

The new unit will be a center for the training of plastic surgeons, and will work in close touch with the university laboratories in which parallel investigations of the biochemical and other problems connected with the growth and repair of tissue, fundamental to plastic surgery, will be carried on. It is felt that there is an urgent need to have such a center in Great Britain.

The war has brought a greatly increased demand for the services of plastic surgeons and Lord Nuffield's proposal was chiefly influenced by a desire to provide the best possible treatment for casualties, especially those suffering from disfigurement caused by burns. Even though the demand may be less after the war, plastic surgery will have, unquestionably, a most important part to play in the services which are being envisaged by the government for the rehabilitation of injured persons.

#### **AFFILIATION OF PSYCHOLOGICAL ORGANIZATIONS**

It is reported by Science Service that a movement is now on foot to combine the nine leading national psychological associations and groups of psychologists into a single national association. Details of the merger are being worked out by a committee appointed by representatives of all the present organizations.

Final action ratifying the new constitution is expected on the part of the two largest organizations, the American Psychological Association and the American Association for Applied Psychology, in September. Difficulties may arise due to the fact that the annual business meetings of these organizations were cancelled last year due to war-caused transportation difficulties. It is not now known whether a meeting will be held for this purpose, whether action will be taken by the administrative councils of the organization or whether members will be asked to vote by mail.

The new organization, which will also be called the American Psychological Association, will have, it is planned, a number of divisions, each with its own chairman, secretary and other officers. The divisions will sponsor programs, the annual meetings and may also publish journals. Any member may belong to one or more divisions.

Government of the new association will be by a council of representatives to be elected by the various divisions and regions and by certain unorganized groups. The council will meet annually and elect a board of directors and several other boards and committees to do the work of the association.

It is anticipated that 4,000 psychologists will be members of the new association. Organizations that appointed representatives to plan the merger include the American Psychological Association, the American Association for Applied Psychology, the Society of Experimental Psychologists, the Society for the

Psychological Study of Social Issues, the Psychometric Society, the National Institute of Psychology, the National Council of Women Psychologists, the Department of Psychology of the American Teachers Association and Section I of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

#### **THE CLEVELAND MEETING OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY**

THE one hundred and seventh meeting of the American Chemical Society, under the presidency of Dr. Thomas Midgley, Jr., will be held in Cleveland from April 3 to 7. Several thousand chemists and industrialists will participate.

Fourteen of the eighteen professional divisions of the society will convene. Postwar planning will be emphasized at the sessions of the division of industrial and engineering chemistry under the chairmanship of Dr. Lawrence W. Bass, of Boston. Progress in petroleum chemistry will be described before the petroleum division, of which Dr. Cecil L. Brown, of the Standard Oil Company of Louisiana, Baton Rouge, is chairman.

"Antiparasitic Agents as Used in Tropical Diseases Other than Malaria" will be the general theme of the division of medicinal chemistry, of which Dr. John H. Speer, of G. D. Searle and Company, Niles Center, Ill., is chairman. "The Biological Value of Proteins" and "Carbohydrates for Industrial Use" will be discussed at a joint meeting of the division of agricultural and food chemistry and the division of sugar chemistry. Papers on vitamins will be read at a session of the agricultural and food and biological divisions.

"Industrial Demands for Non-Laboratory Chemists" will be the topic of the division of chemical education, of which Dr. Laurence L. Quill, of the Ohio State University, is chairman. Papers on "Detergents and Their Actions on Biological Systems" and "Theory of Long-Range Elasticity" will be submitted to the division of physical and inorganic chemistry, of which the chairman is Dr. Oscar K. Rice, of the University of North Carolina.

General sessions will be held by the divisions of analytical and micro-chemistry, cellulose chemistry, colloid chemistry, gas and fuel chemistry, organic chemistry, sugar chemistry and technology, and water sewage and sanitation chemistry.

Registration will begin on Sunday, April 2, at the Hotel Cleveland and the Hotel Statler, joint headquarters for the sessions. Divisional meetings will take place in the Cleveland Public Auditorium beginning on Monday, April 3, at 2 P.M. and ending on Friday at 5 P.M. The council, of which Dr. Midgley is chairman, will meet on Monday at 9:30 A.M. A general meeting is planned for Wednesday at 2:00 P.M. The semi-annual dinner meeting will take place on Wednesday at 7:00 P.M.

Dr. Carl F. Prutton, professor of chemical engineering at Western Reserve University, has been appointed general chairman of the meeting. Dr. Eric A. Arnold, associate professor of chemistry at the Case School of Applied Science, has been named general vice-chairman. Dr. Harold S. Booth, head of the department of physical science at Western Reserve, is honorary chairman.

Vice-chairmen to direct the work of local committees on arrangements for the convention are W. J. Bartlett, Mathew M. Braidech, G. H. McIntyre, A. S. Weygandt and F. M. Whitacre.

#### AWARDS OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE AERONAUTICAL SCIENCES

THE Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences under the presidency of Major R. H. Fleet opened its twelfth annual meeting with the "honors night" dinner in the Waldorf-Astoria, New York City, on January 24. The following awards were made:

General Henry H. Arnold, commanding general of the Army Air Forces, an honorary fellowship, presented by Brigadier-General Frank P. Lahm, retired.

Sir Richard Fairey, director-general of the British Air Commission, an honorary fellowship, presented by T. P. Wright, of the War Production Board.

Sanford A. Moss, consulting engineer of General Electric, the Sylvanus Albert Reed award, presented by Charles L. Lawrence, head of Lawrence Engineering and Research.

Lieutenant-Colonel Joseph J. George, of the Army Air Forces Weather Division, the Robert M. Losey award, presented by F. W. Reichelderfer, chief of the United States Weather Bureau.

Brigadier-General Eugen G. Reinartz, commandant of the Army School of Aviation Medicine, the John Jeffries award, presented by Major-General D. N. W. Grant, air surgeon of the Army Air Forces.

William H. McAvoy, chief test pilot of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, the Octave Chanute award "for continuous service in the flight-testing of experimental airplanes under hazardous conditions."

William B. Bergen, chief flight test engineer of the Glenn L. Martin Company, the Lawrence Sperry award, presented by E. G. Sperry, Jr., vice-president of Sperry Products.

Colonel H. F. Gregory, of the Army Air Forces, the Thurman H. Bane award "for his contribution to the military and commercial development and use of the helicopter," presented by Igor I. Sikorsky, of the Vought-Sikorsky Aircraft Division of United Aircraft.

#### THE GIBSON ISLAND RESEARCH CONFERENCES

THE seventh series of the Gibson Island special research conferences on chemistry of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will begin on June 12. There will be eleven conferences during the summer of 1944, each extending over a period of five days, from Monday to Friday, inclusive, on successive weeks. The final conference will open on Monday, August 21. The subjects of the eleven conferences are:

1. Petroleum Chemistry. June 12-16. Frederick D. Rossini, *chairman*; George Calingaert, *vice-chairman*.
2. Catalysis. June 19-23. Otto Beeck, *chairman*; P. H. Emmett, *vice-chairman*.
3. Organic Highpolymers. June 26-30. H. Mark, *chairman*; Emil Ott, *vice-chairman*.
4. Medicinal Chemistry. July 3-7. D. L. Tabern, *chairman*; W. G. Bywater, *vice-chairman*.
5. Textiles. July 10-14. Milton Harris, *chairman*; Warren F. Busse, *vice-chairman*.
6. Strategic Materials. July 17-21. Robert Calvert, *chairman*; Richard J. Block, *vice-chairman*.
7. Vitamins. July 24-28. Walter C. Russell, *chairman*; James Waddell, *vice-chairman*.
8. Cancer. July 31-August 4. Dean Burk, *chairman*; Ralph G. Meader, *vice-chairman*.
9. Corrosion. August 7-11. F. L. LaQue, *chairman*; G. H. Young, *vice-chairman*.
10. Instrumentation. August 14-18. W. G. Brombacker, *chairman*; J. G. Ziegler, *vice-chairman*.
11. X-ray and Electron Diffraction. August 21-25. Lester H. Germer, *chairman*; P. Debye, *vice-chairman*.

The island offers opportunities for golf, tennis, bathing in both salt and fresh water, fishing and swimming. Yacht races are held off the shore at various times during the summer.

The conference property was purchased and furnished by the association with gifts of \$1,000 each from industrial companies whose laboratories have been represented at the conferences, each company having the right to have one representative at each conference. Attendance is limited to 60 persons, distributed as widely as possible among representatives of industrial, foundation and university laboratories.

Registration for the coming summer should be made before February 20 with the director, Dr. Neil E. Gordon, Wayne University, Detroit, who is secretary of the Section on Chemistry of the association.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Distinguished Service to Geography Award of the National Council of Geography Teachers has been given to President Wallace W. Atwood, of Clark University, "for his persistent efforts to advance geogra-

phy, especially for his headship, since 1920, of the Graduate School of Geography at Clark University and his establishment and editorship of *Economic Geography* since 1925."