the means of unlimited disaster or of unlimited progress. There will remain the greater task of directing knowledge lastingly towards the purposes of peace and human good. In this task the scientists of the world, united by the bond of a single purpose, which overrides all bounds of race and language, can play a leading and inspiring part."

THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA

ACCORDING to an official release of the Canadian National Research Council, scientific research in Canada probably reached the peak of its contributions to the Armed Services in 1943. Based on the solid foundations built up with care in the two decades between 1918 and 1939, research activities in the Dominion were directed at once on the outbreak of the present war to the solution of many novel scientific problems arising from the new methods of warfare—mechanization on the ground, new types and tactics in aviation, advances in antisubmarine devices and operation. Now, in the fifth year of the war, Canada has an enviable record of accomplishment in the application of science to war needs.

The National Research Council is serving as the central coordinating body directing scientific research in Canada. Research in its own laboratories and in the universities and industry is a combined effort at present being directed to the solution of new and urgent problems arising out of the war. The council has been appointed the official research station of the Navy, Army and Air Force in Canada. Close cooperation between service personnel and research staff has been a large factor in the successful application of science to the solution of military problems.

Work is planned along two main lines; the conduct of fundamental and applied research, including essential test work in the National Research Laboratories in Ottawa, and the promotion, coordination and support of research in other centers throughout the Dominion by grants-in-aid, award of scholarships and the direction of research investigations under the guidance of committees of specialists appointed by the council. Effective liaison is maintained with scientific work going on in Great Britain, Canada, the other Dominions and the United States through the exchange of publications and the interchange of research workers.

Scientific problems referred to the council in connection with the activities of the Armed Forces are studied jointly by officers from Defence Headquarters and civilian personnel on the council staff. Decisions can thus be taken promptly and work started without delay. Many of the problems relate to the supply of materials and the preparation of specifications.

Much of the work of the council is carried on through committees. There are now some forty active committees working under its auspices. Important developments of special interest, because of their contributions to the health and well-being of both civilians and members of the fighting forces, are the committees on medical research. The original purpose of the Associate Committee on Medical Research is to coordinate medical research in Canadian institutions and to assist in its development. The work of this committee is now wholly directed to war problems. Three Service Committees have been established: First, Aviation Medical Research; then Naval Medical Research, and last year, Army Medical Research. The closest cooperation is maintained in all fields. Another important war-time committee of the council has directed and coordinated research in Canadian universities on sixty projects dealing with problems on the production of explosives now in use, and the development of new explosives.

Continuing its established practice the council has provided assistance to postgraduate research students in science and has made grants-in-aid of research for special investigations in the universities.

FUNGUS INFECTIONS

THE following announcement has been sent to the heads of departments of tropical medicine in the medical schools of the United States and Canada:

The group of workers studying fungus infections at Duke University has received a grant from the American Foundation of Tropical Medicine for the purpose of acting as a diagnostic and registry center for the fungus diseases of man.

The service may be outlined as follows:

(1) Identification of fungi already isolated from patients suspected of having fungus disease.

(2) Pathologic study and registry of biopsy and autopsy materials from patients suspected of having fungus infection. (This is not to conflict with the diagnostic and registry services maintained by the several branches of the armed forces.)

(3) A complete set of cultures of pathogenic fungi will be sent on request to any medical school for use in teaching courses in tropical medicine. To guarantee arrival of the fungi in proper state for study, it is necessary that requests for this material be sent at least one month prior to the time that the cultures will be necessary for demonstration.

By special arrangement: (a) Serologic tests will be made in certain of the fungus infections; (b) vaccines for skin testing and therapeutic use in certain of the fungus infections will be sent upon request.

Specimens for pathologic study should be sent to Dr. Roger D. Baker, Duke Hospital, Durham, N. C. All other requests will be handled through the office of Dr. D. T. Smith at the same address.

THE STEVENS RESEARCH FOUNDATION

ORGANIZATION of the Stevens Research Foundation, a non-profit corporation for scientific and industrial

research and related educational purposes, was announced on January 21 by Dr. Harvey N. Davis, president of the Stevens Institute of Technology, at the forty-first annual dinner of the Alumni Association. The foundation, which will carry on its work in cooperation with the college, aims to help to meet the new demands of the reconstruction era, including new products, new uses for old products and new and improved manufacturing processes.

In a statement made by Dr. Davis, he said:

> The research activities of Stevens have grown to such proportions that they merit an administrative set-up separate from that of the undergraduate college. All our present special research laboratories will be conducted by the new foundation. Close relationships will be maintained between the college and the foundation and their faculty and staffs—between the teaching and investigative functions.

He said that the first concrete projects to be undertaken will include powder metallurgy, towing tank and sound research, all already existing or in process of planning.

Dr. Davis, who is director of the Office of Production Research and Development of the War Production Board and who recently returned from a war mission to England, has been elected president of the trustees of the foundation.

The other trustees are Dr. Robert Crooks Stanley, president of the International Nickel Company of Canada, Ltd., and chairman of the board of trustees of Stevens Institute; Robert Cox Post, president of Post and McCord, Inc., and chairman of the executive committee of the trustees of the college; Willis Horr Taylor, Jr., member of the law firm of Pennie, Davis, Marvin and Edmonds; Charles Engelhard, president of Baker and Company, Inc.; George L. Morrison, president of the General Baking Company of New York, and James Creese, vice-president of Stevens Institute. All are trustees of the college. Mr. Post will serve as vice-president of the foundation, Mr. Taylor as secretary and Mr. Creese as treasurer.

THE WASHINGTON ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

OFFICERS of the Washington Academy of Sciences for 1944 have been elected as follows:

President, Clement L. Garner.

Secretary, F. G. Brickwedde.

Treasurer, Howard S. Rappleye.

Vice-presidents representing the affiliated societies:

Philosophical Society of Washington, Harold F. Stimson.

Anthropological Society of Washington, T. Dale Stewart.

Biological Society of Washington, Harry B. Humphrey.

Chemical Society of Washington, Edgar R. Smith.

Entomological Society of Washington, Austin H. Clark.

National Geographic Society, Alexander Wetmore.

Geological Society of Washington, Herbert Insley.

Medical Society of the District of Columbia, Fred O. Coe.

Columbia Historical Society, Gilbert H. Grosvenor.

Botanical Society of Washington, L. Edwin Yocum.

Washington Section of the Society of American Foresters, William A. Dayton.

Washington Society of Engineers, Frank B. Scheetz.

Washington Section of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, Francis B. Silsbee.

Washington Section of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Walter Ramberg.

Helminthological Society of Washington, Emmett W. Price.

Washington Branch of the Society of American Bacteriologists, Ralph P. Tittsler.

Washington Post of the Society of American Military Engineers, William N. Corse.

Washington Section of the Institute of Radio Engineers, Herbert G. Dorsey.

Washington Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers, Owen B. French.

Elected members of the Board of Managers for a term of three years, Henry G. Avers and Francis M. Defandorf.

Elected member of the Board of Managers for a term of one year, William A. Dayton.

THE BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

AT a business meeting of the Botanical Society of America, Inc., held at the New York Botanical Garden on January 8, new officers were elected and general business transacted. The newly elected president is Dr. Gilbert M. Smith, of Stanford University. Dr. Paul Weatherwax, of Indiana University, was elected vice-president, and the new treasurer is Dr. George S. Avery, of Connecticut College. Dr. Edmund W. Sinnott, of Yale University, was elected to the editorial board of the *American Journal of Botany,* Dr. A. J. Eames, of Cornell University, is the new representative to the National Research Council, and Dr. E. J. Kraus, of the University of Chicago, is alternate representative.

The question of annual meetings during wartime was discussed, and it was voted that if sections F and G of the American Association for the Advancement of Science should organize national meetings, the Botanical Society of America would cooperate by participation in these meetings. It was further voted that if national meetings are not held for the duration of the war, then the society favors the organization of regional meetings for botanists, and recommends that such meetings shall be held when not in conflict with instructions from the Office of Defense Transportation.