of three groups which the Army is sending to the university for 12-week instruction periods. The first group will complete the course on December 19, and a second class, which will consist of twenty-seven army physicians, will arrive at the university on January 4. No date has been set for the arrival of the third group. Dr. Howard B. Lewis, chairman of the department of biological chemistry and director of the College of Pharmacy, is the coordinator in charge of a staff of eight university professors. The extensive course provides the army physicians with the latest developments in laboratory training and methods, and is designed to develop the officers into "one-man laboratories" so that they can perform any ordinary type of laboratory procedure if they are established at some isolated Army post. The officers now in training spend forty-four hours each week in university classrooms and laboratories. All of them hold commissions as first lieutenants or higher and all are college graduates with medical degrees who have been stationed at Army hospitals and medical centers throughout the country.

SIXTY college professors and high-school teachers, some of them chairmen of departments and most of them holders of the degree of doctor of philosophy, have returned to New York University as freshmen. They are specialists in such cultural subjects as English, history, philosophy, education and foreign languages. They are taking intensive courses in physics and in mathematics to meet the impending wartime need for teachers of those studies. The course in physics will cover mechanics, heat, electricity, light and sound. During the twenty-week term, the students will assist in regular laboratory sessions in addition to attending lectures, demonstrations and laboratory classes. The course is sponsored by the U. S. Office of Education, under its war-training program in engineering, science and management and is administered by the War Training Office of the College of Engineering at University Heights, N. Y.

TEACHING and research in metallurgy will be undertaken by the University of Rochester in collaboration with industrial firms that have provided $100,000 in cash and equipment to assist in providing 5,000 trained men in metallurgy needed in the war industries.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICERS IN THE ARMY AIR FORCES

MEN with high-school diplomas or their equivalent and college freshmen and sophomores have been made eligible for training leading to commissions as meteorological officers in the Army Air Forces.

The training course for high-school graduates or those of equivalent education will begin on February 1 and will require about twenty months. The college students will begin their course on March 1 and graduate in about fifteen months. Both groups will be paid while in training and will receive free uniforms, board, room and tuition.

A call for immediate applications for the courses has been issued by Dr. Carl G. Rossby, of the University of Chicago, chairman of the University Meteorological Committee and spokesman for the five universities giving professional meteorological training for the Armed Forces. Applications should be sent to the University Meteorological Committee, care of the University of Chicago.

High-school graduates will be given twelve months of pre-meteorological training, equivalent to two years of college mathematics and science. College freshmen and sophomores will receive six months of preliminary training, equivalent to the regular second-year course of college mathematics and science. Both groups will be paid $50 a month plus $2.35 a day for rations and quarters.

After satisfactory completion of the preliminary work, the men will become Army Aviation Cadets, with a salary of $75 a month. They then will begin eight months of advanced training, and after completing this work will be eligible for commissions as second lieutenants in the Army Air Forces.

Academic credit toward college degrees is granted for the advanced work and credit for the pre-meteorological training is now under consideration, so that the prospective meteorologist is working also for a post-war college degree. To be eligible for the training, a student must have completed a high-school course of study in trigonometry, analytic geometry and college algebra. He also must be a citizen between eighteen and thirty years of age and be able to meet the physical standards of the Army Officers Reserve Corps.

The advanced professional meteorological training is given under the auspices of the University Meteorological Committee at the University of Chicago, the University of California (Los Angeles), the California Institute of Technology, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and New York University. The pre-meteorological training will be given at selected institutions in all parts of the country.

There are still a few openings left for properly qualified students who wish to enter directly into the professional meteorological courses that will begin on January 4. All inquiries should be addressed to the University Meteorological Committee, care of the University of Chicago.

CHARLES L. MAYER AWARDS OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FUND

THE establishment of two prizes of the value of $2,000, to be known as the Charles L. Mayer Awards,

which will be presented in 1942 and 1943 "for outstanding contributions to our knowledge of factors affecting the growth of animal cells with particular reference to human cancer," has been announced by Dr. William J. Robbins, chairman of the National Science Fund of the National Academy of Sciences. According to his statement, this is

> a new type of prize for advancement of fundamental scientific research administered under a new type of philanthropic foundation. One prize of $2,000 will be awarded for a contribution published in 1942 or submitted in manuscript to the National Science Fund, and a similar prize in 1943. The Charles L. Mayer Awards are a new type of award in that they will be given to further the scientific work of the recipient. They are not only rewards for past accomplishments, but are also designed to increase the opportunities of those with exceptional abilities to carry on further research.

One of the major purposes of the fund is to assist donors to increase scientific dividends from their gifts. To assist the National Science Fund in effective administration of the awards, a special advisory committee has been appointed consisting of Dr. R. R. Williams, chemical director of the Bell Telephone Laboratories; Dr. Alan Gregg, director for the medical sciences of the Rockefeller Foundation; Dr. George H. Whipple, dean of the School of Medicine and Dentistry of the University of Rochester; and Dr. Elihu Root, Jr., as the lay member. Dr. Robbins stated that the committee is interested primarily in fundamental studies on the factors influencing growth of animal cells rather than applications to any particular aspect of normal or abnormal growth.

Applications based on such studies may develop in the future, but at present more knowledge is needed of the essentials concerned. However, cancer cures and cancer preventive measures can be evaluated only after years of observation and experiment, and reports of empirical success in the treatment of human cancer will not be eligible for the awards. The Mayer awards apply to the whole field of animal cell growth and the Advisory Committee of the National Science Fund offices, 515 Madison Avenue, New York City, will welcome suggestions as to outstanding published contributions and manuscripts of 1942 on any phase of this subject.

THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR INFANTILE PARALYSIS

BASIL O'CONNOR, president of The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, has announced that President Roosevelt has authorized the celebration of his birthday in January, 1943, for the annual fund-raising drive in the fight against infantile paralysis.

Mr. O'Connor states that the demands of the National Foundation, which now has chapters covering 2,900 counties of the United States, become greater each year and the amount which it spends for research constantly increases. For the fiscal year ended on September 30, the National Foundation made grants and appropriations amounting to $1,152,191, which, except for the year 1942, exceeds the amount the National Foundation has received in any one year as a result of the nationwide celebrations. The increased need for funds is due to the fact that the existence of the National Foundation has stimulated additional research in important fields that otherwise could not have been explored. He believed that it would be a great mistake to permit a lapse in the work which the President had sponsored and which had been going on intensively for ten years.

In his reply authorizing the celebration of his birthday, the President said: "I feel as you do—that any interruption in this work would be extremely inadvisable unless absolutely necessary. Until it is definitely known how to prevent a disease from occurring or how to prevent it from spreading, the threat of that disease—if it is epidemic—is one of our greatest dangers, even though the actual number of cases at any given time may be relatively small. As long as there are some cases the danger exists."

The President, concluded, "I feel strongly, therefore, that the work of the National Foundation must be continued and I am happy to have it use my birthday in its 1943 fund-raising drive."

THE NUTRITION FOUNDATION

THE sum of $1,100,000 to support a five-year program of basic research in the science of nutrition has been contributed by a group of food and closely related manufacturers, according to a statement made by George A. Sloan, president of the Nutrition Foundation, following the meeting on November 12 of the Board of Trustees held in Chicago.

Allocation of these funds for basic research in leading universities throughout the United States was discussed by the board. Additional grants-in-aid, amounting to $46,000, were appropriated; in all fifty-four grants were made this year to thirty-three colleges, universities and medical centers. The institutions receiving grants were Northwestern University, the Universities of Illinois, Notre Dame, Wisconsin, Virginia, Arkansas, Stanford, Rochester, California, Southern California and Cornell, Harvard University Medical School, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Mt. Sinai Hospital, N. Y. Post-Graduate Hospital and Memorial Hospital. Previous grants made this year to mid-western institutions included the University of Chicago, the University of Illinois, the University of Minnesota, Purdue University, Wayne