

While no provision was made in 1939 for the contingencies that have arisen, it is felt that those elected should serve until successors are elected. Professor R. E. Buchanan has been asked to act as chairman *pro tem.* of the Judicial Commission as there is no possibility of securing an election under the rules as adopted.

R. ST. JOHN-BROOKS (London),
ROBERT S. BREED (Geneva, N. Y.),
Joint Permanent Secretaries, International Committee on Bacteriological Nomenclature

INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

THE *Experiment Station Record* reports that, according to a recent article in *Agriculture in the Americas*, a site for the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences has been selected on the outskirts of Turrialba, a town in the interior of Costa Rica approximately midway between the national capital of San José and the principal port of Puerto Limón. The tract chosen for the main buildings and campus consists of 1,235 acres adjoining the Costa Rica Rubber Experiment Station of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Most of the land has an elevation of about 2,000 feet, but wet lowland areas are included. The soils of the region are volcanic, temperatures average in the middle 70's, rainfall amounts to around 110 inches a year, and the humidity is high. The site is regarded as suitable for experimental cultivation of practically all tropical crops, for experimental work on livestock and dairying under tropical conditions, for the study of tropical reforestation and erosion control problems and for investigation of drainage practices. Near-by areas are well suited for the development of tropical crops not adapted to the lowlands.

The institute is to be managed by a corporation, directors of which will be the members of the Pan-American Union Governing Board, which consists of the United States Secretary of State and the diplomatic representatives in Washington of all the Latin-American republics. Projects will be recommended by a technical advisory committee composed of a member from each of the countries participating. At the outset, the organization will be financed largely by the United States, but it is expected that the other countries will join in the financing later under a convention to be signed.

The institute is conceived as a combination school of agriculture and agricultural research center, the facilities of which will be used by all the American republics. Its objectives, as generally agreed upon by agricultural leaders of the hemisphere, are to provide a place for research on tropical agriculture under favorable conditions, to furnish facilities for training

scientific personnel grounded in tropical agricultural problems, to develop mutual understanding among agricultural students of the Americas, to serve as a center for cooperative research projects and to strengthen cultural relations among the American republics.

Plans for the institute contemplate utilization of research facilities offered by the governments of several Latin American republics as well as those of Costa Rica. Among the organizations whose facilities have been offered are the experiment stations of Puerto de Díaz (in Salta) and Loreto (in Misiones), Argentina, situated in the subtropical region of the country; the station located at Chulumani near La Paz and the farms of Trinidad and of Palermo in Santa Cruz, Bolivia; the Agronomical Institute in Belém, State of Pará, Brazil; the experiment station at Palmira, Colombia; the experimental fields situated in the region between the capital and Santa Ana in the large region of Tapachula, State of Chiapas, Mexico; the experiment station at Tingo María, Peru; the Agricultural Experiment Station at Santiago de las Vegas, near Habana, Cuba; and the Institute of Tropical Agriculture at Mayaguez, Puerto Rico.

As previously announced, the director of the institute is Dr. Earl N. Bressman, whose headquarters are expected to be in Washington, D. C., with a small administrative staff. José L. Colom, chief of the division of agricultural cooperation of the Pan American Union, has been appointed secretary of the organization; Rex A. Pixley, business manager of the institute, and Robert A. Nichols, agriculturist in charge of field operations.

THE STUDY OF MEDICINE AND THE CHANGING ORDER

A COMMITTEE to study medicine and the changing order has been organized by the New York Academy of Medicine. The objectives of this committee are defined as follows:

To be informed on the nature, quality and direction of the economic and social changes that are taking place now and that are clearly forecast for the immediate future; to define in particular how these changes are likely to affect medicine in its various aspects; to determine how the best elements in the science of medicine and its services to the public may be preserved and embodied in whatever changed social order may ultimately develop.

Members of the committee include:

Drs. Malcolm Goodridge, *Chairman*; Arthur F. Chase, James Alexander Miller, Alan Gregg, George Baehr, Harry Aranow, I. Ogden Woodruff, Paul Reznikoff, Henry W. Cave, Tracy J. Putnam, Wilson G. Smillie, Jean A. Curran, Herbert B. Wilcox, Howard Craig, E. Tolstoi, E. H. Pool, Robert Pound and Iago Galdston, *Secretary*.

The committee plans to survey the changes that are currently taking place in our economic and social or-

ganization and to consider any changes which are likely to take place during the next decade.

In this survey the committee will solicit information and opinion from a wide variety of groups, including sociologists, economists, representatives of organized labor, industrialists, bankers and politicians. Every shade of political and economic thought is to be represented.

Also, in this connection, the committee will solicit the cooperation of those intimately connected with medicine in the capacities of deans of medical schools, teachers of medicine, hospital authorities, hospital clinicians, public health workers, those interested in graduate education, physicians in industrial medicine, medical social workers and workers in voluntary health organizations.

The committee will welcome suggestions from any one who might propose sources of information which would aid it in this study. It will devote itself primarily to the study of how, within the changing social order, the best qualities in medical service, in medical education and in medical research can be preserved and developed. It is expected that the study will continue until such time as sufficient evidence has been accumulated to make possible a considered report.

OFFICERS OF THE ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

OFFICERS, editors and chairmen of the Ecological Society of America have been elected for 1943 as follows:

President, Orlando Park, Northwestern University.

Vice-president, Paul B. Sears, Oberlin College.

Secretary, William A. Dreyer, University of Cincinnati.

Treasurer, Stanley A. Cain, University of Tennessee.

Member of the Executive Committee, S. Charles Kendeigh, University of Illinois.

Editors of Ecology, Thomas Park and Charles E. Olmsted, both of the University of Chicago.

Editors of Ecological Monographs, C. F. Korstian and A. S. Pearse, both of Duke University.

Representative of the National Research Council, Ira N. Gabrielson, U. S. Biological Survey.

Representative of the Union of American Biological Societies, Robert F. Griggs, George Washington University.

Chairmen of Standing Committees:

Preservation of Natural Conditions in the United States, Curtis L. Newcombe, College of William and Mary.

Preservation of Natural Conditions in Canada, J. R. Dymond, Royal Ontario Museum.

Study of Animal and Plant Communities, S. Charles Kendeigh, University of Illinois.

Applied Ecology, John M. Aikman, Iowa State College.

Nomenclature, Frank E. Eggleston, University of Michigan.

Historical Records, Charles C. Adams, State Museum, Albany, N. Y.

Quantitative Ecology, Geoffrey Beall, Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Chatham, Ont.

FELLOWSHIPS OF THE FINNEY-HOWELL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

At the meeting of the board of directors of the Finney-Howell Research Foundation, Inc., 1211 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, Md., the following annual fellowships were awarded:

For the Third Year

Dr. Rose I. Shukoff, University of Petrograd. To work at the Glasgow Royal Cancer Hospital, Glasgow, Scotland, under Dr. P. R. Peacock.

Dr. Emilia Vicari, the Ohio State University. To work at the Jackson Memorial Laboratory for Cancer Research, Bar Harbor, Me., under Dr. C. C. Little.

For the Second Year

Borroughs Reid Hill, Tulane University. To work at Harvard University with Dr. Louis Fieser.

New

Dr. Nelicia Maier, Medical School, Paris, France. To work at Yale University Medical School with Dr. William T. Salter.

James Alexander Miller, University of Wisconsin. To work at the Medical School, University of Wisconsin.

Fellowships carrying an annual stipend of \$2,000 are awarded for the period of one year, with the possibility of renewal up to three years, at the annual meeting of the board of directors, held at the beginning of March. Applications must be made on the blanks furnished by the secretary, and must be filed in the office of the foundation before January 1 of each year. Fellowships are awarded only for research into the cause or causes and the treatment of cancer.

NATIONAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS IN THE NATURAL SCIENCES

THE National Research Fellowship Board in the Natural Sciences of the National Research Council has made the following fellowship appointments for the academic year 1943-1944:

Saul Gerald Cohen (Ph.D. in organic chemistry, Harvard University, 1940). Cornell University. Subject: The effects of changes in structure and experimental conditions on the mechanism of the hydrolysis of esters.

Aureal T. Cross (Ph.D. in botany, University of Cincinnati, 1943). University of Illinois. Subject: The value of plant microfossils for the stratigraphic correlation of coals, based on a study of the commercial coals of West Virginia.

William Hovanitz (Ph.D. in genetics, the California Institute of Technology, 1943). Place of study not yet determined. Subject: Genetics of physiological races in mosquitoes, with special reference to transmission of immunity.

Foil Allan Miller (Ph.D. in chemistry, the Johns Hopkins University, 1941). University of Minnesota. Subject: The vibrational spectra of molecules.