Dr. Frank G. Boudreau, executive director of the Milbank Fund of New York City, will give the concluding address on the impact of the war on the world food situation.

The program for Tuesday, April 4, will include a symposium on vitamin research given jointly with the Division of Biological Chemistry, and a symposium on carbohydrates for industrial use arranged in cooperation with Drs. Hilbert and Rice, of the Sugar Division. Papers for these sessions have not been announced.

A general session will be held on Wednesday morning, April 5, with Paul Logue, of the Monsanto Chemical Company, St. Louis, secretary of the division, presiding. Papers will be presented dealing with the application of chemical technology to agricultural and food problems.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE gold medal of the Royal Astronomical Society, London, has been awarded in recognition of work on the observation and interpretation of spectra of stars and nebulae to Dr. Otto Struve, director of the Yerkes Observatory, Williams Bay, Wis., and of the McDonald Observatory of the Universities of Chicago and Texas.

THE Warren Triennial Prize of $500 of the Massachusetts General Hospital has been awarded to Dr. David G. Cogan, Dr. V. Everett Kinsey and Erwin O. Hirsch, of the Howe Laboratory of Ophthalmology of the Harvard Medical School, for an essay entitled "Physiological Studies on the Cornea."

DR. WALTER B. CANNON, George Higginson professor emeritus of the Harvard Medical School, visiting professor at New York University, was the guest of honor at a dinner given on March 8 at the Hotel Commodore, New York City, by the American Soviet Medical Society in recognition of his work on shock. The main address was made by Dr. Vladimir V. Lebedenko, Red Cross representative for the United States of the U.S.S.R.

DR. FREDERIC A. WOLL, professor of hygiene at the College of the City of New York, president of the State Board of Optometry, was the guest of honor at a reception given at the Hotel Pennsylvania on March 8 by the Optometrical Society of the City of New York. Professor Woll, who will retire from active service this year, was presented with a telescope. Dr. George B. Pegram, of Columbia University, made an address in appreciation of his work.

DR. THOMAS T. READ, Vinton professor of mining engineering at Columbia University, has been elected president of the University Kappa Chapter of the Society of Sigma Xi. Dr. S. R. Detwiler, professor of anatomy, has been made vice-president and Dr. John S. Karling, associate professor of botany, secretary-treasurer.

DR. WILBUR A. SAWYER, New York, was inducted into the presidency of the American Society of Tropical Medicine at the recent annual meeting. Dr. Rolla E. Dyer, Bethesda, Md., was chosen *president-elect;* Dr. Harold W. Brown, New York, *vice-president,* and Dr. Joseph S. D'Antoni, New Orleans, *secretary-treasurer.*

DR. WILLIAM CULLEN, consulting chemical and metallurgical engineer, has been elected president of the British Science Masters' Association in succession to Dr. Frederick Soddy, F.R.S., who until his retirement in 1936 was professor of chemistry at the University of Oxford.

SURGEON REAR-ADMIRAL G. GORDON-TAYLOR has been appointed Thomas Vicary lecturer of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, for the year 1944.

DR. ALEXANDER PETRUNKEVITCH, who joined the staff of the Osborn Zoological Laboratory of Yale University in 1910, becoming in 1917 professor of zoology, has retired.

SAMUEL NEWTON SPRING, since 1933 dean of the State College of Forestry at Syracuse University, will retire on July 1.

DR. HAMILTON H. ANDERSON, professor and head of the department of pharmacology of the Peiping Union Medical College, Peking, who recently returned to the United States, has been appointed professor of pharmacology at the Medical School in San Francisco of the University of California. He succeeds Dr. Chauncey D. Leake, who resigned to become vice-president and dean of the Medical Branch, Galveston, of the University of Texas.

DR. JAMES A. SHANNON, associate professor of medicine in the New York University College of Medicine, has been promoted to a professorship of pharmacology and has been made chairman of the department.

DR. WILLIAM H. NEWTON, head of the department of physiology at University College, London, has been appointed George Holt professor of physiology in the University of Liverpool. He succeeds Dr. Herbert Eldon Roaf, who is retiring.

DR. WALTER J. CRAIG, director of the division of orthopedics of the New York State Department of

Health, Albany, has retired. He will devote his entire time to the private practice of orthopedic surgery.

DR. OSKAR BAUDISCH, director of research at the Saratoga Spa, has been appointed a temporary collaborator in conjunction with members of the laboratory staff of the Plant Soil and Nutrition Laboratory at Ithaca of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, for work on boron and other "trace minerals."

DR. ROY M. SEIDEMAN, formerly of Rochester, N. Y., has been appointed industrial hygiene physician in the Bureau of the Connecticut State Department of Health at Hartford.

DR. JULIAN A. STEYERMARK, assistant curator of the herbarium of the Chicago Natural History Museum, on leave for government war work, has been transferred recently from Ecuador, where he was engaged in quinine investigations, and is now carrying on the same work in Venezuela.

IT is stated in the annual report for 1943 of the Rockefeller Foundation that Dr. Bernardo Houssay, of the University of Buenos Aires, who was one of the hundred and fifty distinguished citizens of Argentina dismissed from their posts for signing the petition "for effective democracy and American solidarity," is continuing research in a small laboratory established for him by an Argentine foundation. The Rockefeller Foundation has made a grant for equipment and supplies and for stipends to several young investigators who wish to work with him.

DR. ANTON J. CARLSON, professor of physiology emeritus of the University of Chicago, president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, will be a guest speaker at the ninety-third annual session of the Iowa State Medical Society which will be held at Des Moines on April 20 and 21. His address will be entitled "The Physiological Aspects of Cardiac Disease."

DR. HERBERT GROVE DORSEY, of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, will lecture on March 25 before the Philosophical Society of Washington on "Radio Applied to Ocean Current Observations."

THE preliminary program of the fifth annual convention of the Institute of Food Technologists, which will meet on May 29, 30 and 31 at the Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago, has been issued. The meeting is being organized to cover three different aspects of food technology. The opening program will review developments since the last annual meeting at St. Louis in June, 1943. The speakers on the second day will discuss problems connected with the war effort, and the third and final session will be devoted to immediate future and post-war problems. Those wishing to attend are urged to make reservations for rooms without delay.

THE thirty-fifth annual meeting of the American Oil Chemists Society will be held at New Orleans from May 10 to 12. In addition to general papers there will be a symposium on the physical properties of fats and oils, which will include papers on x-ray and ultraviolet spectroscopy, specific and latent heats, viscosity and plasticity, and the practical application of physical methods of processing, including liquid-liquid extraction and continuous solidification of lubricating greases.

THE U. S. Senate voted on March 15 to authorize an expenditure of $20,000 to make the first over-all survey in sixty years of the fishing resources of the United States.

ACCORDING to *The Museum News*, the Michigan Planning Commission is presenting to the state legislature early this year a recommendation that one million dollars be appropriated to save the Porcupine Mountains area of the Upper Peninsula. The area has 46,000 acres and a 17-mile shoreline on Lake Superior.

BY the will of James Colby Colgate the sum of $100,000 is bequeathed to Colgate University, of which he was a trustee.

THE botanical library of Charles C. Deam, containing 3,500 bound volumes besides pamphlets, reprints and periodicals, has been given to the Deam Herbarium of Indiana University.

IT is reported in the *Journal* of the American Medical Association that two annual awards have been established under the sponsorship of the American Academy of Allergy. One is the Abbott Award, for both members and non-members of the academy, which consists of an annual prize of $200 established by the Abbott Laboratories of Chicago, to be granted annually for the most important advancement in the field of allergy or for the development of a research problem on any phase of the subject. The second award, to be known as the Secretary's Prize, is a medal to be given annually to a member of the academy for "the most outstanding achievement of the year in the general field of allergy."

ACCORDING to *The Experiment Station Record*, a recent news release from United China Relief announces that a small experimental farm is being conducted in Laurel, Fla., under the auspices of Lingnan University, one of the Christian colleges supported through United China Relief. This farm consists of about five acres, about fourteen miles south of Sarasota, where similarities in climate and growing conditions to those encountered in south China are making possible increased experimentation with Chinese plants which, although already introduced into the United States, have not yet been extensively grown here.

To enable graduates of high schools to advance

themselves a full year in chemistry in connection with the war emergency, the University of Pittsburgh will offer an eight-credit course in general chemistry during the eight weeks from June 26 to August 19. To enable college and university students to advance similarly, an eight-week course in organic chemistry will be offered for eight credits. Also beginning on June 26, twelve-week (full semester) courses will be offered in inorganic, analytical, organic and physical chemistry, and graduate courses in the field of advanced organic (type reactions and microanalysis) and physical chemistry, enzymes, kinetics and plastics. A special course covering "Recent Developments in Theoretical and Applied Chemistry" will be given for instructors in preparatory schools. Only full-time regular staff members will be in charge of these courses.

IT is reported in *The Times,* London, that the plan to train 50,000 pharmacists in China during the next ten years is being helped by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, which is sponsoring a proposal to offer scholarships of £700, to include traveling expenses, for each of two years at the University of London to Chinese pharmaceutical graduates who undertake to return as teachers.

DISCUSSION

EDITORIAL CHANGES IN SCIENTIFIC PAPERS[1]

PROFESSOR BOYD'S protest[2] against certain editorial practices deals mainly with the question whether such a term as "horse serum" is good English. That matter might have been disposed of more briefly. No one blessed with horse sense would call it "equine sense"; any one who did might arouse a horse-laugh. And if a serum obtained from a horse is "equine," one obtained from a donkey could only be "asinine."

More serious questions are brought up by Professor Boyd's observing that many manuscripts are completely reworked, and incidentally altered in meaning, without consulting the author. That seems hard to justify except on the ground either of great haste or of editorial infallibility. But the plea of haste would rarely be valid; and I have seen many manuscripts that had suffered editorial changes for the worse. As to matter that one sees only in print, it is impossible to determine just how good or bad the editing has been. Unfortunately for those who edit, their mistakes are open to the censure of critical readers, whereas the improvements they make are generally unperceived. It does not seem uncharitable, however, to assume that when a printed article contains obvious errors in syntax and punctuation, or when it is ineffective in ways that could easily be remedied, it has not been so well edited as it might have been; and that, it seems to me, is the case with much current scientific literature. If, as is probable, the faults of style in printed manuscripts were mostly in the original manuscripts and merely left in by the editors, most scientific manuscripts need more editing than they now receive. But more editing would not help unless it were good editing, and I believe that the quality of our editing could be improved (1) by assigning each of the several tasks that editing comprises to a person having special aptitude for that task, and (2) by humanizing the relations between editors and authors.

Editing begins with an administrative task, usually assumed by an editor in chief—that of determining what shall be published. Another task, essentially clerical, is the insuring of compliance with printers' conventions—including hyphens, for example, but not punctuation. A third consists in trying to improve the literary style by making it not only correct but effective.

For this work, which is what most people have in mind when they use the word "editing," I can think of no better name than "literary editing." One shrinks a little from using the word "literary," which may suggest, to some readers, endowing the style of all authors alike with qualities that are "literary" in the sense of "arty." But a good literary editor would surely not try to make either a G. K. Gilbert or a John Doe write like Walter Pater—nor yet like Ernie Pyle. He would always wish the style to be characteristic of its author's better self, and also suitable to its purpose, which would not be that of either Pyle or Pater.

By way of equipment, the literary editor would need more than a little stock of rules learned by rote, eked out with a few taboos, in the dim light of which he might revise each sentence by itself until it was grammatically correct. One who works in such a fashion may forget that a sentence can be correct and yet absurd when considered in relation to its context. Good editing, like all intelligent reading, all effective writing, and all rational thought, is a matter of relations. A good editor, therefore, will not be exclusively concerned with mere correctness; he will try to help the author make relations clear, and to bring out the relative importance of things by proper distribution of emphasis. He needs a literary sense, which I take to mean good judgment, drawn from a store of subconscious memories of his reading, as to what constitutes good usage. He needs also a critical sense,

[1] Published by permission of the director of the Geological Survey, U. S. Department of the Interior.

[2] SCIENCE, 98: 197, August 27, 1943.