

MATHEMATICAL TABLES

A NEW quarterly publication of the Division of Physical Sciences of the National Research Council, "Mathematical Tables and Aids to Computation," edited on behalf of the committee on mathematical tables and aids to computation by the chairman, Raymond Clare Archibald, will serve as a clearing-house for information concerning mathematical tables and other aids to computation.

Tools for computation have been greatly multiplied, especially during the past decade. These tools, or accounts of them, are to be found in the international range of book, pamphlet and periodical publication, not only in the fields of pure mathematics, physics, statistics, astronomy and navigation, but also in such fields as chemistry, engineering, geodesy, geology, physiology, economics and psychology. An attempt will be made to guide varied types of inquiries to such material.

The chief parts of each issue will normally be devoted to Articles, Recent Mathematical Tables (critical reviews), Mathematical Tables—Errata, Unpublished Mathematical Tables, Mechanical Aids to Computation, Notes, Queries, Queries-Replies.

It is hoped that through this quarterly workers in different fields may become conversant with published and unpublished mathematical tabular material and that the critical surveys of all tables in special fields may be especially useful. The corrections of errata in standard tables of importance and the publication of proofs of unreliability of other well-known tables ought also to save much misdirected effort. It is the belief of some members of the committee that such a publication may contribute to the war effort and become a permanent record of importance.

CONFERENCE ON ATTAINING MAXIMUM EFFECTIVENESS OF INSECTICIDES AND FUNGICIDES

A CONFERENCE was held in Columbus, Ohio, on February 14 to discuss the possibilities of stretching supplies of war-short fungicides, such as copper and mercury, and scarce insecticides, such as rotenone and arsenicals, by reducing dosages and increasing the efficiency of applying the unavoidably small amounts. Data on the subject were obtained by entomologists and phytopathologists in a number of state and federal experiment stations during the past season. The conference was scheduled originally for the New York meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science as part of the program of the American Association of Economic Entomologists, the American Phytopathological Society and the Biometrics Section of the American Statistical Association. It was held at this time so that the conclusions would be available before the coming growing season,

and participants could attend in conjunction with committee meetings of one of the constituent societies and related groups, which were held in Columbus on the preceding two days. The conference was aided by the cooperation of the National Research Council and several state and federal agencies.

More than 50 attended the conference, and many interesting phases of the relationship between dosage and pest control were discussed. Particular emphasis was placed on the utilization of the dosage-response technique in comparing (1) two or more materials or mixtures of materials and (2) different methods of application of the same materials. Suggestions for designing experiments to utilize dosage-response methods in 1943 are being prepared for distribution to participants in the conference and others who may be interested. A report of the results for 1942 will be issued later when the statistical analyses have been completed. Copies of these reports may be obtained by writing to the chairman of the conference, the undersigned, at Box 1106, New Haven, Connecticut.

C. I. BLISS

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. Diethylmonobromogold
2. Paredrine Hydrobromide
3. d-malic acid
4. Glycuronic Acid
5. Ostruthin
6. Methoxycaffeine
7. Glyoxylic Acid
8. Thallium Bromide
9. Thallium Iodide
10. Antimony Triiodide
11. Thymus nucleic acid
12. o-nitrobenzaldehyde
13. p-Naphthylhydrazine hydro-chloride

TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC POSITIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT

MEN and women are sought to fill positions as technical and scientific aids in the Federal Government. They are needed to do research and testing in the following fields: chemistry, geology, geophysics, mathematics, metallurgy, meteorology, physics and radio. The positions pay from \$1,620 to \$2,600, plus overtime.

Applicants may qualify through experience or education. For the assistant grade, applications will be accepted from persons who have completed one year of paid experience or a war-training course approved by the U. S. Office of Education. One year of college study, including one course in the option applied for,