

become worse and the more damage will be done to our enduring peace time programs in these essential fields.

It is not a sufficient answer to say that it will be possible to correct the shortages in these areas through the enrollment of discharged veterans. Many of those who are eligible for such courses have lost too much time to complete the long years of preparation which are necessary. With very many of these men their interest is obviously on shortening as much as possible the time between their return and the time of going to work in productive jobs.

But even that proportion that come back to college are not yet returning in sufficient numbers to make possible the rapid expansion of students in training in these areas which is essential if the United States is not to compete at a material disadvantage with the other allied nations. Such effects, it must be remembered, are cumulative, and only appear in their full effect after several years have passed. Unless immediate action is taken, we run the risk of jeopardizing our own peace time future.

The numbers thus to be reserved can be stabilized by the establishment of a national quota, with allocation to various institutions based on proportion of their normal peace time students in training in the areas in question.

We believe that we should take no further chances as a nation with the training of men for these critical fields. We are not pleading the interests of the colleges; we are concerned about what we hold to be a matter of fundamental national policy.

The policy, recently adopted by Selective Service, through which young men will not be inducted during the quarter or semester in which they become eighteen, does not meet this need. It only postpones the necessity for immediate action. If these men are inducted at the end of the term, another whole year will be lost in the training of men for these essential fields. Steps must now be taken to determine quotas and to select those who should be deferred to continue their training.

Respectfully yours,

O. C. CARMICHAEL,
Chancellor, Vanderbilt University
HARRY WOODBURN CHASE,
Chancellor, New York University
CARTER DAVIDSON,
President, Knox College
EDMUND E. DAY,
President, Cornell University
CHARLES SEYMOUR,
President, Yale University
ROBERT G. SPROUL,
President, University of California
REV. EDWARD V. STANFORD, O.S.A.,
Rector, Augustinian College,
Washington, D. C.
RAYMOND WALTERS,
President, University of Cincinnati

HONORABLE HARRY S. TRUMAN
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE PLIOCENE OGALLALA FORMATION AND ASSOCIATED QUATERNARY DEPOSITS

THE geology and geomorphology of the Pliocene Ogallala Formation and associated Quaternary deposits were studied during the week of August 15 in the field by Dr. Maxim K. Elias, paleontologist of the Nebraska Geological Survey; Dr. John C. Frye, assistant state geologist of Kansas; C. Richard Murray and Utley N. Bengé, geologists, Division of Ground Water, U. S. Geological Survey; Edward H. Templin, assistant soils inspector, U. S. Bureau of Plant Industry, and Dr. W. Armstrong Price, geologist, Corpus Christi, Texas, leader.

A side trip to Gatuña Canyon and Carlsbad, New Mexico, was led by Ronald K. De Ford, chief geologist, accompanied by Dr. W. A. Waldschmidt, geologist, Argo Oil Corporation, Midland, Texas. Specialists consulted in the field, but unable to take the trip, were Glen L. Evans and Richmond L. Bronaugh, geologists; Grayson E. Meade, vertebrate paleontologist, Bureau of Economic Geology, University of Texas, and Adolph Witte, anthropologist, Texas Memorial Museum. Others who contributed information were Dr. Kirk Bryan, geologist, Harvard University; Dr. Raymond Sidwell, geologist, and Dr. Harold M. Hefley, ecologist, Texas Technological College, Lubbock.

Definite results which can already be announced include the identification of the pisolitic lithology and occasionally fully preserved bioherms of the "algal" limestone of the High Plains Ogallala to the North in the "caliche cap-rock" of the Llano Estacado; collection of seeds diagnostic of members of the Ogallala of Kansas and Nebraska in the Ogallala of Texas, and a better understanding of the origin of "caliche" cap-rocks of the semi-arid regions than had been previously attained by the group.

W. ARMSTRONG PRICE

CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS

NEWS FROM ABROAD

DR. C. A. BROWNE, collaborator of the Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry of the Agricultural Research Administration, sends to SCIENCE the following paragraphs taken from a letter received from Dr. H. C. Prinsen Geerligs, of Amsterdam, well-known Netherlands authority on the agriculture, technology and economics of sugar manufacture in Java, which may be of interest in connection with the accounts in SCIENCE of the atrocities suffered by European scientists during the German occupation.

We had a most terrible time in the years between May 10th, 1940, and May 5th, 1945. Our country was overrun, inundated, pillaged and ruined. We were robbed of everything; furniture, radio apparatus, etc., were stolen.

My oldest granddaughter was executed by gunfire in a German concentration camp and my oldest son carried off in captivity. His house was bombed and wrecked, but there were no casualties. As a result of all this misery my wife lost her mind; she is helpless as a child, no longer recognizes me and speaks of me as if I were her uncle or father. Our country home in Bergen was occupied by the Germans, who left it entirely empty, despoiling it of all furniture, pictures, clocks, beds, etc. Our country having been totally ruined we are in great need of woolen underwear, socks, pajamas, shirts, ladies shoes and stockings, etc.

We had to live for about a year on a diet of tulip bulbs and sugar beets. At the age of eighty-one I feel the depressing effect of these hardships and because of exhaustion am unable to do any more work.

The experiences of other men of science in the Netherlands seem to have been similar to those suffered by Dr. Geerligs. The need of warm clothing to withstand the severities of winter is especially urgent, and responses to relieve this situation among our European scientific friends should be generous.

Captain Norman C. Laffer, SnC, Mycology Section, writes to SCIENCE: Shortly after the cessation of hostilities in Europe, I addressed a letter to Dr. J. Lodder, formerly of Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures, and on October 31 I received the following reply:

It is already long ago since I received your letter, but immediately after our liberation I could not bring myself to write a letter. We had to find ourselves back again. Moreover it was at that time not possible to send any printed matter to America. But now I will try to retrieve my shortcomings.

In 1942 Miss Diddens' and my work in the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures on the anascosporogenous yeasts was published ("Die Anascosporogenen Hefen," 2te Halfte). I greatly regret to announce to you that my friend and collaborator, Dr. Diddens, died by accident in December, 1944. I myself am no longer working at the Centraalbureau, but I am appointed at the Netherlands yeast and spirit factory at Delft.

Mycopathologia did appear from 1938-1943 in 3 volumes. The last two years we did not see it. I greatly doubt if you would be able to get these three volumes now.

As we have been devoid of any literature during the last years, I should greatly appreciate it if you could send me some copies of articles which deal with work in relation with yeasts, published in America during the last years.

Attention is invited to the last paragraph, and I am certain that Dr. Lodder and her associates would appreciate receiving reprints at her new address, Nieuwe Plantage 34, Delft, Nederland.

Information of Dutch biologists, received from one of them, reads:

Hermann Jordan, the physiologist, died from a stroke while hiding out. The geneticists, Honing, Sirks, Tammes are all right. My informant writes: "Sirks belonged to the few professors in Groningen who played a good role in the resistance against the Germans." The same is true for the botanist Koningsberger, Utrecht, and for the zoologist Van Klaauw, who were in a concentration camp for hostages, and also for the well-known biologists in different fields, Woerdeman, Barge, Buytendijk, Bierens de Haan and Boeke, all of whom are well. Less good is the news of some others: The geneticist Stomps and the parasitologist Schuurmans Stekhoven were collaborators and are now confined. Ch. S. Hirsch, a native German, joined the Nazis and disappeared into Germany.

E. W. Brandes, head pathologist in charge of soils and agricultural engineering of the Bureau of Plant Industry, writes that he has just received a letter dated September 30, 1945, from Dr. O. Posthumus and apparently mailed *via* U. S. Navy on October 10.

Dr. Posthumus is head of the department of plant breeding of the Netherlands Indies Experiment Station, Buitenzorg, Java, and gives his address as Beatriceweg No. 30, Buitenzorg. He records the deaths of Dr. G. Booberg, director of the Agricultural Department, Sugar Experiment Station, Pasoeroean, Java (Proefstation Oost Java); Dr. (Miss) P. C. Bolle, chief of the Section of Phytopathology; Dr. G. J. de Groot, chief of the Section of Cane Breeding and Selection; and Dr. Ferman, Group-adviser (Extension Service), Cheribon Sub-Station of the Sugar Experiment Station. A part of his letter reads as follows:

After the events of the last 3½ years, we are very glad to hear something of the other parts of the world which were quite closed for us. The Japanese have isolated us so well that we even did not know how things were in the other towns of Java. Personally I came through well, but from the Pasoeroean Sugar Experiment Station Miss Dr. Bolle, Dr. Booberg, Dr. de Groot—my successor—and Dr. Ferman (groepsadviseur Cheribon) died, but my information is probably still incomplete. Most sugar factories were demolished, about 25 of the 85 were left. The production seems to have been about 350,000 tons, the home consumption, but no exact data are available at present yet.

The General Agricultural Experiment Station has also many losses. We had 78 prisoners of war and 29 civil internees. 12 and 5 died, respectively, but information is not yet complete. Treatment was very bad.

A month later Dr. Posthumus wrote to Dr. Verdoorn from the Beatrix Camp, Buitenzorg, that about 110 members of his staff were interned by the Japanese. At least 25 per cent. of the internees, including such internationally known men as Dr. P. van

der Goot, Dr. W. K. Huitema, P. N. Hackenberg, Dr. P. M. Both, H. J. te Riele and A. P. Petrie have died, some of them by execution.

The death is also reported of the following biologists in the Netherlands Indies: Dr. P. J. Eyma, taxonomist at the Herbarium of the Buitenzorg Botanic Gardens; Dr. R. C. Bakhuizen van den Brink, formerly of the Buitenzorg Herbarium; Dr. J. Gandrup, the well-known Danish botanist, formerly director of the Malang Experiment Station; Dr. J. D. ter Pelkwijk, Fisheries Research Institute, Batavia; and Dr. H. J. Vos, Laboratory for Marine Biology, Batavia.

Word has also been received that Dr. T. H. van den Honert, director of the Buitenzorg Botanic Gardens, is in a camp in Siam, in relatively good health.

In a recent letter to Dwight J. Ingle, of the Research Laboratories of the Upjohn Company, Professor T. Reichstein, Pharmazeutische Anstalt der Universität, Basel, Switzerland, stated that they have been almost completely without literature from the non-European countries for three and one-half years and that he would like to receive reprints of papers relating to sterol chemistry and to the chemistry and physiology of the hormones.

Professor G. F. Papenfuss, of the department of botany of the University of California at Berkeley, informs us that, in a letter dated October 5, Dr. Erling Christophersen, conservator of the Botanical Museum of the University of Oslo, writes that he is safe and sound, in spite of a temporary internment in Norway by the Germans. He is still working with the material brought home by the Norwegian Scientific Expedition to Tristan da Cunha in 1937-1938, of which he was leader. In some fields a good deal of the material has been published. The report of the marine algae by Baardseth appeared in 1941.

The following communication has been received from Dr. Walter C. Tobie, of the American Cyanamid Company, Stamford, Conn.:

Those engaged in the field of microbiology will be interested to learn that Professor Ph. Lasseur, of the Laboratoire de Microbiologie, of the Faculté de Pharmacie of the Université de Nancy, is still conducting his researches on the differentiation of dissociated types of bacteria and on other aspects of bacteriology. Throughout the war years, he continued to carry on his work, despite the loss of some of his cultures during the mobilization of 1939. The two journals issued by his laboratory, the *Travaux du Laboratoire de Microbiologie de la Faculté de Pharmacie de Nancy* and the *Bulletin de l'Association des Diplômés de Microbiologie de la Faculté de Pharmacie de Nancy*, were able to continue publication during hostilities. It is expected that fascicule 14 of the *Travaux* will be issued shortly.

Dr. Lasseur has written also to Dr. K. Starr Chester, of the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College at Stillwater, that "despite innumerable difficulties, moral and material, we have continued to work during these six years." Dr. Chester states that a shipment of reprints from Professor Lasseur's laboratory gives ample indication of the diligence and productivity of his group throughout the war. He also has been deprived of American publications, and requests recent reprints in the field of microbiology. Dr. Chester quotes the following paragraph from a letter written by Dr. G. O. Ocfemia, professor of plant pathology at the University of the Philippines, requesting all available reprints:

The college reopened on July 26, 1945, without any equipment and library facilities. My own collection of books and reprints on virus diseases of plants was reduced to ashes when my house was burned on March 14, 1945. We have no library facilities because the Bureau of Science Library in Manila, which was considered as the best in the Far East, was also burned.

In a letter to Dr. Carl L. Hubbs, of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography of the University of California, Dr. Canuto Manuel writes that he has rejoined the Philippine Bureau of Science. The building of the bureau, like most of the government district of Manila, lies in ruins. The library and the museum are destroyed. Publications and specimens are urgently needed, but sendings should be delayed temporarily to await facilities for proper storage. Dr. Manuel's personal belongings and library, including a list of Philippine birds that was ready for the press, are all lost. He reports that Dr. Deogracias Villadolid, who served as director of the Bureau of Fisheries during the war, has also returned to his position in the Division of Fisheries.

To Dr. E. Raymond Hall and Dr. Hobart M. Smith, of the Museum of Natural History of the University of Kansas, Dr. Edward H. Taylor writes from Selangor under date of October 5, that

Dr. Chasen of the Singapore Museum is believed dead. The boat he escaped on was sunk in the Straits. His wife and child were on another boat, which was likewise sunk. The Singapore Museum was wholly uninjured. The Museum at Taiping was looted rather thoroughly—by whom it is not known. That at Kuala Lumpur was destroyed during the bombing by the Americans. It was so close to the railway yards that practically everything had been moved to places of safety. Duplicate material and types were sent to Tring in England. The library was largely saved and a few of the exhibits. The Japanese ordered everything returned that was still here, so, unknown to the outside world, this was done. The Director of these two Museums, Mr. Pendleberry, barely survived Prisoner of War camp at Singapore and has gone to England to recuperate.