

cine, protective effect of thiouracil against the toxic cardiovascular action of epinephrine and sympathin.

W. E. Garrey, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, innervation of the heart of vertebrates.

Helen Ingleby, Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, problems of cystic disease and carcinoma of the breast.

O. Boyd Houchin, Loyola University School of Medicine, Chicago, vitamin E deficiency in relation to cardiac function.

Rachmiel Levine, Michael Reese Hospital, Chicago, secretion and metabolism of progesterone in threatened abortion.

Daniel J. Glomset, Des Moines, Iowa, cardiac conduction.

H. M. Weaver, Wayne University College of Medicine, Detroit, production and treatment of alloxan diabetic coma in rats.

GRANTS OF THE ELLA SACHS PLOTZ FOUNDATION

THE twenty-first annual report for 1944 of the Ella Sachs Plotz Foundation for the Advancement of Scientific Education has been made public. This includes a list of those who received grants during the year together with the subjects of their research.

The following is an outline of the policy that has been adopted in making these awards.

Researches are favored that are directed towards the solution of problems in medicine and surgery or in branches of science bearing on medicine and surgery.

As a rule, preference is given to researches on a single problem or on closely allied problems; it is hoped that investigators in this and in other countries may be found, whose work on similar or related problems may be assisted so that more rapid progress may be made possible.

Grants may be used for the purchase of apparatus and supplies that are needed for special investigations, and for the payment of unusual expenses incident to such investigations, including technical assistance, but not for providing apparatus or materials which are ordinarily a part of laboratory equipment. Stipends for the support of investigators will be granted only under exceptional circumstances.

In the past few years the policy outlined in paragraph 2 has been neglected and grants will be given in the sciences closely related to medicine without reference to special fields. The maximum size of grants is usually less than \$500.

Applications for grants to be held during the year 1945-46 must be in the hands of the executive committee before April, 1945. They should be sent to Dr. Joseph C. Aub, The Massachusetts General Hospital, Fruit Street, Boston 14. There are no formal application blanks but letters asking for aid must state definitely the qualifications of the investigator, give an accurate description of the research, the size of the

grant requested and the specific use of the money to be expended. In their requests for aid applicants should state whether or not they have approached other foundations for financial assistance. It is highly desirable to include letters of recommendation from the directors of the departments in which the work is to be done. Only applications complying with the above conditions will be considered.

Members of the executive committee are Drs. George B. Wislocki, *Chairman*, Charles Janeway, A. Baird Hastings, Harry Plotz, Ernest Sachs, Paul J. Sachs and Joseph C. Aub, *Secretary*.

THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

At a meeting of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, held on January 12, 1945, as already reported in *SCIENCE*, Dr. Alexander Wetmore was elected to the post of secretary. This place was left vacant by the resignation on June 30, 1944, of Dr. Charles G. Abbot, who asked to be relieved of administrative duties in order that he might devote himself to his researches. Dr. Wetmore, who has served as assistant secretary of the institution since 1925, has accepted the post with the understanding that at some later time he will be permitted to return to research work.

Among the regents present at the meeting were Chief Justice Harlan F. Stone, chancellor of the board; Representative Clarence Cannon, and citizen regents Harvey N. Davis, Arthur H. Compton, Vannevar Bush and Frederic C. Walcott.

Reports presented covered the activities of the institution during another year of war. Much of its normal program of research and exploration continued in abeyance, with the scientific staff devoting much time to technical information needed by the Army and Navy and other war agencies. The questions coming to the institution cover a wide variety of topics, including native peoples; geography; disease-bearing insects; parasites; poisonous and edible plants, animals and fishes; shipworms; properties of foreign woods; and many others. In many instances the requests involve extensive research.

Seven more papers were issued in the series of "Smithsonian War Background Studies." These deal with Alaska, the East Indies, Micronesia and Melanesia, Burma, India, French Indo-China and China. Special editions of several of these papers have been used by the Army and Navy in training and orientation work.

In the field of Latin American cooperation, the "Handbook of South American Indians," a coopera-