Vice-president Henry A. Wallace, formerly U. S. Secretary of Agriculture, brought the idea to the attention of the delegates to the American Scientific Congress at Washington in May, 1940. With the unanimous endorsement of that body, the project was placed in the hands of a committee of the Pan American Union, of which Dr. Héctor David Castro, Minister of El Salvador to the United States, was chairman.

This committee invited all interested governments to offer sites for the institute. Next the U. S. Department of Agriculture was requested to send a group of technical men to examine the sites and make recommendations. This resulted in the choice of a property offered in the highlands at Turrialba, some thirty-five miles from this city.

The general plan is to build on a tract of more than 1,000 acres, furnished by the Costa Rican Government, a research center to which graduate students from all the Americas may go for training and for specializing and attacking the major problems of tropical agriculture. Turrialba lies close to zones suitable for three important strategic crops upon which the present war has focused attention: rubber and Manila hemp, which grow only at low elevations in moist, tropical climates, and cinchona or quinine, which requires highly specialized conditions of soil and climate at moderate elevations.

Dr. Earl N. Bressman, scientific adviser to Mr. Wallace when the latter was Secretary of Agriculture, will be director of the institute. He recently visited Costa Rica, accompanied by Dr. Wilson Popenoe, director of the Pan-American Agricultural School of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, to complete arrangements with the Costa Rican Goverment and to plan the first buildings. José L. Colom, head of the Division of Agricultural Cooperation of the Pan American Union, will be secretary of the institute and liaison man between Washington and Turrialba.

DU PONT FELLOWSHIPS IN CHEMISTRY

THE E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company announces the award of twenty-two postgraduate fellowships for research in the field of chemistry for the academic year 1943–44. Appointments to these fellowships, which carry $750 each, will be made later in the year by the heads of the departments of chemistry of the several colleges and universities to which grants have been made.

The institutions receiving postgraduate awards are the University of California, the University of Chicago, Columbia University, Cornell University, Harvard University, the University of Illinois, the Johns Hopkins University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (one in chemical engineering and one in chemistry), the University of Michigan, the University of Minnesota, the University of North Carolina, Northwestern University, the Ohio State University, the Pennsylvania State College, the University of Pennsylvania, Princeton University, Purdue University, Stanford University, the University of Virginia, the University of Wisconsin and Yale University.

Fellowships for advanced work in chemistry were established by the du Pont Company in 1918, when there was a scarcity of well-trained chemists. Through the fellowship plan the company sought to encourage promising students to follow a career in chemical research. Originally, only men were considered, but to increase the number of available candidates the du Pont Fellowship Committee now recommends that women be admitted to candidacy on the same basis as men. This action of the committee encourages them to prepare themselves adequately for positions in industrial research laboratories, where already a large number of women have been employed.

Du Pont fellowships, which with but one interruption have been maintained since 1918, differ from many industrial fellowships in that the selection of the beneficiary and the subject of research is left to the discretion of the university. Furthermore, there is no actual or implied obligation as to the future employment of the fellowship holder.

THE DETROIT MEETING OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

THE American Chemical Society will meet in Detroit on April 12 under the presidency of Dr. Per K. Frolich, director of the chemical division of the Esso Laboratories of the Standard Oil Development Company.

The program, including technical sessions, conferences and group discussions, will be devoted to advances made by chemical science and industry in relation to the war effort. An attendance of 4,000 is expected. The board of directors has banned trips to industrial plants and social events. Attendance of those "who will not contribute to or gain from the discussion of technical problems" is discouraged by action of the board.

Fifteen of the professional divisions will meet. Achievements in wartime research and the application of new knowledge to the industries will be reported in hundreds of papers and addresses. Ten "war symposia" will deal with synthetic rubber, petroleum, malaria and other health problems, agriculture and food, industrial water supplies, civilian defense and other fields. Special symposia planned bear directly on the successful prosecution of the war. According to the official announcement,

> there will be a discussion on substitutes for agricultural and food commodities of which there are inadequate sup-

plies to meet current demands. Stabilization of fats, a matter of importance in food for the armed forces, will be considered in a symposium on the chemistry of fats.

With an increasing scarcity of certain high-protein foods, the program on vegetable proteins will be of unusual significance. One session will be given over to a consideration of assay methods for determination of vitamins, now incorporated in foods by federal regulation. Outstanding authorities will discuss the chemical aspects of civilian defense. The most recent developments in rubber technology, accelerated by the war, will be reported. Solvents occupy an important place in our war industry; hence the consideration of this subject will be of current value. Industry can not function without large quantities of suitable water; properties and treatment thereof will be discussed. The health of our troops and civilian population is of paramount importance; therefore the program on malaria is most timely, especially in view of the shortage of quinine.

There will be a general session on Wednesday, April 14, at which Dr. Frolich will preside. A meeting of the society's council will take place on Wednesday morning. Dr. Thomas Midgley, Jr., of Worthington, Ohio, vice-president of Ethyl Corporation and president-elect of the society, will preside. Dr. Charles L. Parsons, of Washington, D. C., secretary and general manager, will present his report, reviewing the progress of the society, which now has approximately 34,000 members.

William P. Putnam, founder and president of the Detroit Testing Laboratories, has been named honorary chairman of the meeting. Harvey M. Merker, superintendent of manufacturing of Parke, Davis and Company and president of the Engineering Society of Detroit, is general chairman. The vice-chairman is Dr. George Calingaert, director of chemical research for Ethyl Corporation.

The scientific sessions will be held at the Masonic Temple, where registration will open on Sunday afternoon, April 11. Headquarters hotels will be the Statler and the Book-Cadillac.

THE TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB

THE annual meeting and banquet of the Torrey Botanical Club was held at the Men's Faculty Club of Columbia University on January 5. An address was made by the retiring president, Dr. C. Stuart Gager. The program consisted of a "Botanical Information, Please." The following officers were elected to serve for the year 1943:

President, Dr. W. J. Robbins, New York Botanical Garden.

1st Vice-president, Dr. F. J. Seaver, New York Botanical Garden.

2nd Vice-president, Dr. L. V. Barton, Boyce Thompson Institute.

Corresponding Secretary, Dr. E. B. Matzke, Columbia University.

Recording Secretary, Miss H. M. Hollinghurst, New York City.

Treasurer, Dr. W. G. Whaley, Barnard College, Columbia University.

Editor, Dr. H. W. Rickett, New York Botanical Garden.

Business Manager, Dr. M. Levine, Montefiore Hospital.

Members of the Council: Fr. C. A. Berger, Fordham University; Dr. C. Chandler, New York Botanical Garden; Dr. A. E. Hitchcock, Boyce Thompson Institute; Dr. R. P. Wodehouse, Arlington Chemical Co.

Delegate to N. Y. Academy of Sciences, Dr. B. O. Dodge, New York Botanical Garden.

Representative on Board of N. Y. Botanical Garden, Dr. H. A. Gleason, New York Botanical Garden.

Representatives on the Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science: Dr. J. H. Barnhart, New York Botanical Garden; Dr. A. F. Blakeslee, Smith College.

WARTIME TRAINING IN SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL FIELDS

AT their joint meeting held in New York on January 22 and 23, the American Physical Society and the American Association of Physics Teachers, recognizing the important role which physical science is playing in modern warfare, passed the following resolution calling for a well-rounded, well-considered war-training program in scientific and technological fields. Copies of the resolution have been sent to Paul V. McNutt, chairman, War Manpower Commission; the Hon. Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of War; the Hon. Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy; Donald M. Nelson, chairman, War Production Board; Dr. Vannevar Bush, director, Office of Scientific Research and Development; Dr. James B. Conant, chairman, National Defense Research Committee.

WHEREAS, the Army and Navy College Training Programs as so far announced provide for the training of technical personnel for use almost solely, if not entirely, within the Armed Forces, and

WHEREAS, other war agencies, whose effective functioning is essential to the support of the Armed Forces in expediting the prosecution of the war, also need technically trained personnel in large numbers, and

WHEREAS, these other war agencies, such as war industry, war research and war-training staffs, are now confronted with the closing off of the usual avenues of supply of technically trained personnel from the same groups now being drawn upon through induction and enlistment; therefore be it

Resolved, That the American Physical Society and the American Association of Physics Teachers in joint session in New York City on January 23, 1943, urge that effective steps be taken at the earliest possible date to provide an over-all War Training Program to meet all the needs of the Army, of the Navy, of war industry, and of war research in scientific and technological fields.

That in such a program adequate provision be made to insure such a flow of personnel trained in the field of