroleum or exclusively on coal will also operate under the chief of the Fuels and Explosives Service, as will sections of other laboratories devoted to petroleum, gas or coal. Other laboratories are transferred to the appropriate regional offices.

The Health and Safety Service of the bureau remains unchanged and will continue to include the Health, Safety, Coal Mine Inspection, Explosives Control and Mineral Production Security Divisions.

It is also reported in *Chemical and Engineering News* that a $500,000 electro-development laboratory, where U. S. Bureau of Mines metallurgists plan to study the recovery and processing of minerals from the Pacific Northwest with electrical energy from Bonneville and Grand Coulee Dams, will be established in that region within the near future. With part of the funds appropriated by Congress for the Interior Department, the bureau proposes to build and operate the new laboratory somewhere within a reasonable distance of the two government power plants to provide a long-term and diversified market for large supplies of energy. As soon as a location is selected—probably within a radius of 200 miles of the Bonneville and Grand Coulee Dams on the Columbia River—erection of the laboratory will be started.

The new station will be known as the Northwest Electro-Development Laboratory and will be staffed by 40 or 50 metallurgists and assistants. It will be equipped with electric furnaces and electrolytic cells of various types, ore-crushing and concentrating machinery, chemical laboratory and machine shop equipment and other miscellaneous installations. Operation of the completed laboratory will be in charge of R. S. Dean, assistant director of the bureau, with headquarters in Washington, D. C.

Investigations will be directed, among other things, toward improving existing or developing new methods of recovering magnesium metal from magnesite deposits. Production of aluminum from the abundant clays and alunite of that region will be probed thoroughly, as will methods to produce ferroalloys from tungsten, vanadium, manganese and chromium ores.

THE AMERICAN STANDARDS ASSOCIATION AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF WAR STANDARDS

THE Federal Government has entered into a contract with the American Standards Association for the use of the facilities of the association in the development of emergency or "war" standards for the War Production Board and the Office of Price Administration. The contract is being executed by the Office of Emergency Management on behalf of the War Production Board and the Office of Price Administration. Under it the American Standards Association is to provide services in creating standards which include one or more of the following items, and any other assignments or projects which may be requested by the Government which come within the scope of the association.

Nomenclature

Uniformity in dimensions to provide for interchange-

ability of parts and supplies or the interworking of apparatus
Specifications for materials and products
Methods of test or inspection
Methods of rating machinery or apparatus
Safety standards
Rules for the operation of apparatus or machinery
Concentration upon the optimum number of types, sizes, grades and colors.

The Simplification and Radio branches of the War Production Board and the Standards Division of the Office of Price Administration will supervise the work for the Government.

Under the contract the association will be reimbursed by the Government for the actual cost of the work undertaken specifically for the War Production Board and the Office of Price Administration. The object of the work is to further the war effort by making available to government and industry standards fitted to the present situation, so as to conserve scarce materials, to simplify production, to increase productive capacity and to conserve man-power. As outlined in the June issue of *Industrial Standardization,* the association is now engaged on more than thirty of these emergency projects, and the number of such undertakings is increasing steadily. Among these are specifications for radio materials and parts, requirements for gas ranges and hot water heaters, specifications for protective footwear, packages for electronic tubes and screw threads for high temperature bolts.

The contract is limited to $90,000 in any one fiscal year. Of this sum $60,000 is to be supplied by the War Production Board and $30,000 by the Office of Price Administration.

IN HONOR OF DR. MARSTON TAYLOR BOGERT

HONORARY membership in the Society of Chemical Industry, as already noted in SCIENCE, was on July 10 conferred by order of the council on Dr. Marston Taylor Bogert. The citation of the council reads:

MARSTON TAYLOR BOGERT, Professor Emeritus of Organic Chemistry at Columbia University, in commemoration of his life-long work as an inspiring teacher, a brilliant research worker and writer in the field of organic chemistry which branch of the science he has enriched beyond measure.

Born in 1868 and educated at Columbia College and Columbia School of Mines, he became Professor of Organic Chemistry at Columbia University in 1904, and has spent forty-seven years of his life on the staff where he displayed all the qualities of leadership. He is an Honorary LL.D. of Clark University and an Honorary Sc.D. of Columbia University. He was awarded the Nichols Medal of the American Chemical Society in 1905 and the Priestley Gold Medal of the same Society in 1938; was President of the American Chemical Society in 1907–1909 and President of the Society of Chemical Industry in 1912–1913. He is now a member of the National Academy of Sciences, of the National Research Council, President of the International Union of Chemistry and of many other of the most important chemical bodies in America and in Europe.

THE COUNCIL in deciding to bestow this honor on the occasion of its sixty-first anniversary selected with great care one whom they considered worthy, for in addition to his valued contributions to our knowledge he has taken a lively interest in the international aspects of Chemistry and has through his genius for friendship done more than any other individual to break down the barriers of race and of prejudice.

The Seal of the Society of Chemical Industry was fixed in the presence of Wm. Cullen, *President;* L. H. Lampitt, *Honorary Treasurer;* Stanley Robson, *Honorary Foreign Secretary,* and H. J. Pooley, *General Secretary.*

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

MEMBERS of the committee recently appointed by President Roosevelt to report on the rubber situation, of which Bernard Baruch is chairman, are Dr. James Bryant Conant, president of Harvard University, and Dr. Karl T. Compton, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

AT the annual meeting of the Society of Chemical Industry at the Royal Institution on July 10, the Messel Medal was presented to Sir John Russell, director of the Rothamsted Experimental Station and of the Imperial Bureau of Soil Science. He made an address entitled "Chemistry and Agricultural Reconstruction." At this meeting Dr. William Cullen was reelected president. In his address he reviewed the growth of chemical industry during the last fifty years.

THE Albert Medal of the Royal Society of Arts for 1942 has been awarded to General J. C. Smuts, Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs of the Union of South Africa. The following words will be inscribed on the medal: "Statesman. Soldier. Scientist. Philosopher." Among those awarded silver medals for papers read before the society during the past session was the Right Hon. Viscount Bennett, who gave an endowed lecture entitled "Empire Relations."

IT is reported in *Nature* that the joint committee