

(k) Inaugurate traveling lectureships, awards recognizing achievements, bulletins and other miscellaneous services as may be found desirable.

(l) Represent the profession of physics in informing and assisting legislators, and government executives considering laws and regulations affecting education, research and other activities of concern to physicists.

In making its appeal for funds the committee points out that it is an essential part of the proposal that there be acquired a permanent home for organized physics. The joint publishing and general co-operative operating department—the American Institute of Physics—has shown in its twelve years a consistent record of usefulness, reliability and increasing financial strength. It has always occupied rented office space. By virtue of the fact that it is a tax-free organization it could—if it had its own building—occupy and fully maintain much better and larger quarters at no increase in annual cost over the present rent.

It happens that at the present moment an extremely well-constructed and suitably arranged building has been offered for sale to the institute. It is conveniently situated on 55th Street between Madison and Park Avenues, New York, a neighborhood of excellent and improving value. If advantage is to be taken of this offer the sum of \$75,000 must be guaranteed as soon as possible.

The appeal is signed by the War Policy Committee, the members of which are P. E. Klopsteg, *chairman*, O. E. Buckley, K. T. Compton, H. L. Dodge and R. C. Gibbs.

#### THE OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

THE *Harvard Alumni Bulletin* gives the following particulars in regard to the Office of Scientific Research and Development:

Once a year, a subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives meets in Washington to consider requests for the following year for funds for the continuation of the National War Agencies. This is almost the only occasion when information of the work of the Office of Scientific Research and Development, which employs and uses so many Harvard scientists and laboratories and to which President Conant devotes so large a part of his time, enters the public record.

In the hearing on the 1944 bill, held on May 29, Vannevar Bush, doctor of engineering, 1916, director of the office, and President Conant were two of the key witnesses. In support of an appropriation of \$125,000,000 for the National Defense Research Committee, the two men revealed that approximately \$2,000,000,000 worth of equipment had either been secured or was on order by the armed services through the work carried on by the office as the result of previous expenditures. More than 200 devices, Dr. Bush said, had been officially

adopted out of the research of the office, and many of these had already seen service at the battlefronts.

The scope of the work is indicated by the fact that from June, 1940, through April 17, 1943, a total of 1,731 contracts had been let among 124 different academic institutions and 205 different industrial organizations. The largest volume of work falls under the supervision of the National Defense Research Committee, of which President Conant is chairman.

Appropriations requested for the Medical Research Committee, of which Dr. A. N. Richards, of the University of Pennsylvania, is chairman, and Professor A. Baird Hastings, Hamilton Kuhn professor of biological chemistry at the Harvard Medical School, is a member, amounted to somewhat less than \$10,000,000. Concerning the work of that committee, Dr. Richards was enabled to reveal some remarkable developments made under its auspices in the use of penicillin, the new bacteria-destroying product made from green mold, which is expected to rival the miraculous sulfa drugs. He reported use of the drug in badly wounded cases in the Pacific area, which had been under treatment without success for as long as fourteen months. Persistent infections showed remarkable improvement within a week. Many units of the drug are now under manufacture, and have been sent to British and American forces in the field. Concerning details of the work of Mr. Conant's committee on instrumentalities of the war, no corner of the veil of military secrecy was lifted.

Letters were read into the record by General Marshall, chief of staff of the Army, and by Admiral King, of the Navy, endorsing in wholehearted terms the services in the war effort of these civilian scientific groups working in cooperation with the Army and Navy.

#### MANPOWER PROBLEMS IN THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

A SYMPOSIUM on "Manpower Problems in the Chemical Industry" will be held in connection with the one hundred and sixth meeting of the American Chemical Society, which will take place at Pittsburgh from September 6 to 10. Dr. A. L. Elder, chief chemical adviser of the War Production Board, will preside.

Dr. Francis J. Curtis, development director of the Monsanto Chemical Company, will deliver an address on "How Industry is Solving its Manpower Problems"; James W. Reynolds, deputy director of the chemicals division of the War Production Board, will discuss "Production Requirements of the Chemical Industry"; Dr. Herman T. Briscoe, vice-president of Indiana University, will speak on "Training Programs for Chemists." Other speakers and their topics are: Dr. Warren L. McCabe, of the Carnegie Institute of Technology, "Training Programs for Chemical Engineers"; Dr. James Coull, of the University of Pittsburgh, "Training and Utilization of Women in the Chemical Industry"; Dr. Frank C. Whitmore, of the Pennsylvania State College, "Occupational Defer-

ment of Technically Trained Men in the Chemical Industry"; Sidney L. Kirkpatrick, editor of *Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering*, "Manpower for Post-war Developments in the Chemical Industry."

Dr. Elder has pointed out that

The expansion program of the chemical industry is fairly well adjusted to the needs of the armed services. When the plants now under construction are completed, it is anticipated that only minor further expansion will be required to keep the program in balance. On this basis one might at first assume that our worries should be nearly over. Actually, for several months it has been becoming more and more apparent that our troubles were

only beginning, for production was not equivalent to plant expansion. The reason for this was obvious to all, but the solution is yet to be found. Manpower problems are confronting one industry after another.

Other symposia scheduled for the Pittsburgh meeting, in which 4,000 scientific men and industrialists are expected to participate, will deal with industrial hygiene, research tools of the colloid chemist, research management in small laboratories, unit processes, paint and plastics, reactions of solids, molecular addition compounds, library research, recent advances in the chemistry of dairy products, vitamins, proteins and boron in agriculture.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Alvarenga Prize of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia has been awarded to Dr. Ernest C. Faust, professor of parasitology and acting dean of the School of Medicine of Tulane University of Louisiana, in recognition of his "outstanding contribution to our knowledge of parasitology and tropical medicine."

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association reports that the Medal of the Aztec Eagle for services and work on military medicine was recently presented to Drs. Edgar Erskine Hume and Tomás Cajigas, Washington, D. C., honorary members of the Academia Nacional de Medicina of Mexico. Dr. Francisco Castilla Nájera, the ambassador of Mexico to the United States, made the presentation.

SCIENCE has reported the names of those American scientific men who have been elected honorary fellows of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. British fellows were elected as follows: The Right Hon. J. C. Smuts, Prime Minister, South Africa; Professor H. F. Baker, emeritus professor of geometry and astronomy of the University of Cambridge; Sir Joseph Barcroft, emeritus professor of physiology of the University of Cambridge; Sir Lawrence Bragg, Cavendish professor of experimental physics at the University of Cambridge. Other elections to honorary fellowships include Dr. D. Emilio Jimeno Gil, rector of the University of Barcelona; Professor Thore G. Halle, Naturhistoriska Riksmuseum, Stockholm, and Dr. P. Karrer, professor of chemistry and director of the Chemical Institute, Zurich.

WASHBURN UNIVERSITY, Topeka, Kansas, on May 24 conferred the honorary degree of doctor of laws on Dr. F. D. Farrell, retiring president of Kansas State College, formerly agronomist of the Bureau of Plant Industry, and the honorary degree of doctor of science on Dr. George P. Grimsley, geological engineer, retired, of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

THE degree of doctor of laws has been conferred by St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn., on Dr. Donald C. Balfour, director of the Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research, Rochester, and the degree of doctor of science on Dr. Adolph M. Hanson, Faribault, in recognition of work on the isolation of the active principles of various hormones.

DR. CLEMENT C. WILLIAMS, president of Lehigh University, has presented his resignation to take effect in 1944. Dr. Williams became president of Lehigh University in 1935, after having been on the faculties of civil and railroad engineering at the Universities of Colorado and Kansas, head of the civil engineering department of the University of Illinois and dean of the College of Engineering at the State University of Iowa.

DR. EDWARD C. ELLIOTT, president of Purdue University, has resumed his work after a leave of absence that began in June, 1942. Since then he has served as chief of the division of professional and technical training of the War Manpower Commission, and was instrumental in setting up the war-training programs for the Army and Navy in American colleges and universities.

THE retirement from active work with the title emeritus at the end of the summer quarter has been announced by the Ohio State University of Professors Harry W. Kuhn and Samuel E. Rasor, both of the department of mathematics; of Professor Andrews Rogers, of the department of obstetrics, and of Professor Clifford C. Huntington, of the department of geography.

WILLIAM PETERSON, director of the Utah Agricultural Experiment Station from 1921 to 1928 and director of the Extension Service from 1924, retired with the title emeritus on June 30. He will serve as adviser on agricultural problems. W. W. Owens,