

October 14, for the purpose of discussing plans for the St. Louis meeting; a similar conference of the secretaries who live in the Middle West will be held at the Stevens Hotel, Chicago, at 10 o'clock A.M., on October 21.

F. R. MOULTON,
Permanent Secretary

EXPEDITION TO NYASALAND OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

THE American Museum of Natural History, New York, has announced plans for its first large-scale expedition abroad since 1941.

Arthur S. Vernay, trustee of the museum, who has sponsored numerous expeditions to remote parts of the world for the past twenty-five years to collect material for exhibition and research, will lead an expedition to Nyasaland, South Africa, next April, where it is planned to make extensive collections of mammal and plant life. His last expedition for the museum, with Lieutenant Colonel C. Suydam Cutting and Dr. Harold E. Anthony, was in northern Burma in 1939, a few months prior to the war.

Members of the expedition will include Dr. Harold E. Anthony, chairman and curator of the Department of Mammals; Leonard Brass, botanist, and Captain Guy Shortridge, director of the Kaffrarian Museum of King William's Town, South Africa.

Dr. Anthony will represent the museum in the study of the mammals collected. Unless some very unusual specimen of large game is encountered, the energies of the party will be devoted to the intensive study of the smaller and less conspicuous fauna.

The native plants of Nyasaland are little known. Mr. Brass, who accompanied the Richard Archbold Expeditions to New Guinea, which in 1939 discovered the hidden "Shangri-La" Valley, will collect herbarium and living botanical specimens. This material will go to the New York Botanical Garden, which is cooperating in the project.

The expedition will be in the field for five months, working during the dry season, from May to October of 1946. A complete record in motion picture and color photography is planned in conjunction with the collecting work. Trained natives will assist in hunting and in the preparation of material.

PREDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS IN THE NATURAL SCIENCES

THE National Research Council announces that it is now ready to receive nominations and applications for the predoctoral fellowships in the natural (*i.e.*, mathematical, physical and biological) sciences which it is administering under a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation. These fellowships are intended to

assist young men and women, whose graduate study has been prevented or interrupted by the war, to complete their work for the doctorate. It is hoped that these fellowships will do much to accelerate the recovery of the scientific vigor and competence of the country which is so seriously threatened by the loss of almost two graduate school generations of scientifically trained men and women.

This program will be administered by a Committee on Predoctoral Fellowships of the National Research Council whose members are Henry A. Barton, Charles W. Bray, Detlev W. Bronk, Luther P. Eisenhart, Ross G. Harrison (chairman—National Research Council, *ex officio*), W. A. Noyes, Jr., and John T. Tate, *chairman*; Enid Hannaford, *secretary*.

The annual stipend will be \$1,200 for single persons and \$1,800 for married men. In general it is expected that each recipient will spend at least eleven months per year on academic work. An additional allowance up to \$500 per year will be made for tuition fees. Fellowships granted to individuals who are eligible for educational support from the "G.I. Bill of Rights" will be at such stipends as to bring the total income from these two sources to that which would be received at the above rates.

Each fellow, before entering on his graduate studies, will submit for review by the Committee on Predoctoral Fellowships a schedule, approved by the dean of his graduate school, for the completion of his work for the doctorate. This schedule, as approved by the committee, will constitute an informal agreement upon the basis of which stipend payments will be made. At the discretion of the university concerned the fellowship stipend may be supplemented by university grants. All such supplementary sources of income should be made a matter of record with the committee. The progress of the fellows will be subject to periodic review by the committee which reserves the right to cancel fellowships when in their judgment satisfactory progress is not being maintained.

Prospective candidates for these fellowships are urged to apply at once even though they may be unable to undertake their graduate study in the immediate future. Information concerning the fellowships and nomination-application blanks are being mailed out widely to graduate schools and wartime research laboratories. They may also be obtained by writing directly to the Secretary, Committee on Predoctoral Fellowships, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington 25, D. C.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR EDWARD A. STEINHAUS, of the University of California, writes:

Readers of SCIENCE may be interested in the following fragmentary information concerning Dr. A. Paillet,