

## REGISTRATION IN THE NATIONAL ROSTER

DR. J. S. NICHOLAS, of Yale University, National Research Council representative on the National Roster of Scientific and Professional Personnel, has sent to SCIENCE further results of its questionnaire, giving registration as of September 2.

	<i>Number mailed</i>	<i>Number returned</i>
Agronomy and soil sciences .....		1,105
Anatomy .....	835	653
Animal husbandry .....		719
Bacteriology .....	3,763	2,243
Biology .....	80	25
Botany .....	2,200	1,449
Chemistry .....	100,741	68,918
Dairy science .....		1,196
Fish and wildlife research .....		318
Forestry and range management ...	5,463	4,147
Genetics .....	2,084	1,073
Geology .....	7,599	4,032
Geophysics .....	4,370	2,057
Horticulture .....		764
Mathematics .....	12,092	6,926
Mycology .....		19

Nutrition .....	513	301
Pharmacology .....	354	229
Physics and astronomy .....	13,712	9,831
Physiology .....	1,045	694
Plant pathology .....		909
Psychiatry .....	1,115	830
Tropical medicine .....	912	461
Veterinary bacteriology .....		149
Veterinary science .....		5,310
Zoology and entomology .....	7,916	4,639

In the previous month's report on the registration in the National Roster (SCIENCE, 96: 2486, 175), due to the system of main headings employed, the agricultural fields were not listed separately. They are still partly covered by other groups, but this is due to individual choice of the society members in filing their questionnaires. In recircularizations which are now taking place as speedily as possible, it is hoped that each individual will indicate his main field of endeavor and request the technical check list most applicable to his field. Accuracy in personal evaluation is a necessity for the correction of roster figures. The cooperation of scientific men is solicited.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

CHARLES EDWARD WILSON, president of the General Electric Company, has been named a vice-chairman of the War Production Board. Gerard Swope, president of the General Electric Company from 1922 to 1939, now director and honorary president, will resume the presidency.

THE Caldwell Medal of the American Roentgen Ray Society for distinguished work in cancer research was presented on September 15 at the New York meeting to Dr. Cornelius Packard Rhoads, director of the Memorial Hospital for the Treatment of Cancer in New York City.

THE Borden achievement award for distinguished contributions to poultry science has been given to Vigfus S. Asmundsen, associate professor of poultry husbandry at the University of California. The award, which is for accumulated research over a period of seven years, rather than for a single piece of work, carries with it a gold medal and \$1,000. Ordinarily the medal is conferred at the annual meeting of the Poultry Science Association, but since that meeting has been cancelled this year, the presentation has been arranged by Dean C. B. Hutchison, of the College of Agriculture at Davis. A representative of the Borden Milk Company will present the medal, at a time to be set later.

DR. KARL F. MEYER, director of the Hooper Foundation of the University of California, San Francisco,

was chosen president-elect at the Seattle meeting of the Western Branch of the American Public Health Association. He succeeds Dr. Donald G. Evans, Seattle, who was installed as president.

DAVID T. POTTINGER, associate director of the Harvard University Press, has been elected an honorary vice-president of the American Institute of Graphic Arts.

OFFICERS of the American Psychological Association have been elected as follows: *President*, John E. Anderson; *Council of Directors*, Sidney L. Pressey, Robert H. Seashore; *Treasurer and Business Manager of Publicity*, Willard L. Valentine; *Nominees for Representatives on the National Research Council*, John E. Anderson, Arthur G. Bills, Hadley Cantril; *Representative on the Social Science Research Council*, Walter S. Hunter.

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER C. M. LOUTTIT, U.S.N.R., was elected president of the American Association for Applied Psychology on September 4 at the sixth annual meeting held in New York City. Dr. Alice I. Bryan, Columbia University, was made executive secretary.

PAUL M. DUNN, who has been since 1935 head of the work in forestry at Utah State College, has been elected dean of the School of Forestry of Oregon State College. He succeeds Acting Dean Earl G. Mason, who has served since the retirement of the

former dean and president, Dr. G. W. Peavy. Dr. Mason will continue his work as professor of forestry.

DR. VERNON I. CHEADLE, assistant professor of botany at Rhode Island State College, has been promoted to a professorship and has been made head of the department. He succeeds Dr. H. W. Browning, who has been made vice-president of the college and dean of the School of Science and Business.

DR. THOMAS D. DUBLIN, epidemiologist in the New York State Department of Health, has been appointed head of the department of preventive medicine and community health at the Long Island College of Medicine.

DR. HERBERT F. TRAUT, of Cornell University Medical College, has been appointed professor of gynecology and obstetrics at the University of California Medical College, San Francisco.

DR. PABLO MORALES-OTERO, acting director of the School of Tropical Medicine, University of Puerto Rico, has been appointed director. He succeeds Dr. George W. Bachman, who has been director since 1931.

DR. AURA EDWARD SEVERINGHAUS has been appointed assistant dean of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University.

DR. H. J. MULLER, research associate, has been appointed for the duration of the war professor in the department of biology of Amherst College.

DR. S. BERNARD WORTIS, associate professor of neurology, has been appointed the first Lucius N. Littauer professor of psychiatry at the New York University College of Medicine and visiting neuropsychiatrist in charge of the Psychiatric Division of Bellevue Hospital. He succeeds Dr. Karl Bowman, who resigned last year. The chair of psychiatry has been named for Lucius N. Littauer, the philanthropist, who established in 1941 a fund of nearly a quarter of a million dollars "for research in psychiatry, neurology and related fields, in order to increase and diffuse knowledge of the biological and other factors which influence thought and conduct; and thereby to prevent and correct abnormal human behavior through clinical and experimental approaches."

JAMES W. SCHADE, until December, 1941, research director at the B. F. Goodrich Rubber Company, has joined the staff of the University of Akron (Ohio) to give a special lecture course in rubber technology, in cooperation with the Goodrich, Firestone and Goodyear Rubber Companies. The lectures will be especially designed for young men coming into the industry, aiming to give them a broad understanding of the entire rubber production field.

SIR HENRY DALE, president of the Royal Society,

London, who was recently appointed a member of the governing body of the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine, has been elected by the board as its chairman.

DR. LOUIS B. FLEXNER, of the department of anatomy of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, has leave of absence to enable him to serve as aide to the committee on aviation medicine of the National Research Council.

DR. DOROTHY BIRD NYSWANDER, of the New York City Department of Health, has been named regional supervisor of War Public Service Projects of the Federal Works Agency.

DR. HENRY W. CAVE, who has been serving as state chairman for physicians in New York of the Procurement and Assignment Service, has been appointed chairman of the Second Corps Area, which embraces the states of New York, New Jersey and Delaware. Dr. Joe R. Clemmons will succeed Dr. Cave as the state chairman for physicians in New York. Dr. Donald S. Childs is vice-chairman for physicians in the upstate area.

DR. LOYAL DAVIS, head of the surgical department of Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago, and editor of *Surgery, Gynecology and Obstetrics*, has been commissioned a lieutenant colonel in the U. S. Army Medical Department and assigned to duty as consultant in neurosurgery in the Surgeon General's Office, Washington, D. C.

A. TURNER WELLS, secretary and director of the American Optical Company, has been commissioned a captain in the Medical Department, Service of Supplies, and is attached to the Surgeon General's office in Washington. He assisted in designing the mobile optical unit recently accepted by the Government. Through the unit, men in the armed forces will be able to obtain optical repairs near the front.

DR. RAYMUND L. ZWEMER, of the department of anatomy of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, has recently returned from three months spent in research and teaching at the Institute of Endocrinology, Montevideo, Uruguay. He was sent by the Committee for Inter-American Artistic and Intellectual Relations of the Office of the coordinator for Inter-American Affairs at the request of Dr. Mussio-Fournier, Uruguayan Minister of Public Health. On the return trip, Dr. Zwemer visited various universities and gave lectures in Argentina, Paraguay and Brazil. One of the lectures in Rio de Janeiro was given before five hundred military surgeons at the Ministry of War, just after war was declared by Brazil on the Axis.

DR. W. C. LOWDERMILK, assistant chief of the Soil Conservation Service of the U. S. Department of

Agriculture, according to Science Service, has been placed at the head of a scientific mission at the request of the Chinese Government. Dr. T. Dykstra, plant breeder in corn and potatoes, is accompanying Dr. Lowdermilk, and later an animal breeder and hydraulic engineers will join them in Chungking. The need for food in China has been increased by the 60,000,000 refugees who fled inland as a result of the Japanese invasion. Cultivation was pushed up the slopes of the hills and mountains. Crops such as potatoes and corn were more generally grown. Dr. Lowdermilk and his colleagues will cooperate in setting up a soil conservation service which will be a permanent organization for the purpose of assuring ample food production in coming years. The group will work closely with Dr. D. Y. Lin, of the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture in Chungking.

THE Research Council on Problems of Alcohol, an associated society of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, will meet at one o'clock on Monday, September 28, in the Commodore Hotel, New York.

THE annual meeting of the New York State Geographical Association, which had been planned for Oswego on November 7, has been cancelled.

DR. ROBERT H. SEASHORE, chairman of the Public Relations Committee of the American Psychological Association, writes: "It may be of interest to other societies to note that due to the increase of defense transportation, the regular five-day meetings of the association scheduled for the same week at Harvard University were cancelled and a skeleton one-day business meeting was held in New York City in order

to conserve transportation facilities. Since the reduced meeting had an attendance of only ten per cent., as compared with normal meetings, it can be seen that there was a very great saving in transportation. A similar skeleton meeting to administer the business officers of the association will be held in Chicago during the first week in September of next year unless other emergencies interfere. The association is continuing its Office of Psychological Personnel under the auspices of the National Research Council in order to facilitate the placement of psychologists in various military and other governmental offices."

IT is reported that at a special meeting in Chicago on September 17, the American Medical Association decided to cancel its next annual meeting. In place of this meeting, which is usually attended by from 6,000 to 10,000 physicians, the house of delegates, the board of trustees, the scientific councils and officers will meet in Chicago next June to deal with the essential business of the association and the war-time problems of the medical profession. Cancellation of the meeting, which had been scheduled for San Francisco next June, marks the first time since the Civil War that the association has postponed one of its annual sessions. The trustees, it is reported, also took into account the strain that such a large delegation in San Francisco would place on war-burdened transportation facilities.

THE council of the Royal Horticultural Society reports that for its general senior examination held in prisoner of war camps in Germany it has received the papers from nine candidates, and that five of these candidates have passed the examination.

## DISCUSSION

### THE NEW YORK MATHEMATICS TABLES PROJECT

MATHEMATICIANS and many other scientific workers can become enthusiastic over certain expenditures by the Government's Work Projects Administration (WPA) which have led to the publication and calculation of many important mathematical tables, sold very cheaply when published. The large bound volume of "Natural Sines and Cosines to Eight Decimal Places," for every second of arc, recently issued as Special Publication No. 231 of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey (\$1.75), was prepared in 1941-42 as a WPA project at Philadelphia, under the sponsorship of the Survey. The personnel of this Philadelphia group was also mainly responsible for the 8 large volumes of tables (\$2.25 each) in Hydrographic Office, Publication No. 214, 1941, "Tables of

Computed Altitude and Azimuth, Latitudes  $0^{\circ}$  to  $79^{\circ}$  Inclusive." Their other work was much less mathematical. But during the past four and one-half years the Mathematical Tables Project of the WPA in New York City has achieved an extraordinary body of calculation and publication. A somewhat detailed account of this would seem to be timely and likely to interest many people. It is hoped that such publicity may contribute to action serving to make the project's activities still more potent. Further reference to such action is made towards the close of this article.

The actual organization of the New York Project began in January, 1938, under the sponsorship of Dr. Lyman J. Briggs, director of the U. S. Bureau of Standards, who determines the Project's policies and activities, and oversees the distribution of its publications. It is indeed fortunate that representations to