

culture and one in vegetable crops. The awards for 1942 will be made at the winter meeting of the society in New York City which will be held from December 29 to 31, and will be selected from the papers which have been presented before the society during 1942.

Preference will be given to papers that present new discoveries in these fields, showing promise of commercial importance or practical application. Preference will also be given to papers by authors under thirty-five years of age. The papers will be judged on the basis of originality, soundness, accuracy, clearness and conciseness of presentation, and on the value of the work, especially in its practical applications.

The American Society for Horticultural Science was organized in 1903 to promote the science of horticulture. Its membership is composed of horticulturists and technical workers in horticulture in the United States, Canada, Mexico and abroad. Each year in connection with the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science it holds a three-day program at which timely horticultural topics on fruits, vegetable crops, ornamental horticulture, floriculture, genetics, plant physiology and biochemistry are presented and discussed. In addition, round table discussions are held on such horticultural topics as varieties, educational methods, extension methods, nomenclature, research technic and special crops. Joint meetings are held with related science groups, such as phytopathology, genetics, soil science and botany.

In addition to the annual meeting, sectional meetings are held each year on the Pacific Coast, in the South and in the Great Plains area. The papers and discussions from these meetings are published by the society in two bound volumes of "Proceedings" amounting to approximately 1,200 pages each year. Dr. H. B. Tukey, Geneva, N. Y., is secretary of the society.

THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

PROFESSOR LESLIE C. DUNN, executive officer of the department of zoology of Columbia University, announces that the department will celebrate on October 16 and 17 the fiftieth anniversary of its founding.

Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, president of the university, will be the principal speaker at a dinner to be held in the Men's Faculty Club on Friday evening, October 16. Addresses tracing the progress of the department over half a century will be delivered by distinguished zoologists from other institutions who have received the Ph.D. degree at Columbia. Dr. James H. McGregor, recently retired from active service in the department to become professor emeritus, will preside.

Dr. Butler will speak on the origins of the department; Albert P. Matthews, professor emeritus of biochemistry at the University of Cincinnati, will review its early history with emphasis on the achievements of Professor Edmund B. Wilson in experimental embryology and cytology; Dr. Charles Packard, director of the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, Mass., who received his Ph.D. in the department in 1914, will deal with the work of the department during his day; the development of the new science of genetics under Dr. Thomas H. Morgan and Dr. Edmund B. Wilson will be described by Dr. Curt Stern, head of the department of biology at the University of Rochester and formerly fellow of the International Education Board at Columbia; Dr. Alfred S. Romer, professor of zoology at Harvard University, will stress the connections of the department with the American Museum of Natural History, where Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn, paleontologist and first chairman of the department, was head of the division of mammalian paleontology, and Professor William K. Gregory now serves as curator of comparative anatomy and ichthyology. Dr. Meryl Rose, instructor in biology at Smith College, who received his Ph.D. at Columbia in 1940, will speak as a representative of his own day in the department.

A statement issued by Professor Dunn reads:

The work of the department from its inception in 1892 has centered in the study of evolution, heredity and the development and organization of the living cell and body.

The first chairman of the department, Professor Osborn, played a leading part in the investigation of the succession of animals of the past through their fossil remains. His associate, Bashford Dean, was a leading student of the fossil fishes and founder and first director of the Biological Station at Cold Spring Harbor.

Professor McGregor devoted himself to the study of the ancestry of men, and his reconstructions of primitive man based on fragmentary skeletal remains are familiar to most biologists. Henry E. Crampton, a member of the department since 1893, investigated the land snails of some of the Pacific Islands to confirm Darwin's contention that specific differences originate by the accumulation of individual differences.

Under the leadership of Thomas H. Morgan and Edmund B. Wilson, with the cooperation of Alfred H. Sturtevant, Hermann J. Muller, Calvin B. Bridges and others, the mechanism of Mendelian heredity was elucidated in detail, and the chromosome theory of heredity, or, as Morgan later called it, the theory of the gene, was developed at Columbia between 1910 and 1928.

Protozoology, the study of one-celled animals, had its American beginnings and underwent its chief development in this department, under the leadership of Gary N. Calkins.

The association of cytology and genetics continued after Wilson had retired, and Morgan had resigned to become director of the new laboratories at California In-

stitute of Technology, with Schrader and Pollister in the field of cytology, and in genetics, Dunn and Dobzhansky in the zoology department and Rhoades in the botany department. These five men continued the work of Morgan and Wilson on heredity in relation to evolution, to development and to the structure and behavior of the finer constituents of cells.

With the appointment of Professor Selig Hecht and the

establishment of the Laboratory of Biophysics in 1926, physiology became a subject of advanced instruction and research. The work of that laboratory has been centered on the mechanisms by which organisms respond to light, and the work of Hecht has laid the basis for an understanding of some of the fundamental processes of vision.

The two-day celebration will end with open house and tea in the department on October 17.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE autumn meeting of the National Academy of Sciences will be held in the Academy Building, Washington, D. C., on Monday, October 26. The meeting will be a business session for members only, and it is expected that the session will be confined to that one day, beginning at 9:30 A.M.

THE autumn general meeting of the American Philosophical Society will be held on November 20-21, beginning at 10 A.M. on Friday, November 20. The society will provide hotel entertainment for non-resident members and invited guests if they will notify the executive officer as soon as possible of their intention to be present at the meeting. For members and invited guests from a distance the society will, as usual, meet the regular hotel charges for rooms during the period of the meeting and for such meals as are not otherwise provided for by the society. On Friday, November 20, there will be a continuation of the program on the "Early History of Science and Learning in America" and on Friday evening a public lecture followed by a reception. On Saturday morning, there will be an executive session of the members followed by papers on various subjects and reports of progress by recipients of grants from the research funds. Dr. L. P. Eisenhart has succeeded as executive officer Dr. Edwin G. Conklin, who is now president of the society.

THE title of professor emeritus of psychology was conferred in September on Dr. Walter B. Pillsbury by the University of Michigan. Dr. Pillsbury, who reached the age of seventy years last July, has been a member of the faculty for forty-five years, having been appointed instructor of psychology in 1897.

Chemical and Engineering News states that Milton Kutz, who started work as an office boy forty-five years ago and is now assistant to the general manager of the Electrochemicals Department of E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Co., Inc., was given on August 3 a testimonial dinner by his associates.

DR. ELISE DEPEW STRANG L'ESPERANCE, a founder of the Kate Depew Strang Cancer Prevention Clinic of the New York Infirmary for Women and Children and associate commander of the Women's Field Army

of the American Society for the Control of Cancer, was presented at a joint dinner on September 24 of the American Society for the Control of Cancer and the New York City Committee with the Clement Cleveland Medal, awarded annually by the New York City Cancer Committee "for outstanding contributions to cancer control work."

It is reported in *Museum News* that officers of the newly established Minneapolis Science Museum Society have been elected as follows: Alger R. Syme, *president* (geological society); John S. D. Clark, *first vice-president* (bird club); Wensell Frantzich, *second vice-president* (astronomy society); Ward H. Benton, *treasurer* (mineral and gem club); and Miss Macy Spracher (botanical society). Milton D. Thompson is director of the museum. The society was organized on May 20 to combine all the organizations that have been using the Minneapolis Public Library Science Museum as headquarters. It will have control of the funds of the former "Museum Federation." It will endeavor to increase the membership in order to provide support for the museum, which has been struggling for its existence since the withdrawal of a WPA project.

DR. HERBERT E. LONGENECKER has been appointed associate professor of biochemistry and associate director of the Buhl Foundation projects in the University of Pittsburgh during the absence of Professor Charles Glen King, who is on leave to serve as scientific director of the Nutrition Foundation. Dr. King is also visiting professor of chemistry at Columbia University.

HENRY P. TREFFERS, instructor in biochemistry at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, has been appointed assistant professor of comparative pathology and biochemistry at the Harvard Schools of Medicine and Public Health.

DR. LAURENS H. SEELYE, formerly president of St. Lawrence University and recently assistant to Dr. Stephen Duggan, chairman of the Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced Foreign Scholars, has gone to Istanbul, Turkey, where he will teach philosophy