

on behalf of the New York State College of Agriculture, grants amounting to approximately \$10,000 per year for the furtherance of investigations in the Department of Plant Breeding. These grants are made for two purposes: (1) the breeding and testing of forage plants for New York State and vicinity, with major emphasis on those species which appear to have special value in providing greater growth during the summer season of normally low production, and (2) production of new grain corn hybrids and the increase and distribution of foundation seed stocks of the hybrids most desirable for New York State and adjacent areas. The work with forage crops is under the direction of Dr. S. S. Atwood, in cooperation with Dr. H. A. MacDonald, of the department of agronomy, and the research with hybrid corn is conducted by Dr. R. G. Wiggans. Provision is made for two graduate assistantships in each project.

These grants, as well as the grant made previously by this organization for research with small grains under the direction of Dr. H. H. Love, of the department of plant breeding, make possible considerable expansion of important investigations in the field of crop improvement.

GEOGRAPHY AT SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

DR. PRESTON E. JAMES, who has been at the University of Michigan since 1923, except for the past four years when he has been in Washington with the Office of Strategic Services, first as chief of the Latin American Division and later as assistant chief of the Europe-Africa Division, has been appointed professor of geography at Syracuse University. He holds the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the U. S. Army.

Richard Edes Harrison has been appointed on a part-time basis as lecturer on map-making.

Professor George B. Cressey will spend the coming academic year on leave at Stanford University, where he will assist in the development of a new Pacific-Asiatic-Soviet program.

The staff also includes Professor Eric H. Faigle, recently promoted to associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts, specializing on Canada; and Miss Eleanor E. Hanlon, acting as chairman of the department for 1945-46. Two members of the department are still on military leave, Professor Sidman P. Poole and Professor Joseph A. Russell. Colonel Poole and Lieutenant Colonel Russell are serving in the Topographic Branch of Military Intelligence in the Pentagon Building. Their major interests are the geography of Europe and of the Pacific, respectively.

With the enlarged staff, the new program of the university is designed (a) to contribute to the liberal education and international thinking of undergraduates, (b) to provide unsurpassed professional training to the doctorate in a few fields, (c) to promote geographic research and publication, and (d) to serve the needs of business, public policy and international relations.

SCIENTIFIC MEN ABROAD

A LETTER has been received by Professor A. B. Garrett, of the Ohio State University, from Dr. Jan-nick Bjerrum, of Copenhagen. It reads in part: "Here in Denmark we feel very happy in getting rid of the Germans and we are very thankful to the allied forces, who gave us our freedom again. As a whole, Denmark has escaped relatively well from the war. Our university activities went on quite regularly until that day in September, 1944, when the Germans arrested our police, and the students went home or underground. Now we are busy in making up for lost time and are giving extra lessons. In the autumn several hundred Norwegian students and some few Dutch will study here. In both these countries the universities have been closed for a long time. Here in Denmark we are very anxious to get our English and American periodicals for the last four to five years. We do not know much about the scientific news from your country."

Dr. Wm. Randolph Taylor, University of Michigan, has received a letter from Professor Henrik Printz indicating that he has come through the five difficult years in Norway fairly well and is anxious to re-establish scientific contacts abroad. Professor Printz is widely known for his work on the "green" algae. Dr. Taylor has also received a card from Dr. Rolf Grönblad, Karis, Finland, who writes that he and his scientific collections are all right. He wishes to re-open communication with American students of Desmids, for which large groups of algae he is a foremost authority.

Dr. Harold Kirby, professor of biology at the University of California at Berkeley, writes to SCIENCE that Professor Pierre P. Grassé has sent information that the laboratory of Wimereux was completely destroyed by the Nazis in 1942. The library, which had been a rich one, was reduced to ashes.

Dr. Edgar Lederer, chemist, Paris, is living at Lyon and working in Professor Fromageot's laboratory. This laboratory was missed by ten yards by a bomb but has been rebuilt since.