

which they have high traditions, off the west coast of Africa. They already have a ship and funds. They trust that our authorities will facilitate the work, in which they will gladly welcome the aid of the British biologists.

Norway has suffered much more than Denmark. The president of the academy, Professor Bull, was three years in a concentration camp: the scientific laboratories have been stripped of apparatus and the departments closed. In consequence, little scientific work has been carried out during the war and the Norwegians are having great difficulty in getting their courses started again. Medicine in Norway attained, before the war, a very high standard, and it is most desirable that medical instruction should get under way as soon as possible. The Danes are taking a large number of Norwegian medical students, and Norway is anxious that some of her best post-graduate students should study in England. These men are ready to come now and there are very real reasons why we should help. Norway's geologists are anxious to serve for a period in our surveys abroad and her oceanographers and biologists would gladly take part in our expeditions.

THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND INVENTIONS OF THE NAVY DEPARTMENT

THERE is given in *Chemical and Engineering News* an account of the new Office of Research and Inventions to guide navy research activities, which has been established by the Navy Department, under the direct supervision of the Secretary of the Navy. The office was formed by merging the Naval Research Laboratory, the Special Devices Division of the Bureau of Aeronautics, the Office of Research and Development and the Office of Patents and Inventions.

Rear Admiral Harold G. Bowen, U.S.N., who was director of the Office of Patents and Inventions, and was associated with the development of radar and high-pressure, high-temperature steam propulsion for naval vessels, has been placed at the head of the new office. Captain Luis de Florez, U.S.N.R., director of the Special Devices Division of the Bureau of Aeronautics and winner of the Collier trophy in 1944, will be assistant chief.

The office is authorized by the Secretary of the Navy and Chief of Naval Operations to continue and to instigate such experimentation as is necessary to maintain the superiority of American naval weapons. It will assist in the adaptation to naval needs of jet propulsion, rockets, gas turbines and numerous weapons and techniques still in a secret category and will deal with all chemical engineering projects for the Navy.

STUDY OF THE CAUSES AND TREATMENT OF CANCER

At a press conference on August 7, presided over by Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., chairman of the General Motors Corporation, it was announced that the Alfred

P. Sloan Foundation had made, for a ten-year study of the causes and treatment of cancer, a grant of \$4,000,000 to Memorial Hospital for the Treatment of Cancer and Allied Diseases, which will now become an international center for the study of the disease.

Participating in the conference were Dr. Charles F. Kettering, president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, vice-president and director of research of the General Motors Company; Reginald G. Coombs, president of the hospital, and Dr. C. P. Rhoads, director of the hospital.

The gift in connection with the recently announced expansion program of Memorial Hospital will provide for a building especially designed for the purpose, self-contained in all its various research functions. It will be erected at an estimated cost of \$2,000,000 on property now owned by Memorial Hospital adjacent to its present location.

In addition, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation will undertake to provide \$200,000 a year toward the operating cost for a definite period of ten years. This is estimated to be not more than half of what might be profitably employed. It is to be hoped that others interested in the same objective will provide additional financial support.

The Sloan-Kettering Institute building will stand in the middle of Memorial Cancer Center. It will be conducted by a separate Board of Trustees composed of men primarily interested in research, and the funds entrusted to the charge of these trustees will be used for no other purpose than for research. As an integral part of the center, however, all the clinical facilities and material of the other units of the center will be available to the institute.

While the gift provides for most of the financial requirements of the research phase of Memorial Cancer Center, it will not be fully effective from the point of view of its ability to render service until it is completed. This will necessitate approximately \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000 in addition. These additional funds will provide for an increased bed capacity at Memorial Hospital proper, for fellowships for the training of specialized medical personnel and for equipment necessary to the servicing of the new James Ewing 300-bed unit to be erected at the center by the City of New York. When this program has been completed, there will be no comparable center wholly devoted to the cause of cancer, and so fully integrated, existing anywhere in the world.

A separate board of trustees will supervise the institute. There will be four representatives of the foundation and five of the hospital.

The Cancer Center will be a unit of a group of institutions for medical care, teaching and research.