THE NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

THE formation of The National Science Teachers Association, "to stimulate, improve and coordinate science teaching at elementary, secondary and collegiate levels of instruction" has been announced by Dr. Philip G. Johnson, assistant professor of rural education at Cornell University, *president pro tem* of the new organization.

The association has been formed as the first step in a merger of two national science teachers organizations—the American Science Teachers Association and the American Council of Science Teachers. It is expected ultimately to have more than twenty-five thousand members representing all teachers of science. It will be affiliated with the American Association for the Advancement of Science and with the National Education Association.

Its general aims are:

To make the influence of science teacher organizations a potent force through the unification of their efforts.

To initiate and maintain a national effort by scientists and educators to the end that the sciences may be given a just and reasonable opportunity to serve the needs of all youth and adults.

To plan a long range program for the improvement of the teaching of science.

To assist scientists and science teachers to work together and have a voice with other groups, such as teachers in other subject matter fields, supervisors and administrators, in defining plans and policies for public education.

To stimulate wide-spread and intelligent cooperative action on problems related to the teaching of science.

The preliminary organization, which is to hold office until the merger is completed, or until December 31, 1944, was developed at a recent meeting in Pittsburgh, participated in by leaders of eleven national and regional groups interested in the advancement and improvement of the teaching of science.

Participating were Norman R. D. Jones, of St. Louis, president of the American Council of Science Teachers; Dr. Morris Meister, of New York City, president of the American Science Teachers Association; Emil L. Massey, of Detroit, president of the Central Association of Science and Mathematics Teachers; Professor Hugh C. Muldoon, of Pittsburgh, of the Catholic Conference of Science Teachers; M. A. Russell, of Royal Oak, Mich., president of the National Association of Biology Teachers; Dr. Reuben T. Shaw, of Philadelphia, of the Middle States Association of Science Teachers; W. H. Michener, of Pittsburgh, of the American Association of Physics Teachers; John C. Hogg, of Exeter, N. H., of the New England Association of Chemistry Teachers; Dr. Dwight E. Sollberger, of Indiana, Pa., of the American Nature Study Society; Laurence L. Quill, of Lexington, Ky., of the Division of Chemical Education of the American Chemical Society, and Dr. Johnson, of Cornell University and the Ithaca Public Schools, president *pro tem.*

Membership in the association will be open to all teachers of science, and to others interested. Provision is made for the affiliation of other groups. The headquarters of the association, for the present, will be at Cornell University.

MEDAL DAY OF THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE

THE annual Medal Day ceremonies of the Franklin Institute of Philadelphia were held on April 19.

As already announced in SCIENCE, Franklin Medals were awarded to Dr. William David Coolidge, vice-president and director of research for the General Electric Company, and to Peter Kapitza, director of the Institute for Physical Problems of the Academy of Sciences, U. S. S. R.

The Francis J. Clamer Medal was awarded to Dr. Walther Emil Ludwig Mathesius, president of the Geneva Steel Company at Geneva, Utah, a former vice-president of the United States Steel Corporation, for "decidedly outstanding achievements in metallurgy and particularly for contributions in blast furnace practice."

Joseph Burroughs Ennis, senior vice-president of the American Locomotive Company, New York, received the George R. Henderson Medal for work in locomotive engineering and design.

Professor Stephen P. Timoshenko, of Stanford University, received the Louis E. Levy Medal for a paper entitled, "The Theory of Suspension Bridges," published in the journal of the institute.

Dr. Harvey Clayton Rentschler, director of research of the lamp division of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company at Bloomfield, N. J., received the Frank P. Brown Medal "in consideration of his application of a source of bactericidal ultraviolet radiation in air conditioning systems."

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. E. V. MCCOLLUM, of the School of Hygiene and Public Health of the Johns Hopkins University, is the first recipient of the Borden Nutrition Award given by the American Institute of Nutrition. The citation reads: "In recognition of his long years of pioneering research in nutrition. His contributions

to our knowledge of the vitamin content of milk and of the high nutritive value of 'protective foods,' one of which is milk, have served as foundation stones for improving through foods the nutrition and health of the human race."

DR. JOHN FAIRFIELD THOMPSON, executive vice-president of the International Nickel Company, has been awarded for distinguished engineering achievement the Egleston Medal for 1944 of the Alumni Association of the Engineering Schools of Columbia University. The medal was founded in 1939 on the occasion of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the School of Mines of Columbia University. It is given in memory of Professor Thomas Egleston, a pioneer in engineering education and for thirty-seven years a member of the faculty. The medal is awarded annually to an alumnus who distinguishes himself either in the furtherance of his branch of engineering, in the development of processes or techniques or in the application of engineering principles. The presentation was made on April 20 at the seventy-third annual dinner of the Alumni Association. Robert A. W. Carleton, president of the association, presented the award. Dr. Walter S. Landis, vice-president of the American Cyanamid Company, gave an address entitled "Sense and Nonsense in Post-war Planning."

A DINNER in honor of Dr. Arturo Castiglioni, professor of the history of medicine of the School of Medicine of Yale University, president of the New York Society for Medical History, was given in New York City on April 12. The dinner, at which he was presented with an anniversary volume, was in celebration of his seventieth birthday. Addresses of felicitation were made by Dr. John F. Fulton, of Yale University; Dr. Emanuel Libman, of Columbia University; Dr. Mario Voltera, formerly of Padua, Italy, and Dr. Henry E. Sigerist, of the Johns Hopkins University. The toastmaster was Dr. Iago Galdston, of the New York Academy of Medicine. The dinner was attended by two hundred of the friends and associates of Professor Castiglioni.

IN celebration of the seventy-sixth birthday of Dr. H. S. Jennings, professor emeritus of zoology of the Johns Hopkins University, now resident at the University of California at Los Angeles, the library of the university arranged an exhibit of his published works, which was on view from April 10 to 21.

DANIEL W. MEAD, emeritus professor of hydraulic and sanitary engineering of the University of Wisconsin, has been elected an honorary member of the Canadian Institute of Engineers.

DR. ROE E. REMINGTON has resigned as professor of nutrition and director of the Food Research Laboratory of the Medical College of the State of South Carolina, a post which he has held since 1928.

DR. FRED W. ELLIS, associate in pharmacology at the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, has been appointed assistant professor of pharmacology in the School of Medicine of the University of North Carolina.

DR. ERLING W. HANSEN, assistant professor at the Medical School of the University of Minnesota, has been appointed clinical professor of ophthalmology and director of the division of ophthalmology.

DR. EDWARD M. BRIDGE, who has been associated for sixteen years with the Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed to a newly established professorship of pediatrics at the University of Buffalo, and has been made director of the department of research of the Children's Hospital under the joint auspices of the two institutions. The establishment of the research department was made possible by a grant of the trustees of the estate of the late E. M. Statler. The hospital is remodeling a floor of one of its buildings to house the laboratories.

DR. ROY R. KRACKE, professor of pathology and bacteriology and chairman of the department at the School of Medicine of Emory University, has been made dean of the Medical College at Birmingham, Ala. Dr. Stuart Graves, who has been dean of the school during the transition period of its development from a two-year school to a four-year college, will remain as dean of the basic medical sciences.

DR. ROLLA E. DYER, director of the National Institute of Health, which was recently raised to the rank of a bureau, has been made assistant surgeon general.

DR. ARTHUR OSOL, professor of physical chemistry and assistant dean of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, chairman of the Philadelphia Section of the American Chemical Society, has been appointed a member of the Technical Advisory Service of the Science Advisory Committee of the Smaller War Plants Corporation.

DR. AVEN NELSON, emeritus professor of botany of the University of Wyoming, of which institution he has been a member since its beginning, is writing his memoirs. Mrs. Aven Nelson has been appointed assistant in the Bebb Herbarium of the University of Oklahoma.

DR. VIRGINIO MANGANIELLO, vice-director of the Astronomical Observatory at La Plata, Argentina, has been appointed director.

ROBERT S. ARCHER, chief metallurgist of the Republic Steel Corporation, of the Chicago District, has

joined the Climax Molybdenum Company as metallurgical assistant to the vice-president.

THE British Council has appointed Dr. P. M. Roxby, professor of geography at the University of Liverpool, to be its principal representative in China. Accompanied by Mrs. Roxby, who is lecturer in history at the university, he will take up his work in China early in 1945.

DR. WALTER J. NICKERSON, head of the department of botany at Wheaton College, Massachusetts, has leave of absence. He is now a lieutenant in the Sanitary Corps assigned to the Physiological Test Section, Proof Department, Eglin Field, Fla.

COLONEL RICHARD P. STRONG, director of tropical medicine at the Army Medical School, Washington, D. C., on March 13 delivered the Julius J. Selman Lecture at Mount Sinai Hospital, Cleveland. His subject was "Tropical Diseases in Relation to the Present War." On the same day he gave a lecture at Western Reserve University entitled "The Pandemic of Plague of the Twentieth Century and Some of the Present Problems Regarding It."

DR. HARLAN T. STETSON, director of the Cosmic Terrestrial Research Laboratory at Needham, Mass., addressed the Geological Section of the New York Academy of Sciences on April 3 on "Modern Evidences for Differential Movement of Certain Points on the Earth's Surface."

DR. HENRY E. SIGERIST, professor of the history of medicine at the Johns Hopkins University, and Dr. C.-E. A. Winslow, professor of public health at the School of Medicine of Yale University, took part on April 14 in a discussion arranged by the Physicians Forum at the New York Academy of Medicine on "Doctor and Patient under a System of National Health Insurance," as proposed in the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Bill.

A SERIES of lectures on popular science and technology is being given from April 7 to May 26 at the Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago. Dr. Milan V. Novak, professor of bacteriology and public health at the College of Medicine of the University of Illinois, gave the first lecture on penicillin. On April 28, Dr. Ralph W. Gerard, professor of physiology at the School of Medicine of the University of Chicago, will speak on "The Biological Aspects of War and Peace," and on May 5, Dr. Andrew C. Ivy, Nathan Smith Davis professor of physiology and head of the department at the Medical School of Northwestern University, will give a lecture entitled "Aviation Calls the Doctor."

A SYMPOSIUM on degenerative diseases, jointly sponsored by the Research Unit of the St. Louis City Infirmary and the School of Medicine of Washington University, was held in St. Louis on March 24 and 25. The speakers included W. C. Hueper, New York, "The Relation Between Etiology and Morphology in Degenerative and Sclerosing Arterial Diseases"; Irvine H. Page, Indianapolis, "Arteriosclerosis and Lipid Metabolism"; William B. Kountz, St. Louis, "Current Research on Degenerative Diseases at the St. Louis City Infirmary"; Albert Kuntz, St. Louis, "Effects of Lesions of the Autonomic Ganglia and Centers, Associated with Age and Other Disease, on the Vascular System"; Lester R. Dragstedt, Chicago, "The Role of the Pancreas in Arteriosclerosis"; Edward J. Stieglitz, Washington, "Difficulties in Clinical Recognition of Degenerative Diseases"; William J. Kerr, San Francisco, "Correlation of Clinical Knowledge in the Treatment of Degenerative Diseases"; William deB. MacNider, Chapel Hill, N. C., "Age Change and Adjustment"; John A. Saxton, St. Louis, "Nutrition and Growth and their Influence on Longevity in Rats"; and Leo Loeb, St. Louis, "Some Hormone Actions in Relation to the Aging Process." This symposium will be published as Volume XI of Biological Symposia.

THE annual general meeting of the American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, opened on Thursday, April 20, with a symposium on war-time advances. The meeting will continue through Friday and Saturday.

THE two hundred and sixtieth meeting of the American Physical Society will be held at the Mellon Institute, Pittsburgh, on Friday and Saturday, April 28 and 29. There will be a joint meeting with the Physical Society of Pittsburgh, which has arranged a program on the physics of metals on Friday morning. The new Division of Electron and Ion Optics with I. I. Rabi, *Chairman;* L. Marton, *Vice-chairman,* and J. R. Pierce, *Secretary,* has assembled a group of papers in its field, which will be given on Saturday morning and afternoon. A symposium on cosmic rays will be held on Friday afternoon. Two groups of invited papers, including two on the philosophy of physics, are planned for Saturday. Contributed ten-minute papers, other than those on the program, will be given in four sessions on Friday and Saturday.

IT is planned to hold in June two regional meetings of the American Association of Physics Teachers—one at Cincinnati, Ohio, from June 22 to 25, jointly with the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, and one in Rochester, N. Y., on June 23 and 24, concurrently with a meeting of the American Physical Society. A symposium is being arranged dealing with the general application of physical principles in military areas and a program of invited papers on the post-war training of physicists.

THE National Committee for Mental Hygiene announces the establishment of a fund for research in psychosomatic medicine. The purpose is to stimulate and subsidize research in the psychosomatic aspects of the diseases chiefly responsible for disability and death. The fund will be directed by Dr. Edward Weiss. Projects will be considered by the following committee: Dr. Charles M. Aldrich, Dr. Franz Alexander, Dr. Stanley Cobb, Lieutenant Colonel William C. Menninger and Dr. John Romano. It will be administered under the direction of Dr. George S. Stevenson, The National Committee for Mental Hygiene. Communications should be addressed to Dr. Edward Weiss, 269 South 19th Street, Philadelphia 3, Penna.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT signed on March 30 a bill authorizing the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Department of the Interior to make cooperative agreements with private forest owners for the establishment of forest units of sustained-yield by which the owners would make an agreement to manage their lands in accordance with certain regulations governing the rate, manner and time of cutting.

IT is reported in *Nature* that the British Institution of Radio Engineers recommends the formation of a British Radio Research Institute, the functions of which would be the pursuit of basic research of the type that has hitherto suffered restriction owing to its high cost, absence of obvious or immediate practical applications, and the poor prospect of early financial returns. It is proposed that the institute be financed by industry supplemented by a Government grant of at least equal amount. The work would be directed by a board representing governmental authorities, the British Broadcasting Company and the Services, the industry, the British Institution of Radio Engineers, the associated professional institutions and the universities of the Empire. In addition to a permanent scientific staff, the assistance and engagement of extramural workers would be arranged in cooperation with industry and the universities.

DISCUSSION

THE THIRD ANNUAL SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH[1]

How do young people develop into great scientists? Can we discover them and then analyze the growth of their scientific careers? A partial answer to such questions is found in the follow-up study now under way concerning participants in the annual Science Talent Search.[2]

This genetic study of science talent is now in its second year, involving the 3,175 contestants with complete entries for 1942, and the 3,481 contestants with complete entrance materials of 1943. Of the 3,175 follow-up questionnaires sent out in January, 1943, to the 1942 contestants, 2,475 or 78 per cent. were returned, and all the information has since been reduced to punch cards. From these data it is known that of the boys who returned questionnaires, 97 per cent. of the winners, 87 per cent. of the "honorable mentions" and 76 per cent. of the other participants had started college. Among the girls, 89 per cent. of the winners, 92 per cent. of the "honorable mentions" and 70 per cent. of the other participants had begun college. Of 216 in the group of trip winners and "honorable mentions" who returned questionnaires, 100 (77 boys and 23 girls) reported scholarships from various sources, the aggregate sum of which is $68,988.98.

Annual surveys of the entrants in the first and second contests are planned for at least the next ten years to learn something about the growth of scientists—"how they get that way"—and to give broad information concerning their social, physical and intellectual development. The results should provide valuable data for bettering the educational planning of talented young people who are potential scientists, as well as supply a basis for judging the validity of the selection procedures.

The selection techniques this year—in the Third Annual Science Talent Search—were quite like those previously.[3] Of about 15,000 entrants, complete entry materials—science aptitude examination, personal data, scholarship record and scientific essay—were received on about 3,000. This group of high-school seniors, then, were considered to have completed the first hurdle.

The science aptitude examination differed from previous years in that only half of it consisted of a paragraph reading test on materials from various fields of science; the other half was composed of scientific problems, with multiple choice answers. Scores on the paragraph material constituted the second hurdle, scores on the problems the third hurdle. The second hurdle reduced the number of contestants from ap-

[1] The opinions or assertions contained herein are the private ones of the writers and are not to be construed as official or reflecting the views of the Navy Department or the naval service at large.

[2] The annual Science Talent Search is conducted by Science Clubs of America and Science Service, and is financed by the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company.

[3] *Cf.* Harold A. Edgerton and Steuart Henderson Britt, *American Scientist*, 1943, 31, 55–68; *American Scientist*, 1943, 31, 263–265; *Occupations*, 1943, 22, 177–180; "Science and the Future," Washington, D. C., Science Service, 1943, 112–115.