

Teachers, president of the Tennessee Academy of Science and vice-president of Sigma Pi Sigma, physics honor society.

The board of trustees of the University of Chattanooga by resolution mentioned, among other things, his zeal in building up the physics department and his

effectiveness and high standards as a teacher. The resolution refers to the fact that "He cultivated in his students the spirit and methods of original research."

Dr. Cornelius is survived by his wife, Orrelle F. Cornelius.

MARSH W. WHITE

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGE

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### A BRITISH VETERINARY EDUCATIONAL TRUST

DR. W. R. WOOLDRIDGE, president of the British National Veterinary Medical Association, has announced the formation of a Veterinary Educational Trust to raise and administer funds to provide better facilities for the education of veterinary surgeons.

It is proposed to raise a minimum sum of £1,000,000 for the trust. The *Times*, London, writes editorially as follows:

On many occasions since the last war attention has been drawn in these columns to the strange anomaly that, while breeding and exporting some of the best livestock in the world, Great Britain has lagged far behind other countries in the matter of equipment for the study and teaching of veterinary science. As long ago as 1929 a departmental committee appointed by the Minister of Agriculture strongly criticized the condition of the Royal Veterinary College. In the following year Lord Harewood raised the question in the House of Lords. Eventually a royal charter was granted constituting a new governing body, and in 1937 the present buildings of the college (replacing those that had been in use since 1791) were opened by the King and Queen. All this showed distinct, though slow, progress; yet it was not enough. Another government committee, reporting in 1938, declared that "veterinary education has been starved, the veterinary schools are overcrowded, teaching staffs are inadequate . . . facilities for clinical and practical training are insufficient and the system of education and courses of study also need amendment." These were strong criticisms, which the committee supplemented with valuable suggestions. One of these suggestions was that each veterinary school should have its field station, and in some of them—the Liverpool Veterinary College, for example—this has now been achieved. Obviously, however, there can be no complacency over a state of affairs which has lately drawn from such an authority as Sir Arthur Olver the accusation that "there is no other country in which livestock has such tremendous importance or in which so little has been done for veterinary education. . . . The necessary facilities are still not available in this country for adequate practical instruction."

With these facts in mind it is possible to appreciate the full importance of the announcement made by the president of the National Veterinary Medical Association that a veterinary educational trust has been formed with the object of improving veterinary education in this country and in the hope of raising for that purpose a fund of

at least a million pounds. The sum is large, but it will give the nation an idea of the importance of the issues at stake. There are in this country, as Dr. Wooldridge has reminded us, only 2,000 active veterinary surgeons to cope with a task that could well employ twice that number. Britain's inadequate educational services, moreover, have the responsibility of providing veterinary surgeons for the Colonial Empire. The war has shown up some deficiencies here, as in other places. Animal health is an essential part of the economy of husbandry. Animal diseases must mean loss and waste and may, in some forms, have their effect upon public health. The revival of British agriculture on a permanent basis will demand all the aid that science can give and, not least, all that an improved and developing system of veterinary science can contribute in the way of prevention as well as of cure. More veterinary surgeons and a better training are needed, and a million pounds is by no means too large an endowment to demand for these purposes.

### THE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING OF CHEMISTS

THE sixth progress report of the committee of the American Chemical Society on the professional training of chemists, which met in April, recently appeared in *Chemical and Engineering News*.

It is reported that students who receive the bachelor's degree from institutions in the official list after fulfilling the minimum requirements adopted by the society for the professional training of chemists become eligible for full membership following graduation and two years' experience in the field of chemistry or chemical engineering or in postgraduate study. Students who graduate in chemistry or chemical engineering from other colleges will be eligible only after five years. In each institution listed, the head of the department of chemistry will be asked after each graduation period to give the committee the names of those students who have fulfilled the specified requirements and who will thus, in the minimum time, qualify professionally for full membership in the society. Students majoring in chemistry or chemical engineering and graduates without the experience requisite for full membership may join as junior members with all privileges of membership except that of holding office. They thus gain seniority in the society and are automatically transferred to full professional status on acquiring the necessary experience.

Only a small number out of several hundred institutions have yet to be given formal consideration. For several others action has been deferred, either because the committee wishes to obtain further information or because of pending changes which may alter situations within certain institutions.

It should be emphasized that the institutions on the official list will be reviewed from time to time and their fitness to retain recognition examined. Any institution for which an unfavorable action has been given may, after an interval of two years following the date of notification of such action, request a review of its situation by the committee. The committee may drop an institution from the approved list (1) if it does not graduate each year at least one student who meets the requirements for attaining membership in the society in the minimum time; (2) if changes in department's curriculum or institution's general educational policy tend to be contrary to the best interests of fundamental chemical training; (3) if the attitude and spirit of the department do not show or manifest a definite professional point of view toward student training; (4) if departmental facilities are not kept up and maintained to an adequate standard; or (5) if quality of staff is not maintained when changes occur.

The committee recognizes that one of the most important factors in assessing the quality of work in an institution is concerned with the personnel of the staff. It is felt that the staff should be adequately trained and properly qualified to teach chemistry with its latest developments. Institutions which meet merely formal requirements without at the same time having the proper personnel can scarcely be considered as doing high-quality work.

The committee realizes that many institutions have a very high type of instruction in the elementary chemistry courses but, either through lack of funds or insufficient size of staff, are unable to give the necessary advanced work of the bachelor's degree level or are unable to give it adequately for the professional training of chemists. The committee feels strongly that this type of institution serves a very useful purpose in the American scheme of education but that it would be unwise for such institutions to attempt professional training in the sense that the committee uses that phrase. Graduate schools and employers of chemists will continue to recognize that high quality men soundly trained in the elementary principles of chemistry may be obtained from these institutions, and it should be understood that no stigma is attached to their omission from the list of institutions the committee deems to be qualified to offer professional training for chemists.

#### AMERICAN STANDARDS FOR 1942

THE American Standards Association announces the publication of its latest list of American Stand-

ards for 1942. More than 550 standards are listed, of which 71 represent new and revised standards approved since the February, 1942, issue of the list. These are marked with an asterisk. There is a separate heading for standards developed specifically for the war effort. Another section is devoted to American Safety Standards. Other standards include definitions of technical terms, specifications for metals and other materials, methods of test for the finished product, dimensions, etc. They reach into every important engineering field and serve as a basis for many municipal, state and federal regulations. This particular list will serve as a useful reference to the engineering and purchasing departments of many manufacturing firms. Every government order is based on specifications, and standards are further used in industry in simplifying the production problem, conserving materials, pegging quality to price control, in inspection and in contracting and subcontracting. A large part of the work of the association is now undertaken in connection with war and industrial work. The association is under contract with the Federal Government to carry on an increasing amount of such work.

In each case standards approved by the association represent general agreement on the part of maker, seller and user groups as to the best current industrial practice. More than 600 organizations are taking part in this work. The list will be sent free on request by the American Standards Association, 29 West 39th Street, New York, N. Y.

#### FELLOWSHIPS OF THE LALOR FOUNDATION

THE appointments to fellowships under the sixth annual series of fellowship awards of the Lalor Foundation, which covers the academic year of 1942 to 1943, have been announced. They are:

A. Calvin Bratton, of the University of Texas, to work with Professor E. K. Marshall, of the Medical School of the Johns Hopkins University;

Edward H. Frieden, of the University of California, to work with Professor Roger J. Williams at the University of Texas;

Francis J. Reithel, of the University of Oregon, to work with Professor Edward A. Doisy at the School of Medicine of St. Louis University;

James R. Weisiger, of the Johns Hopkins University, to work with Professor A. Baird Hastings at the Harvard University Medical School.

The work of these men is in fields closely associated with problems related to the war.

Owing to war conditions, appointments to the five remaining fellowships originally scheduled for the 1942-43 series have been postponed.

Also, as announced by Dr. C. Lalor Burdick, direc-