save him a tremendous amount of searching the literature, which is, in many cases, rather inaccessible. He will have the main facts before him even on controversial points and will know where further research is necessary. He will perforce have to draw his own conclusions on many things, so fairly have the various sides of the subject been presented. This is perhaps the greatest compliment that a book of this type can receive.

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INORGANIC CHEMISTRY

A Textbook of Inorganic Chemistry. By FRITZ EPHRAIM. English edition by P. C. L. THORNE and E. R. ROBERTS. Fourth edition, revised and enlarged. 921 pp. New York: Interscience Publishers, Inc. $8.75. London: Gurney and Jackson. 28 shillings net. 1943.

THIS well-known text now appears in a fourth edition with only minor revisions and the addition of a dozen pages of new material. The recent work on radioactivity and isotopes has been included and descriptions of new compounds and reactions have been given. The progress in the field of artificial radioactivity is so swift that the discussion (p. 90) on nuclear fission, while it reflects opinion in 1940, does not correspond with the judgment of 1943 concerning the possibility of an era of atomic energy, which now appears not too far distant.

The outstanding advantage of this text is that it presents the field of inorganic chemistry in all its varied aspects from a consistent logical standpoint with a mode of presentation which departs refreshingly from the multitudes of inorganic chemical texts that have been written around a single traditional pattern. Ephraim's text is exactly suited to the senior student who wishes to refresh and refurnish his mind concerning basic inorganic chemistry in preparation for advanced examinations. It should be required reading for all professors of general chemistry, the exercise to be repeated as each new edition appears. The English editors deserve our best thanks for continuing to make this text accessible a decade after the original author's death and for their care in compilation and revision.

HUGH S. TAYLOR

REPORTS

THE AWARD OF GUGGENHEIM FELLOWSHIPS FOR 1944

THE sum of $200,000 has been appropriated this year by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation for fellowships exclusively for men and women who are serving the nation in the war effort, in addition to sixty-nine fellowships with stipends of $155,000 to Americans and Canadians to assist their work of scholarship and artistic creation. All the fellowships are awarded, in wartime, subject to any national service to which the recipients may be called; but if any fellow is called into such service the foundation will make his fellowship available to him when he receives his discharge.

The appropriation of $200,000 for post-service fellowships is in addition to the usual budget. These funds will be used to grant fellowships to young scholars and artists who are serving the nation in the armed and other governmental services, including those doing war research under contracts made by the Office for Scientific Research and Development and similar agencies. They will be granted upon the same basis as the other fellowships, to persons who have demonstrated unusual capacity for research and artistic creation. They will be granted before the end of the war and will be made available to the recipients as soon as they are discharged from service. Five such fellowships have been awarded. They include one to Joseph Hickey, ornithologist, engaged upon war research at the University of Chicago. Mr. Hickey, who is the author of "A Guide to Bird Watching," proposes to make an analysis of approximately 250,000 records of banded birds to learn their life expectancies in the wild, their population turnover in nature and other facts of value to conservationists, and the mapping and charting of migration routes, especially for those species that are becoming endangered by civilization.

Awards of fellowships for the year 1944–45 include in the sciences:

DR. T. C. SCHNEIRLA, associate professor of psychology, New York University, and associate curator of animal behavior, the American Museum of Natural History, New York City: A study of the relationship between instinct and learning in insect psychology. The work will be based chiefly on his study of the behavior of army ants on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, Mexico.

DR. R. A. STIRTON, lecturer and curator of fossil mammals, Museum of Paleontology, University of California at Berkeley: Exploration for fossil vertebrates in the Panamanian region of South America to obtain evidence concerning the date and position of water barriers between the American continents in prehistoric times.