

sions of earlier contracts for the same types of research. In one case, the government allowance was for a six months period and will be renewed for the same amount at the expiration of the current contract.

Nearly \$45,000 in gifts and grants were reported. Of these, six, amounting to more than \$32,000, were designated to aid the nutritional research being directed in the College of Medicine, under the supervision of Dr. Tom D. Spies, associate professor of medicine. Of the nutrition grants, the largest was for \$16,000 from the Williams-Waterman fund for the combat of dietary diseases through the Research Corporation, New York City, to support the work of Dr. Spies for two years. Other nutrition grants included \$5,000 from the Gelatin Products Company, Detroit, Mich.; \$5,000 from the Anheuser-Busch, Inc., St. Louis; \$3,000 from Standard Brands, Inc., New York; \$3,000 from the Continental Baking Company, New York, as partial payment of a \$10,000 contribution for the year beginning on July 15, 1942; and \$50 from Starling W. Childs, Cleveland. Dr. Spies's clinical studies on nutrition are carried on at the Hillman Clinic, Birmingham, Ala.

The W. K. Kellogg Foundation, Battle Creek, Mich., gave \$4,000 to establish loan and scholarship funds in the School of Nursing and Health. The same foundation last spring gave \$10,000 for similar funds in the College of Medicine.

#### THE SUPPLY OF TECHNICAL MEN TO THE ARMED FORCES AND TO INDUSTRY

To ensure a continuous flow of young engineers to the armed forces and to industry has been a serious concern to national engineering societies. The supply is already so limited that a contest was developing between the needs of the army, navy, air and signal corps, and the requirements for industrial research, design, production and maintenance.

Facts have been published which showed that a larger number of skilled engineers were required for production and maintenance than was necessary in plant layout. New designs, modernization and war production make demands on the engineering colleges that they provide a steady stream of young engineers for the armed services and industry.

In October, the Engineers' Council for Professional Development called a meeting of industrial personnel and engineering teachers who drew up a statement emphasizing the need for adequate supplies of young technical men.

In November, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers prepared a statement of "significant facts" and strongly recommended:

A. That the loss of technically trained men from war production plants be stopped by cessation of voluntary enlistment or by a "freezing" order covering such personnel and plants.

B. That selective service occupational Bulletin No. 10 of last June be reaffirmed in principle in its provisions for the deferment of men in engineering training.

C. That this directive be modified in the light of the lower draft age by providing for the deferment of engineering students in established colleges to the end of the term in which they reach the age of 18, and thereafter, on a term by term basis as long as their academic records remain satisfactory.

On December 4, the council of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers passed the following:

WHEREAS, technically trained engineers are indispensable to modern mechanized warfare and are needed in greater and greater numbers by the armed forces and by the war industries and will be equally essential to the rehabilitation program,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Council of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, acting on behalf of the membership of the society, at the sixty-third annual meeting of the society held in New York, November 30th to December 4th, 1942, is convinced that the effective prosecution of the war effort demands that an adequate supply of engineers be insured for the armed forces and the war industries through the deferment of certain students in engineering colleges under the following conditions:

(1) Enrolment in a college with a curriculum professionally accredited by the Engineers' Council for Professional Development.

(2) Completion of not less than one term or one semester's work in an accredited professional curriculum in engineering with an average scholastic grade at least equal to that required for graduation.

This resolution was sent to the President, the Chairman of the War Manpower Commission and the Director of the Selective Service.

On December 8, the Consultative Committee on Engineering for the Professional and Technical Division of the War Manpower Commission adopted unanimously the following:

Recognizing the necessity for a continuing flow of professionally trained men for war industries, especially for urgent developmental work in improving the quality and production of actual weapons and materials of warfare, this Consultative Committee on Engineering for the Professional and Technical Division of the War Manpower Commission respectfully recommends that the Chairman of the War Manpower Commission immediately take the necessary steps in order to provide temporary deferment from military service for those undergraduates in recognized engineering schools who are subject to Selective Service. Such deferment is necessary pending a more thorough study of the requirements of engineering manpower both by war industries and the Armed Forces.

This recommendation confirms and re-emphasizes the resolutions made by the recent annual meetings of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, and others, looking to the deferment of those young men who are already in

engineering training and are maintaining satisfactory academic records. This is not a recommendation for class deferment, but is a recognition of a temporary but critical phase of the manpower situation which requires prompt and decisive action to prevent serious crippling of the war program.

R. L. SACKETT

#### RARE CHEMICALS

THE following chemicals are wanted by the National Registry of Rare Chemicals, Armour Research Foundation, 33rd, Dearborn and Federal Streets, Chicago, Ill.:

1. 2-chloro, 3-nitro-phenoxy acetic acid
2. 2,4-dichloro-alpha-naphthalene
3. 2,4-dichloro-beta-naphthoxyacetic acid
4. Disilicon Hexachloride
5. Quinizarin 6 sulfonic acid
6. Quinizarin boric acid
7. 2-alpha-methyl indole
8. Cyclohexene oxide
9. 2-chloro-cyclohexenone
10. d-ribose-5-phosphoric acid
11. Phospho-erythronic acid
12. Oxalacetic acid
13. Cuprous Benzene Sulfonate
14. Glucose-6-phosphoric acid
15. Phosphopyruvic acid
16. Phosphoglyceric acid
17. Dihydroxyacetone phosphate
18. Creatine phosphate
19. Acetoacetic acid
20. alpha-Ketoglutarate

#### THE INTER-AMERICAN PROGRAM OF THE AMERICAN STANDARDS ASSOCIATION

TRADE and industrial development of the Americas will be furthered by a program of Inter-American cooperation on industrial and engineering standards which has just been launched by the American Standards Association, according to a statement made by P. G. Agnew, secretary of the association. Such standards are helping government and industry in the United States to speed up production, conserve materials and make substantial savings.

Latin American countries have already shown interest in North American standards and have asked the American Standards Association to supply them with further information.

National standardizing bodies are now in operation in three South American countries. The one in Argentina (Instituto Argentino de Racionalización de Materiales) has been operating a number of years and publishes a monthly magazine. The one in Brazil (Associação Brasileira de Normas Técnicas) has recently issued a volume of standards. The one in Uruguay (Instituto Uruguayo de Normas Técnicas) was formed a short time ago. In other Latin

American countries there are government departments and engineering societies doing similar work. Furthermore, there is a South American committee (Comité Sudamericano de Normas) to further standardization work in the ten South American republics.

Cyrus Townsend Brady, Jr., an engineer and sales executive who has spent many years in South America, will serve as the field representative for the American Standards Association. He is being given a year's leave of absence by the U. S. Steel Export Company for the purpose. His work will be supported by an Inter-American Division in the New York office of the American Standards Association, of which Alberto Magno-Rodrigues, who has been for many years in charge of the activities of several American manufacturers of machinery in the Spanish and Portuguese markets, is head.

In the new program the association will exchange technical data in the development and use of standards with the other American republics, give them information on the standardization work being done in the United States, and provide them with Spanish and Portuguese translations of standards which would be especially valuable in developing their industry. It is planned to provide interchange of technical data and information to enable all the countries of the Western Hemisphere to have standards as much alike as possible.

An advisory committee has been appointed under the chairmanship of R. E. Zimmerman, president of the association and vice-president of the U. S. Steel Corporation.

#### FELLOWSHIPS IN THE MEDICAL SCIENCES OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

FELLOWSHIPS in the medical sciences, similar to those which have been administered by the Medical Fellowship Board of the National Research Council since 1922, will again be available for the year beginning on July 1, 1943. These fellowships, supported by grants from the Rockefeller Foundation to the National Research Council, are designed to provide opportunities for training and experience in research in all branches of medical science. They are open to citizens of the United States or Canada who possess the degree of M.D. or Ph.D., and are intended for recent graduates who are not yet professionally established.

In addition to these fellowships the board administers two groups of research fellowships, made available through a grant from the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, Inc. The first group, open to applicants who hold either the Ph.D. or M.D. degree, is for the purpose of providing opportunities for special training and experience in the study of filtrable