

by the rate for all areas of Greater Germany, which had declined from 20.4 in 1939-40 to 15.2 in 1942—a loss of approximately 550,000 live births.

UNITED STATES LECTURERS IN BRAZIL

ADVANCED practices in the application of the science of metallurgy in the United States will be made available to Brazilian scientists and industrialists during the coming year through a technical educational project established at the Escola Politecnica of the University of São Paulo, one of the leading engineering schools of Brazil. Four distinguished United States scientific men have been appointed to give lectures on fundamental metallurgy over a period of a year, each to remain in residence there for three months during the extent of his lecture series. The project is being jointly financed through the office of Nelson A. Rockefeller, coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, and the Escola Politecnica. It is administered by the Stevens Institute of Technology under a contract with the coordinator's office.

The first lecturer, Dr. A. Allan Bates, manager of the chemical and metallurgical department of the Research Laboratories of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, East Pittsburgh, Pa., is already *en route* to Brazil and was expected to be at the University of São Paulo by July 29.

He will be followed by Dr. Robert F. Mehl, professor and head of the department of metallurgical engineering and director of the Metals Research Laboratory of the Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh; Professor Arthur Phillips, of the Hammond Metallurgical Laboratory, Yale University, and Professor Gregory Jamieson Comstock, director of the powder metallurgy laboratory of the Stevens Institute of Technology.

Laboratory facilities for metallurgical work are available at the Instituto de Pesquisas Tecnológicas, which is connected with the Escola Politecnica. Modern research and production equipment is provided by electric arc melting furnaces, induction furnace, small rolling mill, cupola furnace and complete microscopic and metallographic apparatus. It is the desire of the Escola Politecnica to inaugurate a complete series of courses in fundamental and advanced metallurgy.

The project was initiated when the Brazilian institution asked the help of the coordinator of Inter-American Affairs in obtaining the teaching services of four professors of metallurgy. The coordinator's office solicited the advice and counsel of the engineering division of the Board of Economic Warfare, now the Office of Economic Warfare.

The problem was assigned to Professor Comstock, of the Stevens Institute of Technology, who is a tech-

nical consultant for the division and who suggested the plan which was adopted. The institute accepted the responsibility for administering and supervising the program. The lecturers were appointed by the trustees with the consent and cooperation of their own institutions or industrial employers.

The subject to be taught, fundamental metallurgy on a graduate level, will be presented in four divisions by the lecturers, each of whom is regarded as pre-eminent in his particular field. Dr. Bates will lecture from the viewpoint of industrial research and development; Dr. Mehl on the physical metallurgy of iron and steel; Professor Phillips on non-ferrous metallurgy, and Professor Comstock on powder metallurgy. They also will assist the university authorities to develop a curriculum in metallurgical engineering.

THE PROPOSED OCEANARIUM AT CONEY ISLAND

TENTATIVE plans for the proposed post-war Aquarium or Oceanarium to be built at Coney Island at an estimated cost of \$1,500,000 are described in *The New York Times*. It will take the place of the old Aquarium at Battery Park, and will extend nearly ten acres between the Boardwalk and Surf Avenue, from West Fifth to West Eighth Streets. The site is virtually already owned by the city.

The Times states that in addition to a modern main marine building housing fresh and salt-water species from every part of the globe and outdoor pools for seals, penguins and cormorants, it is planned to construct a children's aquarium. As shown in a tentative sketch, this will be a building resembling an old schooner, anchored in a pond off the main building.

Observation cat-walks will be constructed around the huge tanks and through them. In the latter the observer would find himself literally "inside" the tank, encased in a glass passageway with water under, around and above him.

There will be, according to present plans, exhibits of tropical, temperate, Arctic and biological specimens, a separate section for aquatic birds and waterfowl, a promenade deck, lecture hall and restaurants. An over-pass will lead directly to a special subway entrance and a parking lot will be constructed to accommodate 450 automobiles.

The Finance Committee of the City Council has unanimously approved an amendment to the capital budget for 1943 to include the sum of \$42,000 for preliminary plans and study of the oceanarium. It is expected that the New York Zoological Society will contribute an additional \$20,000 toward the cost of preliminary planning.