

the War Cabinet and with the responsibilities of the Lord President of the council in relation to scientific research. Although the statement includes no account of the special wartime activities of the research councils or of the research and development organizations of the Service and Supply Departments or of the many establishments working under their direction, it provides a very convenient picture of the structure of the Government organization for research in handy reference form.

BOOKS IN TRANSLATION FOR AND FROM LATIN AMERICA

IMPORTANT books of this country, particularly in the fields of science, medicine and technology, will be made more readily available in Spanish and Portuguese translations for peoples of the other American republics as the result of a project to be conducted by Science Service, the non-profit scientific institution, as a part of the broad program of the Department of State for intellectual cooperation in the western hemisphere.

Spanish and Portuguese translations of American books, issued by publishers in the other American republics as well as by U. S. publishers, will receive financial aid under this project. Books originally published in Spanish and Portuguese will be made available in English in the United States under provisions for similar aid to U. S. publishers.

A grant-in-aid by the Department of State provides Science Service with funds to help to defray the costs of translations, to obtain and distribute copies of the translated books to libraries, institutions and other organizations, and to cooperate otherwise in making the literature of any one American republic available to other peoples on the two continents.

The purpose of this two-way translation program is "to overcome the barriers raised by difference of language by making available to the peoples of the other American republics the writings which represent the thought and the cultural and intellectual life of the United States, and making available to the people of the United States the writings which represent the thought and cultural and intellectual life of the peoples of the other American republics."

The present program supplements previous support given through other agencies to translations which were largely in the fields of literature, history, the humanities and the social sciences. The present program will include books in all fields, except elementary and secondary school text-books, although the accent will be upon scientific books.

Suggestions as to translations needed are being received from officials, scientists, educators, publishers

and others in this country and the other American republics.

Trustees of Science Service are nominated by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Research Council and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Its offices are at 1719 N St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

THE INSTRUMENT SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

At a meeting on May 24 more than two hundred scientists and engineers of Washington, D. C., formally organized the Instrument Society of Washington to "... increase the knowledge of its members in matters pertaining to the theory, design, development, manufacture and application of instruments and control devices in the fields of engineering and the sciences, and to ... advance the art and science of measurement and control."

A constitution was adopted and the following officers were elected:

President: R. C. Darnell, War Department.

Vice-presidents: D. F. Windenburg, David W. Taylor Model Basin, and Colonel W. R. Blair, USA (Ret.).

Corresponding Secretary: W. A. Wildhack, National Bureau of Standards.

Recording Secretary: R. G. Quick, Weather Bureau.

Treasurer: Raymond Margary, University of Maryland.

An illustrated lecture on "Recording Instruments" was given by E. G. Howe, of the General Electric Company. The next meeting will be held on June 14, in the auditorium of the Interior Department.

This organization brings to fifteen the number of local instrument societies spontaneously organized throughout the country in the last few years. No formal action has yet been taken toward affiliation of the various groups, but it is expected that this will develop in the future.

THE INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

THE sixth annual meeting of the Industrial Research Institute, an affiliate of the National Research Council, was held in Pittsburgh on May 19 and 20. Eighty-five industrial research executives and their guests attended.

Dr. Harold K. Work, manager of research and development of the Jones and Laughlin Steel Corporation, Pittsburgh, was elected chairman for the ensuing year, and John M. McIlvain, administrative supervisor of the Research and Development Department of the Atlantic Refining Company, Philadelphia, was elected vice-chairman. Dr. Charles S. Venable, director of chemical research of the American Viscose Corporation, Marcus Hook, Pa., and Harry M. Williams, vice-president of the National Cash Register Company,