

WAR CONFERENCE ON INDUSTRIAL HEALTH

THE medical, surgical and industrial hygiene experts who are safeguarding the well-being of more than twenty million industrial workers have agreed to pool their knowledge and exchange their experiences regarding the many new and complex problems of war-time production. For this purpose their organizations—The American Association of Industrial Physicians and Surgeons; the American Industrial Hygiene Association, and the National Conference of Governmental Hygienists—are combining their annual meetings in a four-day "War Conference" at Rochester, N. Y., to be held from May 24 to 27. Among the problems to be discussed from a practical standpoint are:

The mass entry of women into industry;
Older-age employees, with their various associated problems; proper placement and employability considerations of the 4F rejectees;

Rehabilitation and proper employment of those already discharged from the military services because of disabling conditions;

Toxic and other hazards from new substances, new processes and the use of substitute materials;

Absenteeism; fatigue; nutrition;

Effects of long hours; double shifts; two-job workers; overtime; increased industrial accident rates;

Advances in the treatment of illnesses and injuries, and many others.

This joint meeting will be a report on the state of the nation by the men who know in matters of industrial health. Dr. William A. Sawyer, medical director of the Eastman Kodak Company, is general chairman; Dr. James H. Sterner and Lieutenant Commander J. J. Bloomfield are arranging the programs.

Physicians and surgeons, hygienists, engineers, nurses, executives—all who are interested in the problems of industrial health and their solution—are invited to attend as many of the sessions as they can arrange for; no registration fee is required.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. ISAIAH BOWMAN, president of the Johns Hopkins University, previously director of the American Geographical Society, has been elected president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science to succeed Dr. Arthur H. Compton, of the University of Chicago. Due to the postponement of the New York meeting Dr. Bowman was elected by mail ballot.

DR. SIMON FLEXNER, emeritus director of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, of which he was director from 1920 to 1935, reached his eightieth birthday on March 25.

THE Borden Company Prize of \$1,000 for research in the chemistry of milk has been awarded by the American Chemical Society to Dr. Earle O. Whittier, senior chemist of the Bureau of Dairy Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture. The prize, which will be formally presented on April 14 at a general session of the meeting of the society in Detroit, is given in recognition of researches in the chemistry of milk constituents. These studies have been concerned chiefly with the utilization of lactose and casein, the chemistry of the manufacture and uses of lactic acid, acid-base equilibria and the buffer values of milk and milk constituents, oxidation-reduction equilibria in milk and ionic equilibria which are fundamental to a knowledge of the stability of the protein systems.

THE University of California at Los Angeles during the observance of Charter Week conferred the honorary doctorate of laws on Dr. George David

Birkhoff, Perkins professor of mathematics and dean of the faculty of arts and sciences of Harvard University.

WILLIAM LOREN BATT, vice-chairman of the War Production Board and president of the SKF Industries, was presented on March 17 with the annual Philadelphia award "as the citizen who performed the most distinguished service for the city in 1942." The award carries with it the sum of \$10,000.

DR. RUDOLPH MATAS has been presented with the medal of the Nu Sigma Nu Degree of Merit. This award is in recognition of approximately thirty years service rendered by Dr. Matas to the fraternity as a faculty member. Former recipients of the medal are Victor C. Vaughan, Nicholas Senn, J. P. McMurrich, W. H. Welch, F. G. Novy, G. C. Huber, W. H. Park, J. M. T. Finney, T. H. Sollmann and James Bryan Herrick.

By action of the executive committee of the American Association of Anatomists, Professor Eliot R. Clark, of the University of Pennsylvania, has been appointed acting secretary-treasurer of the association, in the place of Professor Francis H. Swett, deceased, to serve until the next meeting at which an election may be held. While the regular meeting of the association, scheduled for Montreal, has been cancelled, two sectional meetings have been organized: one in Chicago at the University of Illinois College of Medicine on April 23 and 24, of which G. von Bonin is *secretary*, and a second in Philadelphia at

the Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology, on April 22 and 23, with E. J. Farris as *secretary*.

THE resignation is announced of Dr. William F. Petersen from the professorship of pathology at the College of Medicine of the University of Illinois. He plans to devote his time to research on the weather and its effect on human beings.

DR. ARNOLD LOWMAN, research chemist and specialist in the fields of food analysis, vitamin assays and pharmaceutical manufacturing, has been appointed lecturer in pharmacology at the Medical School at San Francisco of the University of California.

DR. GERTRUDE RAND has been appointed research associate in ophthalmology on the Knapp Foundation, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University.

DR. LOUISE STANLEY, chief of the former Bureau of Home Economics, has been appointed special assistant to Dr. Eugene C. Auchter, research administrator, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

DR. GERARD A. ROHLICH, assistant professor of sanitary engineering at the Pennsylvania State College, has become senior civil engineer (sanitary) in charge of the special problems group of the water and sewage unit of the Repairs and Utilities Branch, Office of the Chief of Engineers, War Department, Washington, D. C.

DR. CARLOS U. CESCO and Dr. Jorge Sahade, of the Astronomical Observatory at La Plata, Argentina, have been appointed volunteer research assistants at the McDonald and Yerkes Observatories and will arrive in the United States in the latter part of the summer. They are being sent by their government to investigate methods in astronomy and astrophysics now in use at the Yerkes and McDonald Observatories.

IN deference to a request from the Lord President of the council to the British War Office, Sir Charles Darwin, scientific adviser to the Army Council, returned on March 1 to his work as director of the National Physical Laboratory. He is succeeded as scientific adviser by Professor C. D. Ellis, Wheatstone professor of physics, King's College, London, who has been serving as deputy scientific adviser.

DR. M. J. BLISH, since 1939 chief of the Protein Division of the Western Regional Research Laboratory, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Albany, Calif., has become chief of the Research Laboratory of the Amino Products Company, a Division of International Minerals and Chemical Corporation. He is stationed at the Amino plant at Rossford, Ohio, and is working under the direction of Dr. Paul D. V. Manning. Ralph W. Shafor, for the past thirteen

years manager of the beet sugar division of the Petree and Dorr Company, New York City, also has joined the staff of the corporation.

DR. WILLARD M. HOEHN has been promoted to the position of assistant director of the laboratories George A. Breon and Company, Kansas City, Mo. He is in charge of the research program on sterol compounds.

WILLIAM J. PRIESTLY, chief of the alloy-steel branch of the War Production Board, has resigned to return to the position of vice-president in charge of research and development of the Electro-Metallurgical Company, New York. He is succeeded by Louis E. Creighton, of Detroit, who for the present will continue to serve also as chief of the aircraft alloy steel section.

DR. CHARLES M. SLACK, of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, has been appointed assistant research director of the lamp division at Bloomfield, N. J.

PROFESSOR ALLYN C. SWINNERTON, for twenty-one years head of the department of geology at Antioch College, has leave of absence to undertake work in Washington, D. C., as consultant to the Research and Development Division of the Signal Corps.

DR. JULIAN A. STEYERMARK, assistant curator of the herbarium at Field Museum of Natural History, has leave of absence for the duration of the war to enable him to accept an appointment from the Board of Economic Warfare of the United States Government to work in Central and South America on the cinchona project. He has left Chicago to fly to Guatemala City, which will be his first headquarters.

A TOUR is being made of American meteorological stations and weather bureaus by meteorologists of the USSR. The party includes Captain Constantin C. Speranski, of the Soviet Navy, assistant director of the Soviet Hydrometeorological Service, Moscow; Major Mark I. Lvovitch, army hydrologist at the Soviet Hydrological Institute at Sverdlovsk, and Lieutenant Colonel Serapion Pagava, army chief of the Long Range Forecasting Division of the Central Meteorological Institute, Moscow. The party is accompanied by interpreters and by U. S. Army officials.

DR. DUNCAN A. MACINNES, member of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, is giving from March 22 to 26 the annual series of Priestley lectures at the Pennsylvania State College. The series, sponsored by Phi Lambda Upsilon, is now in its seventeenth year, having been initiated in 1926 by Dr. Wheeler P. Davey, research professor of chemistry and physics.

DR. W. H. SEBRELL, surgeon of the Public Health Service of the National Institute of Health at Bethesda, Md., gave an address entitled "Nutrition in a Changing World" at the opening session of a conference on "Nutrition in War Time," held at the Medical College of Virginia on March 25, 26 and 27.

DR. W. F. G. SWANN, director of the Bartol Research Foundation at Swarthmore, Pa., lectured on the evening of March 18 before the Lancaster, Pa., Branch of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The lecture was entitled "Science in This Confused Age."

PROFESSOR LAURENCE H. SNYDER, chairman of the department of zoology of the Ohio State University and chairman of the Committee on Human Inheritance of the National Research Council, gave lectures on February 9 and 10 at Louisiana State University. The main address, "Heredity and Modern Life," was sponsored jointly by the department of zoology and the university chapter of the Society of Sigma Xi. The second lecture was presented before the seminar in zoology. It was entitled "The Mutant Gene in Man." Dr. and Mrs. Snyder were guests of honor at a tea given by the department on February 9, and on the following day at a dinner at the Faculty Club.

PLANS have been made to hold the thirty-fourth annual meeting of the American Oil Chemists Society in New Orleans from May 12 to May 14. The Roosevelt Hotel has been selected for headquarters, and all technical sessions, committee meetings and a dinner-dance will be held there. The local committee, headed by Dr. K. S. Markley, of the Southern Regional Research Laboratory, New Orleans, is arranging a program that will include the chemical, analytical, technological, industrial and economic phases of the production and utilization of fats and oils. All who plan to attend should make hotel reservations as early as possible.

CHANGES in the staff of editors of *Biological Abstracts* within the last few months include: Dr. Gustav Swanson, University of Minnesota, editor of "Wild-life Management—Terrestrial," replacing Dr. W. L. McAtee, who has resigned; Dr. Francis O. Schmitt, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, editor of the section "Biochemistry-Biophysics"; Dr. W. G. Anderson, University of Minnesota, succeeding Dr. C. E. Blye, acting editor of the section, "Veterinary Science"; Dr. F. E. J. Fry, University of Toronto, editor of the section "Cyclostomata, Elasmobranchii and Pisces," beginning with the April, 1943, issue; Dr. J. H. Black, 1405 Medical Arts Building, Dallas, Texas, editor of the "Allergy" section, beginning with the June-July issue. Dr. August E. Miller, Dayton,

Ohio, has resigned as the editor of the *Acarina* section.

ACCORDING to *Nature* sound films of honorary members and Faraday medallists of the British Institution of Electrical Engineers are being shown before the institution as follows: March 4: Sir J. J. Thomson and Lord Rutherford; April 1: Sir Ambrose Fleming and Dr. A. E. Kennelly; April 29: Lord Hirst and Dr. F. B. Jewett.

FIRE completely destroyed the one-story frame anatomy building of the University of Kansas at Lawrence, on the evening of March 3. A part of the equipment of the department was saved. The fire started in the southwest part of the building and fanned by a strong wind the contents of the office in that part of the building were completely destroyed. All the charts, models and demonstration material for gross anatomy were lost, but the metal dissecting tables and the cadavers were saved. Most of the slides and charts for the class in microscopic anatomy were saved. Glasswork is being continued temporarily in Snow Hall, the biology building.

GIFTS amounting to \$201,921 have been made to New York University during the past three months. They include \$100,000 from the George F. Baker Charity Trust, half of which will be used to increase the endowment of the Samuel A. Brown professorship of therapeutics and the remainder for the College of Medicine, at the discretion of Dean Currier McEwen. The Commonwealth Fund gave \$9,784 to the College of Medicine for the study of hypertensive and renal diseases, research in obstetrics and gynecology and other uses, and the National Conservation Bureau gave \$9,000 to the Center for Safety Education in the Division of General Education. The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis contributed \$7,500 toward the recently established training program for physiotherapists which was opened by Sister Elizabeth Kenny in the School of Education. A gift of \$7,500 was made by the Rockefeller Foundation for various research projects in medicine and applied mathematics. Alumni and friends of the College of Medicine, through Dean McEwen, gave \$6,794 to the emergency fund, and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Inc., gave \$5,277 to the Educational Film Institute and the Recordings Division of the Film Library. The sum of \$2,850 was received from the Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation for the Vitamin "B" Filtrate Factor Fund, and \$1,800 from the John and Mary R. Markle Foundation for the *Endamoeba histolytica* Research Foundation for study of the disease under the direction of Professor Robert Chambers.