

have opened a Tattersall Memorial Fund, the object of which is to found a studentship in zoology in the college as a memorial to the late Professor W. M. Tattersall, who died on October 5, 1943. The organizers of the fund also desire to invite the many friends of Professor Tattersall, particularly zoologists, in

various parts of the world, to join them in perpetuating his memory. Information may be had from G. E. H. Foxon, who is acting as the honorary secretary and treasurer of the fund, at the Department of Zoology, University College, Newport Road, Cardiff, and to whom donations should be sent."

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

AGRICULTURE IN GREAT BRITAIN

It is reported in *The Times*, London, that an agreed policy, endorsed by representatives of all sections of British agricultural interests, was adopted unanimously on May 5 at a conference at the headquarters of the Royal Agricultural Society, with Sir George Courthope, M.P., president of the society, in the chair.

The organizations represented were the Royal Agricultural Society of England, the National Farmers' Union, the Group of Peers, the Councils of Agriculture for England and Wales, the Central Landowners' Association, Transport and General Workers' Union, Land Union, Chartered Surveyors' Institution, Land Agents' Society and the Land Settlement Association.

The following draft of principles was accepted by the conference:

The fundamental purpose of a long-term policy should be the proper use and management of the agricultural land of the country for the production of the foodstuffs which it is best fitted to provide and which are most required to satisfy nutritional needs, while maintaining the fertility of the soil, the raising of the standards of rural life and the increase in the rural population.

It is essential on national grounds that British agriculture should be maintained in a healthy condition, sufficiently prosperous to ensure a stable level of prices which will yield a reasonable return to the producer and on the capital employed in the industry, and a scale of wages sufficient to secure a standard of living comparable to that of urban workers. There should be a definite relation between the price level and the costs of production.

Mixed farming should be encouraged in order to ensure soil fertility and regular employment throughout the year.

International and Imperial cooperation must be secured in the orderly regulation of production and marketing, as proposed in the report of the Hot Springs Conference.

A statutory body was recommended to continue the functions of the Ministry of Food in regard to the importation and marketing of competitive foodstuffs, supported by an Imports Board; and in return for a guaranteed price level all owners and occupiers of rural land must accept an obligation to maintain a reasonable standard of good husbandry and good estate management and submit to direction and guidance, subject to appeal.

Other proposals related to the expansion of agri-

cultural education and research, opportunities for advancement within the industry, taxation "such as will make it possible to plough back into the industry capital necessary for the provision and upkeep of movable equipment," adequate credit facilities on terms equally favorable to those enjoyed by other industries, the provision of machinery for farmers and small-holders on reasonable terms, good houses for agricultural workers at economic rents, the extension to rural districts of water supplies, improved sanitation, gas or electricity, the overhaul of the administrative machinery of land drainage and the recognition of the maintenance of sea walls and defenses as a national charge.

THE NATIONAL COMMISSION OF SCIENCE TEACHING

As reported in *SCIENCE* for May 12, the sixth annual summer conference of the New England Association of Chemistry Teachers will be held from Thursday afternoon, August 24, to Monday afternoon, August 28, during the summer session of the Connecticut College at New London. In this connection, *The Journal of Chemical Education* reports that at an informal meeting of the National Commission of Science Teaching, held in New York City on March 19, the following organizations had named official representatives to the commission: The New York City Federation of Science Clubs, the National Association for Research in Science Teaching, the American Nature Study Society, the Division of Chemical Education of the American Chemical Society, the American Council of Science Teachers, the North Central Association of Science and Mathematics Teachers, the American Science Teachers Association, the Catholic Conference of Science Teachers, the Middle States Association of Science Teachers and the American Association of Physics Teachers. Professor Philip G. Johnson, of Cornell University, is acting chairman of the commission, the purposes of which are as follows:

1. To make the influence of science organizations a potent force through the unification of their efforts.
2. To bring about a national offensive so that the sciences may be given a just and reasonable opportunity to serve the needs of all youth.
3. To study the effects of this war on science teaching

and to make recommendations with respect to the more desirable types of pre-induction training.

4. To plan a long-range program for the improvement of science teaching.
5. To assist science teacher organizations in reaching science teachers and school administrators.
6. To stimulate widespread and intelligent cooperative action on problems of science teachers.

At this informal meeting, it was suggested that the time is ripe for a national organization of science teachers to include the following features:

1. Sponsorship by both educators' and scientists' groups, probably jointly by the National Education Association and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.
2. Scope broad enough to include the interests of all science teachers.
3. Fusion of various groups such as the American Science Teachers Association, the National Commission of Science Teaching and perhaps others, to achieve an economy of interest.
4. Fusion of several journals into one publication but in no case interference with regional groups nor with specialized journals.

Dr. Mary C. McKee, of the department of chemistry of Connecticut College, New London, will be the local representative.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR STREAM IMPROVEMENT

THE National Council for Stream Improvement (of the pulp, paper and paperboard industries), New York City, has announced the establishment as of May 24, of a multiple industrial fellowship in Mellon Institute at Pittsburgh, that will soon begin operation. The research program of this fellowship, which will be conducted by specialists and for which the institute will provide complete facilities, will pertain to the development of satisfactory methods for the disposal and utilization of wastes from the manufacture of pulp, paper and paperboard. Its aim will be to develop new economic procedures for eliminating stream contamination resulting from the discharge of wastes. Pollutive materials of the industries concerned will be investigated thoroughly with the objective of devising novel and effectual methods for processing these wastes, to secure values from them, and to gain information of usefulness to individual companies in coping with their particular disposal problems. It is also planned to coordinate research work in this field.

The National Council for Stream Improvement is supported by contributions from pulp, paper and paperboard manufacturers, such contributors being assessed on a tonnage basis and representing the greater part of the total pulp, paper and paperboard produced in the United States. In addition to the

fellowship at Mellon Institute, other research programs will be established in organizations in various regions of the United States where urgent problems exist, all being under the general supervision of Mellon Institute and the Board of Governors and staff of the National Council.

THE PITTSBURGH MEETING OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

THE semi-annual meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers was held at Pittsburgh from June 19 to 22. The program was devoted to war production with special emphasis on aviation and other subjects covering applied mechanics, metals engineering, rubber and plastics, management, quality control, instruments, lubrication, fuels and power.

In addition to the technical papers and addresses, E. D. Newbury, vice-president of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company of East Pittsburgh, addressed a management luncheon on June 19 on "The Value of Experience in War Production Towards Problems of Reconversion." Colonel William A. Weaver, of the Technical Division of the Office of Chief of Ordnance, Washington, D. C., spoke at a luncheon on June 20 on "Army Ordnance in the South Pacific." The speakers on railroad topics included Colonel J. Monroe Johnson, director of the Office of Defense Transportation, Washington, D. C.

The Calvin W. Rice Lecture was delivered at a luncheon on June 21 by K. Y. Chen, China Defense Supplies, Inc., Washington, D. C. He spoke on "What Postwar China Hopes for from the United States Engineers." J. C. Wright, of the U. S. Office of Education, Washington, D. C., and others discussed postwar training and rehabilitation.

At the reception and dinner on the evening of June 21 Igor I. Sikorsky, engineering manager of the Sikorsky Aircraft, Bridgeport, Conn., spoke on "Direct Lift Aircraft." Robert M. Gates, of New York, president of the society, presided at the general sessions. Visits were made to the plants of a number of Pittsburgh industries.

GRANTS OF THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR INFANTILE PARALYSIS

GRANTS amounting to \$1,128,770 were made by the medical advisory committee at the semi-annual meeting on May 15 and 16 of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, to leading universities, laboratories and other organizations throughout the United States. The appropriations included \$536,500 in the field of after effects; \$392,400 in the field of virus research and \$199,870 in the field of education. All grants will be in effect by July 1.

These grants include three long-term appropriations, each covering a five-year period. Two of these,