

BOTANICAL SURVEY OF THE ALASKA MILITARY HIGHWAY

A SECOND expedition to the Alaska Highway, sponsored jointly by the Arnold Arboretum, the Joint Economic Committees, Canada-United States, and the Robert S. Peabody Foundation for Archaeology, returned to Boston on September 19.

The field work was in charge of Dr. Hugh M. Raup, of the Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University, and formed a continuation of investigations begun in the summer of 1943. The party included Frederick Johnson, of the Peabody Foundation for American Archaeology at Andover, Mass.; Lucy C. Raup, botanist; John H. H. Sticht, of the department of geology, Harvard University; Dr. Stuart K. Harris, of the department of biology, Boston University, and Karl and David Raup.

The necessary funds were provided by grants from the Milton Fund at Harvard, the American Philosophical Society, the National Academy of Sciences, the Society of the Sigma Xi, the Peabody Foundation and the Geological Society of America. Field equipment was loaned by the National Museum of Canada, and transportation in the field was supplied by the Northwest Service Command of the United States Army.

The party left Boston on May 31, and Whitehorse, Yukon, on June 14. Most of the season was occupied with geological, botanical and archeological reconnaissance surveys along the highway between Whitehorse and Fairbanks, thus supplementing the work of 1943 which extended from Dawson Creek to Whitehorse. The latter half of June and most of July were spent at Pine Creek in the Dezadeash River district about 100 miles west of Whitehorse, and in the Kluane Lake region. After a brief stay in Fairbanks, the party returned to the upper Tanana River district for about two weeks, and then spent another week at Kluane Lake and Pine Creek for late summer collecting. In the first ten days of September they traveled southward to Edmonton by way of Dawson Creek, with brief stops at Teslin and Muncho Lakes, Summit Pass and the Buckinghorse River.

The combined botanical collections, from two summers in the field, approximate 4,000 numbers, with ample duplicates for future distribution.

RESEARCH CONFERENCE ON X-RAY AND ELECTRON DIFFRACTION

THE University of Pittsburgh will hold the first of a series of annual research conferences on X-ray and Electron Diffraction on Friday and Saturday, November 3 and 4. The program includes a series of papers contributed mainly by men from the University of Pittsburgh, the Carnegie Institute of Technology and

from the x-ray and electron diffraction laboratories of industries in the Pittsburgh area.

The Friday afternoon session will deal with x-ray diffraction investigations on wheat flour gluten, electrolytically deposited silver on cold rolled metals, anhydrous iron-alkali sulfates, coloring agents in mottled silica brick, sodium bicarbonate-sodium carbonate conversion and tungsten-molybdenum alloys.

On Friday evening there will be invited papers covering x-ray diffraction studies on materials of physical and metallurgical interest by Professor W. P. Davey, of the Pennsylvania State College, and on materials of biological interest by Professor I. Fankuchen, of the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn.

The theory and application of electron diffraction, chemical and metallurgical analyses by electron microscopy, the use of electron microscopy in confirming indirect methods for determining dimensions of colloidal particles, and special techniques in x-ray diffraction will be included in a session on Saturday morning. Participants in the conference are invited to inspect the x-ray diffraction laboratories of the district on Saturday afternoon.

All sessions will be held in the auditorium of the Mellon Institute. Any one interested is welcome to attend the conference and may secure further information concerning details from Dr. S. S. Sidhu, of the University of Pittsburgh.

CONSULTANTS IN NUTRITION OF THE SURGEON GENERAL

To help the Army to meet the initial responsibility as well as to advise on problems of nutrition among the military forces, a group of experts in nutrition has been appointed consultants to the Surgeon General. The new appointees include:

Dr. Otto A. Bessey, chief of the division of nutrition and physiology and director of the Public Health Research Institute, New York City;

Dr. E. V. McCollum, research professor of biochemistry, School of Hygiene and Public Health, The Johns Hopkins University;

Dr. Julian M. Ruffin, associate professor of medicine, Duke University;

Dr. Frederick J. Stare, associate professor of nutrition, School of Public Health, Harvard University;

Dr. Harold C. Stuart, director, Center for Research in Child Health and Development and Department of Child Hygiene, Harvard School of Public Health.

Dr. Virgil P. Sydenstricker, professor of medicine, and physician in chief, University Hospital.

AWARD OF THE GOLD MEDAL OF THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

THE Gold Medal for distinguished service in medicine of the New York Academy of Medicine was presented to Dr. Oswald T. Avery, of the Rockefeller