

Japan, China, Java and Palestine are not included, and no account has been taken of other loans to various institutions in South America.

Inter-institutional loans of study material have been very largely developed within the present century, and these loans have been reciprocal as between European and other institutions and those in the United States. Under anything approaching normal conditions, losses are very rare, for modern transportation has been found to be safe. While the loss of certain selected collections from American institutions on loan in Berlin will be felt by workers in our herbaria, the really irreplaceable loss is that of the Berlin herbarium itself. Fortunately many of the types of earlier described species in the Berlin collection have been studied by various American botanists and records published; and again, thanks to the initiative of the Field Museum of Natural History, with the support of a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation, 15,800 Berlin types of tropical American species were photographed some years ago, and prints from the negatives may be secured. Thus this photographic record, plus the original descriptions, is now all that is available in thousands of cases to represent the species as originally described. The total number of negatives prepared for the Field Museum representing types and important historical specimens from tropical America in European herbaria is approximately 40,000.

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MEETINGS OF ENTOMOLOGISTS

THE American Association of Economic Entomologists and the Entomological Society of America are holding in Columbus from December 7 to 9 a conference devoted to "Entomology and the War."

The two groups did not meet last year, but their present responsibilities are such as demand a conference on both health and food problems arising from the war.

According to Professor T. H. Parks, who is chairman of the local committee, the American Association of Economic Entomologists now has 1,575 members who have the responsibility of administering about fifteen million dollars of public funds annually on health, food and shelter problems—most of it on research and control operations.

Topics at the Columbus meeting concern "Medical Entomology in War-time" and "Agricultural Entomology in War-time." Taking part will be specialists in the medical and sanitary work of the U. S. and Canadian armed forces. Chemical control of insects affecting man's health and comfort will be discussed.

Officers of the American Association of Economic Entomologists are P. N. Annand, Washington, D. C.,

president; Avery S. Hoyt, Washington, *vice-president*; Ernest N. Cory, College Park, Md., *secretary-treasurer*.

Officers of the Entomological Society of America are C. P. Alexander, Amherst, *president*; Miriam A. Palmer, Fort Collins, Colo., *first vice-president*; William T. Davis, Staten Island, N. Y., *second vice-president*; and Clarence E. Mickel, St. Paul, Minn., *secretary-treasurer*.

THE INFORMATIONAL SERVICE OF THE DIVISION OF MEDICAL SCIENCES OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

PROFESSOR ROSS G. HARRISON, chairman of the National Research Council, has announced the appointment of Major General James Carre Magee, Medical Corps, U. S. Army, retired, as executive officer of the Informational Service of the Division of Medical Sciences. This service has been established by the National Research Council under the recent grant of the Johnson and Johnson Research Foundation, by which the sum of \$75,000 was made available to the council for the period ending June 30, 1945. The purpose of the grant is to enable the council to assemble and disseminate, as far as possible, medical information pertaining to the war effort.

General Magee has had a distinguished record in the Medical Corps of the Army. A graduate of Jefferson Medical College in 1905, he has spent his entire professional life in the medical service of the Army. He was assigned to the Philippines before the outbreak of the first World War and then recalled for European duty from 1917 to 1919. He was appointed Surgeon General of the Army in 1939, and on May 31, 1943, he was retired on completion of the four-year term of duty. It was under his direction that the Medical Corps was enormously expanded to meet the demands of the present war and the program of service adopted which has led to the remarkable health record of the Army. General Magee holds the honorary degree of doctor of science from Jefferson Medical College, and was recently awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for outstanding accomplishments as Surgeon General.

General Magee, who assumed his duties on December 1, will devote full time to the organization of a central office in the National Research Council which will collect medical reports and records, widely dealing with military medical practice, civilian practice as affected by the war, medical education and research and the distribution of diseases. The materials collected will, so far as military necessities permit, be made available by publications, summaries and notes.

ROYAL SOCIETY MEDALISTS

THE King of England has approved the recommendations made by the council of the Royal Society for