

rectors, Highland and Agricultural Society; Dr. A. N. Drury, director of the Lister Institute, lately a member of the scientific staff of the Medical Research Council; Dr. W. H. Glanville, director of the Road Research Station, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research; Professor D. A. L. Graham, professor of medicine and clinical medicine and dean of the Department of Medicine, University of Toronto, formerly president of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, for important medical research; Dr. H. W. Meikie, H.M. historiographer in Scotland and librarian of the National Library in Scotland; W. Nairn, president of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons; J. M. Stewart, K.C., of Halifax, N. S., for services to university education and also as coal controller; C. Vaillancourt, of Levis, Quebec, for services to war finance and agriculture.

THE ELLA SACHS PLOTZ FOUNDATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION

DURING the twentieth year of the Ella Sachs Plotz Foundation for the Advancement of Scientific Investigation, eighteen applications for grants were received by the trustees, thirteen of which came from the United States, the other five coming from five different countries in Europe, Asia, North and South America.

In the twenty years of its existence the foundation has made four hundred and eighty-one grants which have been distributed to scientific men throughout the world.

The list of investigators with the purpose of the research aided in the current year is as follows:

Dr. Georg Barkan, School of Medicine of Boston University, continuation of investigations in the field of sulfanilamide derivatives and related compounds.

Dr. George A. Emerson, School of Medicine of West Virginia University, study of nutritional factors in susceptibility to lethal effects of anoxia.

Dr. Anna Goldfeder, New York University College of Medicine, continuation of studies on the relation between radiation effects and cell viability as indicated by induced resistance to transplanted tumors.

Dr. M. E. Hunter, Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal, investigation of mild nutritional deficiencies in rheumatic fever.

Dr. Hermann Lehmann, Runwell Hospital, Essex, England, continuation of research on carbohydrate metabolism of isolated tissue.

Professor A. Lipschutz, Santiago de Chile, work on (1) the chemical structure of the steroids as related to anti-fibromatogenic activity; (2) the metabolic fate of fibromatogenic and antifibromatogenic steroids; (3) the fibromyoma of the prostatic region induced by estrogens in the guinea pig.

Dr. Edward P. Mumford, Stanford University, continuation of basic scientific research bearing on public health and the present emergency in the Pacific.

Dr. Hazel E. Munsell, Government of Puerto Rico

School of Tropical Medicine, San Juan, study of the nutritional status, as regards vitamins, of sample populations of Puerto Rico.

Dr. Carl Neuberg, New York University, continuation of work on carbohydrate metabolism of microorganisms and animal cells.

Dr. Herbert Silvette, Medical School of the University of Virginia, investigations of the effect of low barometric pressure on renal function and on the action of drugs on the kidneys.

Thorndike Memorial Laboratory, Boston City Hospital, (Professor George R. Minot, director), in recognition of Dr. Francis W. Peabody's services to the foundation.

Professor Bernhard Zondek, Rothschild Hadassah Hospital, Jerusalem, continuation of investigations dealing with impairment and stimulation of the functions of the pituitary gland and especially of the gonadotropic hormone of the anterior pituitary lobe.

In their first statement regarding the purposes for which the fund would be used, the trustees expressed themselves as follows:

For the present, researches will be favored that are directed towards the solution of problems in medicine and surgery or in branches of science bearing on medicine and surgery.

As a rule, preference will be given to researches on a single problem or on closely allied problems; it is hoped that investigators in this and in other countries may be found, whose work on similar or related problems may be assisted so that more rapid progress may be made possible.

Grants may be used for the purchase of apparatus and supplies that are needed for special investigations, and for the payment of unusual expenses incident to such investigations, including technical assistance, but not for providing apparatus or materials which are ordinarily a part of laboratory equipment. Stipends for the support of investigators will be granted only under exceptional circumstances.

In the past few years the policy outlined in paragraph 2 has been neglected. Grants will be given in the sciences closely related to medicine without reference to special fields. The maximum size of grants will usually be less than \$500. Applications should be sent to Dr. Joseph C. Aub, Massachusetts General Hospital, Fruit Street, Boston, Mass.

FUNGI FOR PENICILLIN PRODUCTION

A PROJECT is being organized at the University of Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, Division of Plant Pathology on Botany, to survey *Penicillia* belonging to the *Penicillium notatum* group and also species of *Aspergillus* for the production of penicillin. The project is under the supervision of Dr. E. C. Stakman. Cultures of organisms are desired, and individuals are requested to forward isolations of the groups of fungi mentioned to the laboratory indicated.

Isolations known to produce penicillin are especially desired.

Individuals who wish to survey other fungi for penicillin activity can obtain directions for a standard technique from the U. S. Department of Agriculture Regional Laboratory at Peoria, Illinois.

ALBERT L. ELDER,
War Production Board
Coordinator of Penicillin Program

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

DR. WILLIAM J. ROBBINS, director of the New York Botanical Garden, speaking at the annual meeting of the garden in January, outlined the projects which had been approved by the City of New York shortly before the end of the year. The work to be done out of doors is in part necessitated by the widening of highways adjacent to the grounds of the garden.

Plans for rebuilding the Museum and Administration Building are being drawn under a contract awarded jointly to the firms of Aymar Embury II and of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, architects. The remodeling of the building, erected forty-five years ago, is expected to cost \$900,000. When added to improvements on the grounds this will bring the total expenditures for alterations to be carried out immediately after the war to the sum of \$1,750,000.

The plans include the erection of a restaurant and comfort station north of the main conservatories, and complete re-landscaping of this area. Major Gilmore Clarke has been commissioned to prepare the final plans and specifications. His assignment also includes the re-designing of the system of roads and bridges through the grounds. His basic plan has already been approved by the Board of Managers. A new rose garden, the design of which was accepted at the annual meeting last year, will be established in the vicinity of the conservatories.

Preliminary plans for the reconstruction of the interior of the Museum and Administration Building call for a new main entrance which would lead visitors directly into a small museum on the ground floor. Most of the present museum exhibits will be stored for use as reference collections. The lecture hall, where many of the courses are given as well as the free lectures on Saturdays and occasional special conferences and programs, will be completely remodeled, with improved stage, seating, lighting, ventilation and projection equipment.

A self-service elevator is to be installed for the use of the staff. Increased space will be provided for the herbarium, which, with more than 2,000,000 specimens now on hand, is growing at the rate of nearly 40,000 specimens a year. The library of 50,000 bound volumes is increased each year by about 700 volumes and many thousands of periodicals, pamphlets, separates,

etc. Additional office and working space for members of the staff, classrooms for lectures and laboratory practice, are also planned. Laboratories for plant pathology, physiology and genetics, in addition to rooms for photography and photostating, as in the present building, will be provided. There will be a rare book room for the library, and arrangements will be made for fumigating all herbarium specimens.

THE OPTICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

THE winter meeting of the Optical Society of America will be held at the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York City, on March 2, 3 and 4. The Inter-Society Color Council will meet on March 1, one day earlier, at the Hotel Pennsylvania. There will be a session for the discussion of Small Color Differences at 9:30 A.M., and an afternoon session at 2:30 P.M. for the discussion of other topics and the transaction of council business.

On Thursday, March 2, at 2 P.M. there will be a symposium of invited papers given before the Optical Society on the Ostwald Color System, and on Friday, March 3, at 10 A.M. a symposium of invited papers on "Infrared and Organic Chemistry." At 2 P.M. there will be a third symposium of "ten-minute" papers on "Infrared and Organic Chemistry."

On Friday evening an informal dinner is planned at which Dr. W. W. Coblentz, physicist of the National Bureau of Standards, will present some reminiscences. The dinner will be followed by an address by Dr. R. Bowling Barnes, director of the Division of Physics of the Stamford Research Laboratories of the American Cyanamid Company, who will speak on "Natural and Synthetic Rubber, Physical Methods of Analysis." There will be sessions for contributed papers on miscellaneous topics on Saturday.

The meeting will be open to non-members. Those who desire to receive the advance program or other information should address their requests to Dr. Arthur C. Hardy, Secretary, Optical Society of America, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge 39, Massachusetts.

OFFICERS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

OFFICERS of the American Association for the Advancement of Science have been elected as follows:

President:

Anton J. Carlson.

Vice-presidents:

Mathematics, J. L. Walsh, Harvard University.

Physics, Albert W. Hull, General Electric Co., Schenectady.

Chemistry, Arthur J. Hill, Yale University.