

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,

amounting to \$495,000, provide for the establishment of two "Units for Research in Physiology as Related to Physical Medicine," for the purpose of improving knowledge in the field.

The larger of these two units will be at the Medical School of the University of Minnesota, for which the grant amounts to \$320,000. The work to be undertaken there will be an expansion of a project previously inaugurated designed to throw new light on the physiological problems encountered and on the clinical application of methods in the field of physical medicine. The general direction of the proposed investigation will be assigned to a committee consisting of the heads of the departments concerned, with Dr. Maurice B. Visscher, head of the department of physiology, as chairman.

Under a grant for \$175,000 the second unit will be established at the Medical School of Northwestern University, which was one of the first institutions to adopt a department of physical medicine and to encourage research in this specialty.

The third long-term grant of \$325,000 was made to the School of Public Health of the University of Michigan to finance a virus study unit. This unit represents a direct attack on the cause of the disease since it provides both for virus research and for the training of virologists. The work at the University of Michigan will continue to be under the direction of Dr. Thomas Francis, Jr., professor of epidemiology.

THE NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

AFTER an informal luncheon meeting of the New York Zoological Society on June 15, which was at-

tended by forty-three fellows representing various branches of science, it was announced by Fairfield Osborn, president of the society, that after the war it is proposed to erect at a cost of \$200,000 a biological and pathological research center in the Bronx at or near the Zoological Park.

It was stated that in no case does the plan entail use of any of the animal collections for experimental purposes in pathological studies. Only animals that become sick or die will be used. It is planned to keep the center open twenty-four hours a day, available to students in medical centers and universities.

The tentative plans call for a two-story building consisting of laboratories for research in chemistry, biology, bacteriology, parasitology, physiology, photography, etc. It is proposed to appoint a scientific advisory council to put the plans into effect.

Fellows present at the meeting who took part in the discussion included Dr. Francisco Duran-Reynals, associate professor of medicine at the medical school of Yale University; Dr. George M. Smith, associate of the department of anatomy, School of Medicine of Yale University; Dr. Robert Cushman Murphy, chairman of the Department of Birds, American Museum of Natural History; Dr. Ernst Mayr, curator of the Whitney-Rothschild Collections, Department of Birds, American Museum of Natural History; Dr. John S. Nicholas, Sterling professor of zoology, Yale University; Dr. A. E. Parr, director of the American Museum of Natural History; Dr. Horace W. Stunkard, professor of physiology, New York University, and Dr. William Beebe, honorary curator and director of the department of tropical research of the society.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE honorary degree of doctor of science was conferred by Tulane University at its commencement on May 31 on Dr. T. Wayland Vaughan, B.S., 1889, associate in paleontology of the U. S. National Museum, in recognition of his contributions to geology and oceanography.

DR. AUSTIN McDOWELL PATTERSON, professor emeritus of chemistry of Antioch College, now principal specialist in chemical education for the Engineering, Science and Management War Training Program of the U. S. Office of Education, received the honorary degree of doctor of science at the annual commencement exercises of the college.

THE staff of the department of botany, and graduate students in plant physiology, of the University of Chicago gave a dinner on June 5 in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Charles A. Shull. There were twenty-nine persons present. Dr. E. J. Kraus was toastmaster.

After the dinner, Dr. Walter F. Loehwing spoke on Dr. Shull's influence on plant physiology through his researches, his leadership in the American Society of Plant Physiologists and as editor of *Plant Physiology*. Dr. Scott V. Eaton presented a bound volume of eighty-eight letters from students, colleagues in the department of botany and a few friends to which Dr. Shull responded. Mrs. Shull, who recently published her second volume of poems, read a poem composed especially for the occasion. Dr. Shull will retire at the end of September. He and Mrs. Shull will move to Asheville, N. C.

CLIFFORD H. POPE, curator of amphibians and reptiles at the Chicago Natural History Museum, and Dr. Ernst Mayr, curator of the Whitney-Rothschild Collections of the American Museum of Natural History, have been elected fellows of the New York Zoological Society.