

welfare. The National Department of Industrial Hygiene, which is a branch of the Ministry of Public Health Work and Social Welfare, was recently established. The department is in charge of the prevention of industrial diseases, especially in miners. However, later on it will be in charge of the prevention of industrial diseases in workers in all industries in the country. The department is in charge also of sanitary control of houses of industrial workers and of administration of medical care to industrial workers.

In a later issue of the *Journal* the Buenos Aires correspondent describes the work of the National Institute of Nutrition. It was established in Buenos Aires in 1928 as a municipal branch of the Rawson Hospital and was made independent of the hospital in 1938 and transformed into a national center. Dr. Pedro Escudero is the director. The work of the institute includes biologic, sociologic and economic research on nutrition, education on nutrition and social care of the people. It has six departments. The medical department has a polyclinic with offices for consultation on specialties and clinics and wards for surgery, radiology and kinesiology. It also has laboratories for clinical and pharmaceutical work. Patients who can not pay for drugs may have them free of charge. The department of nutrition is in charge of the clinic of nutritional diseases, of a section for social and economic information of the department, of a center for free distribution of mother's milk, of the dispensary and of the care of gardens for children. The research center includes the departments of microbiology, microscopy, biologic and bromatologic chemistry and dietetics. The center for education on nutrition instructs the public through the press, radio, moving pictures, exhibits and lectures. The technical center includes the National School for Dietitians and a two-year course for physicians who wish to specialize in nutrition. The National School for Dietitians, founded in 1935, gives a diploma to those who complete a three-year course on nutrition and dietetics. A requisite for entering the school is to be a graduate from a national college or to have a B.S. diploma. There are also some abbreviated courses which enable the students to secure a diploma of auxiliary dietitian. There are also courses for nurses. The Ateneo de Clínica de la Nutrición and the Asociación Argentina de Dietología are two organizations under the auspices of the institute. The former is an association of physicians who specialize in nutrition, whereas the latter is constituted by physicians, dietitians and auxiliary dietitians.

Dr. Pedro Escudero recently published a book, "La Política Nacional de la Alimentación en la República Argentina," which was edited by the Instituto Nacional de la Nutrición. The last part of the book contains the report of some of the research carried on

by the institute on the nutritional conditions of the population of Buenos Aires as seen from medical, social and economic angles. There are also chapters on the means actually used to improve the nutritional conditions of the people as well as for preventing and controlling nutritional diseases in the country.

#### THE LANCASTER BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

THE Lancaster Branch of the American Association for the Advancement of Science has announced its lectures for the season 1942-43. The lecturers and their subjects are as follows:

November 12, Dr. Waldemar Kaempffert, of *The New York Times*, "Science and the War";

December 10, Dr. Leuman M. Waugh, professor of dentistry and executive officer of the Division of Orthodontics of Columbia University, "The American Eskimo—His Food and Teeth";

January 21, the Rev. J. Joseph Lynch, professor of physics at Fordham University and director of the Seismic Observatory, "Earthquakes in the War Zone";

February 18, Dr. Detlev W. Bronk, professor of biophysics and director of the Johnson Foundation of the University of Pennsylvania, now consultant to the Secretary of War as coordinator of research at the Office of Air Surgeon, "Men and Machines in War";

March 18, Dr. W. F. G. Swann, director of the Bartol Research Foundation at Swarthmore, "Science in This Confused Age."

The Lancaster Branch was started nine years ago when Dr. Otis W. Caldwell, general secretary of the association, went to Lancaster to assist in its organization. It has grown steadily until now it has a membership of twelve hundred, with an attendance of from six hundred to a thousand at each lecture. The officers are Jaques Cattell, *chairman*; C. Vogt, *vice-chairman*; Frances A. Coventry, *secretary*, and H. M. Fry, *treasurer*.

#### ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

THE sixty-third annual meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers will be held at the Hotel Astor, New York, from November 30 through December 4, under the presidency of James W. Parker, vice-president and chief engineer of the Detroit Edison Company.

Subjects to be discussed at the convention will include manpower and its training for maximum production; the importance of intuitive, inventive and ingenious faculties in engineering; equipment, railroads, aviation, manufacturing processes and problems, power, management, training, industrial conservation, salvage, increasing adaptability of workers to job requirements and many other topics of timeliness