

from air raids during 1940 and 1941. There were 11 incidents in all, eight in London and three at Whipsnade. Fifty-five high explosive bombs, 200 incendiaries and two oil bombs fell in the society's grounds. Although considerable material damage was done, there were no serious casualties among the staff or visitors, and very few among the animals. The number of visitors to Regent's Park in 1941 was 512,966, a decrease of approximately 119,000 compared with 1940, and the lowest figure since 1864. In spite of decreased traveling facilities the number of visitors to Whipsnade in 1941 was 246,139, an increase of approximately 43,000 compared with the previous year. The policy of the council is to keep Regent's Park and Whipsnade open and to preserve the bulk of the collections. Apart from the national service rendered by keeping places of healthy recreation available to fellows, war-workers, members of the armed forces and the general public, the council considers that this is in the best interests of the society in preparing for the speediest possible resumption of full activity after the war.

The Times also reports that the Natural History Museum at South Kensington reopened some of its galleries on August 1. It is stated that the parts of the museum which are reopening are all on the ground floor. They are the Central Hall, North Hall, Bird Gallery, Insect Gallery, Reptile Gallery and Whale Room. Visitors will not find all these filled with the exhibits they knew there in peace-time, since only things which could be replaced have been left on view. Nevertheless, many of the most popular exhibits, such as the great casts and skeletons of whales, the fascinating nesting groups of British birds and the series of domestic animals (dogs, cattle, horses, poultry, etc.) in the North Hall are still to be seen. British butterflies and moths are among the specimens in the Insect Gallery; and the Reptile Gallery now contains a miscellaneous collection, including a series of the British mammals. Another miscellaneous arrangement is that in the Central Hall, where many of the familiar peace-time features, for instance, the elephants and some of the groups showing protective coloring, remain. In addition, there are special exhibits illustrating the animals of the Libyan desert and some of the essential mineral ores. A large map of the world showing the sources of the most important minerals is another topical feature.

THE IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH IN THE WAR EMERGENCY

THE following resolution concerning the importance of research in the war emergency was adopted by the Council on Research of the Pennsylvania State College on August 24:

In times of great stress such as confront the nation

to-day there is a tendency to subject the activities of public institutions to rigid scrutiny and careful evaluation. Colleges and universities are not excepted in this desirable and necessary practice. In fact a periodic self-scrutiny and self-evaluation is helpful. Colleges and universities more than any other public institution must be living things. They, therefore, must not only be nourished, but from time to time, they must be pruned if they are to flourish and give forth bountiful and good fruit.

When the three functions of a great university are considered, there is a tendency in some quarters to look upon research as a luxury, to place it in the category of Sunday driving, pleasant, satisfying but unnecessary. This is unfortunate because the research ability and effort of its people constitute the greatest resource of the nation. The colleges and universities are the chief centers of training for research. As with the nation so with the college there is need for research activity at all times and under all conditions.

Great colleges and universities are measured not in terms of campus and buildings but in terms of human achievement. In the last analysis the accomplishments of the men and women that make up its faculty and students determine the greatness of such institutions. And it is in this respect that the spirit and activity of research are most important, for research is an intellectual vitamin which makes vigorous leaders of faculties. Education, when livened by research, is evocative, and curiosity and zest for discovery pervade the atmosphere of the classroom. Research cultivates a spirit of adventure and a desire in the student to explore the borders of knowledge. It is hard to see how teaching can be great without some contact with exploration of intellectual frontiers. Research and teaching by research constitute the nourishment by which universities are kept at the highest level in the service of the nation.

However, two other considerations are important in the evaluation of the research function of the Pennsylvania State College. One of these relates to the war effort. The war is as much a war of wits as of might, and mobilization of our inventive genius is of utmost importance. Colonel G. F. Jenks, of the Ordnance Department, U. S. Army, as chairman of Committee E-9 on Research, reported on research activities of the American Society for Testing Materials on June 24, 1942. His report reads in part as follows:

"Of course, our national research activities must be directed primarily to the development of implements of war, to improving our situation as to raw materials and transportation and to the development of superior processing methods. . . .

"The quantity of research personnel available is not readily expanded because of the training and aptitude required for successful work. The output of the country's research personnel can be increased through the utilization of agencies equipped to outline without delay logical research programs without unnecessary duplication of work and with a clear understanding of the problem. . . .

"There can be no question as to whether research is fundamental. The fundamental approach may consume

less time than less well-organized hit-and-miss methods. A fundamental knowledge assists both in the interpretation and application of research. It is especially needed in time of war when new untrodden fields must be explored. There can be no limitation fixed because of the time factor. It is beyond human power to predict when this war will end. It is certain, however, that cooperative research efforts directed to the ends of national policy will shorten the period of this world struggle."

This recognition of the importance of research by the military authorities is further demonstrated by two recent official actions.

1. The Selective Service System through Occupational Bulletin 10, effective June 18, 1942, specifically provides for deferment of graduate students in a variety of critical occupations covering almost all schools of the college.

2. The U. S. Army in planning for the Enlisted Reserve specifically provides for a group of graduate students.

It is of course recognized that graduate students can not be trained effectively without experience in research.

The other factor is summed up in the statement that colleges and universities are the logical and perhaps the only remaining centers for freedom of search for truth. The torch of knowledge is in danger of extinction. To guard against such a catastrophe these institutions must foster the continued search for truth, must zealously protect the research function and must in every way possible support research effort.

The Council on Research submits that to-day as never before in the history of the Pennsylvania State College there is an urgent need for a vigorous research effort on the part of the faculty and that research must have the fullest possible support of the administrative officers and the Board of Trustees.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN OF NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

THE Libraries of New York University are continuing to acquire a few scientific periodicals from the Axis-dominated countries of Europe, according to the annual report of Robert B. Downs, director of the libraries, which has now been made public.

The books are acquired under a recent decision of the U. S. Government and the British Ministry of Economic Warfare to permit American libraries to pay up to the sum of \$250,000 for the purchase of journals which may be useful to the war effort. Since this amount is no more than a fraction of the sum ordinarily spent for European publications by institutions in this country, each research library has been allotted only those titles which it considers most essential to its needs.

The New York University libraries receive a highly selected list of periodicals in the fields of biology, chemistry, physics, geology and medicine from Germany, France, Denmark, the Netherlands and Italy. The subscriptions are purchased through dealers in

neutral countries and are inspected by the British at Bermuda and by the United States customs officials at the port of entry before delivery to the university.

According to the report, so far there has been little evidence of political tampering in the areas of the pure sciences. This is naturally not true in the fields of the social sciences. Although in the physical sciences much material is obviously omitted if it may be of military importance, it is felt that enough articles of scientific value come through to compensate for the expense and trouble of obtaining the journals. Gifts and accessions are reported as follows:

The university libraries received gifts of more than 10,000 volumes valued at more than \$75,000 during the past year. Notable gifts included a library of books on Judaica and Hebraica for the study of Jewish history, philosophy and religion from Dr. Mitchell Kaplan, and a collection of rare volumes in the same field from William Rosenthal.

The Fine Arts Library received several hundred books on art, including the files of a rare periodical devoted to the fine arts of Japan, from Robert Lehman, a member of the New York University Council; Dr. Moses Leo Gitelson established as a memorial to his brother, Raphael Gitelson, a special fund for the purchase of works in the field of American and British economic history; Henry B. Fernald presented several notable early editions in English literature, and Dr. Charles W. Gerstenberg presented an interesting collection of English and American literary annuals, or "gift-books."

Through a gift by Miss Margaret Barclay Wilson, the library purchased a collection of manuscript journals and letters of Henry Barnard, pioneer educational leader. The Society for the Libraries presented extensive microfilm collections of materials for the study of American culture, including reproductions of all known extant magazines published in the United States before 1800 and a collection of complete texts of 250 representative books about America beginning with 1943.

Mr. Downs states that in a recent survey by the American Library Association the collections of New York University had been rated "distinguished" in sixteen special fields: Classical papyri, German language and literature, French language and literature, French history (Huguenot), German history, French philosophy, Hegel, Jewish history and literature, sociology, education, international law and relations, economics, labor and industrial relations, meteorology, psychology and aeronautics. The survey covered a list of 75 subjects and the nation's libraries were rated in those fields by 500 scholars and other authorities. Mr. Downs also reported that the U. S. Office of Education and the New York State Education Department had named New York University as a War Information Center.