

NEWS and Notes

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the AAAS on Saturday, April 24, the following resolution with respect to military training was unanimously passed:

In order to safeguard the development and maintenance of the scientific manpower essential for our national welfare, the Executive Committee of the American Association for the Advancement of Science deems it essential that laws covering the manpower needs of our military forces do not interrupt the continued training of qualified students in the natural sciences on the undergraduate and the graduate level.

About People

Fritz Zwicky, California Institute of Technology astrophysicist, has been selected to give this year's Halley Lecture at Oxford University on May 12. His subject will be "Morphological Astronomy." This lectureship, founded in 1910 in memory of Edmund Halley, for whom Halley's Comet was named, has been given each year by outstanding astronomers and astrophysicists throughout the world. Prior to the lecture Dr. Zwicky will visit the Paris Observatory and will spend a short time in Switzerland. At Oxford he will also deliver an engineering lecture on "The Morphology of Jet Propulsion," a field in which he has also done extensive work.

Christopher E. Barthel, Jr., has been appointed chairman of physics research at Armour Research Foundation of Illinois Institute of Technology, to succeed Haldon A. Leedy, who recently became director of the Foundation. Dr. Barthel has been supervising the activities of light and optics, X-ray diffraction, and spectroscopy sections of physics research since join-

ing the staff of the Foundation in November 1947.

Roland G. D. Richardson, dean of the Brown University Graduate School, will retire at the end of the present academic year after 41 years of service to Brown. Dr. Richardson, who was chairman of the Department of Mathematics from 1915 to 1942, has for many years been actively engaged in promoting in this country an interest in applied mathematics. He was secretary of the American Mathematical Society for 20 years.

William A. Starin, chairman of the Ohio State University Department of Bacteriology, will retire from active service at the end of the current academic year after 38 years of teaching at the University. Friends and former students are holding a dinner in his honor on May 8 at the Neil House in Columbus. In addition, the William A. Starin Lectureship has been established through the Ohio State University Development Fund and will be administered by the Department of Bacteriology in consultation with the Dean of the Graduate School. All of Dr. Starin's friends and former students who can be contacted are being asked to send to Margaret D. Heise, of the Department of Bacteriology, such contributions as they desire toward the fund, which will become part of the University's permanent endowment and provide an annual speaker.

Grants and Awards

Under a grant of \$4,600 from the Viking Fund Gabriel Lasker and F. G. Evans, assistant professors of anatomy at Wayne University, will spend 5½ months in Mexico during the coming academic year to obtain data for a study which they will conduct on the effects of migration on hereditary physical traits in Mexicans. Wayne University affords a fortunate location for such a study because of the large number of Mexican immigrant laborers in Detroit and the Thum district of Michigan.

The Viking Fund Medal for distinguished contributions to physical anthropology was presented this year to Earnest A. Hooton, professor of anthropology at Harvard University, at the annual dinner of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, held in Frazier Hall, Howard University, Washington, D. C., on April 3. The award was made during the Association's 17th annual meetings. On the cover of this issue Dr. Hooton is shown receiving the medal from Ralph Linton (left), professor of anthropology at Yale University, while W. M. Krogman (center), professor of physical anthropology in the Graduate School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, and president of the Association, looks on.

At the 50th Anniversary Dinner of the Geographic Society of Chicago, February 21, President Henry M. Leppard presented several awards. The Helen Culver Gold Medal went to Wallace W. Atwood, Sr., "for distinguished research in physical geography and as a founder of the Society," to Charles C. Colby "for distinguished leadership on the frontiers of geographic thought," to Vernon C. Finch "for distinguished contributions in economic geography," and to Derwent S. Whittlesey "for distinguished achievement in political geography." Merit Awards for recent publications in geography were presented to Glenn T. Trewartha for *Japan: a physical, cultural and regional geography*, to Stephen B. Jones for *Boundary-making: a handbook for statesmen, treaty editors, and boundary commissioners*, and to Malcolm J. Proudfoot for *Measurement of geographic area*. Citations for distinguished service as geographic editors were awarded to W. E. Ekblaw, editor of *Economic Geography*, George J. Miller, editor of the *Journal of Geography*, and Gladys M. Wrigley, editor of the *Geographical Review*.

At the annual dinner of the American Institute of Nutrition, held in the Jefferson Hotel, Atlantic City, on March 16, two awards were made. The Mead Johnson and Company Award for work on the Vitamin B Complex went to Fritz Lipmann, head of the

Biochemical Research Laboratory, Massachusetts General Hospital, "for his work on the identification of pantothenic acid as a component of coenzyme A and to the recognition of its biochemical role in enzymatic acetylation and in the biological oxidation of acetic acid." Dr. Lipmann recently received the Carl Neuberg Medal of the American Society of European Chemists and Pharmacists for this same research contribution. Charles A. Cary, chief of the Division of Nutrition and Physiology, Bureau of Dairy Industry, USDA, received the Borden Award "for his research concerning the influence of diet on the composition of blood and milk constituents; occurrence and losses of carotene in roughage; vitamin A potency of milk and butter and the relation of same to the quality of roughage; unidentified nutrients necessary for normal growth which are found in milk and milk products and in certain other foods and feeds."

Meetings

Activities of the International Cancer Research Commission were discussed during conferences held in Mexico City March 24-31 between the Minister of Health, Rafael Pascacio Gamboa, the Sub-Secretario Salubridad Publica, Ignacio Morones Prieto, Ignacio G. Millan, chairman of the Commission, and E. V. Cowdry, member for the United States on the Commission. Agreement was reached regarding quarters and operation of the Commission during the three years that its headquarters will be in Mexico and Dr. Millan will serve as chairman. After this period headquarters will be established in some other country which will thus follow the example of Mexico in international leadership in cancer research.

Plans were also made for the first annual meeting of the Commission in Paris on October 17-21 of this year. It is expected that each of the 40 member nations will send a representative to this meeting, and it is hoped that before then the 20 other nations which have officially expressed interest in international cooperation in cancer research will likewise arrange repre-

sentation. Among the problems to be discussed are the construction of a standard form for taking the clinical histories of cancer patients, the achievement of some uniformity in tumor registries, and the formulation of a cancer nomenclature acceptable to all nations.

Progress along these lines will facilitate cooperation between nations. In the spread of accurate information bearing on cancer research the members of the Commission, who are strategically located throughout the world, already have been helpful. Each nation, however large or small, is represented on the Commission by a single individual whose term of service is limited to three years. Anyone seeking data about cancer in any particular country or where in it equipment can best be obtained should write to Dr. Ignacio G. Millan, 69 Avenida Vera Cruz, Mexico City, who will refer the inquiry to the proper person. It is expected that this information service will expand.

The Executive Committee of the Commission consists of Ignacio Millan (chairman), Avenida Vera Cruz 69, Mexico, D. F. (Mexico), Alternate, Felix E. Leborgne (Uruguay); E. V. Cowdry (U. S.), Alternate, W. U. Gardner (U. S.); A. Haddow (England), Alternate, J. Engelbreth-Holm (Denmark); V. R. Khanolkar (India), Alternate, Tu-Shan-Jung (China); J. Maisin (Belgium), Alternate, A. Lacassagne (France).

This International Cancer Research Commission is not to be confused with the Fourth International Cancer Research Congress held in St. Louis last September and attended by 820 cancer specialists. At the Congress the smaller Commission, at present consisting of 40 persons representing 40 nations, was established. The Fourth Congress will be followed in 1950 by a Fifth Congress. In the interim the Congress is inactive except for the publication and circulation of its transactions under the direction of J. Maisin, of the University of Louvain, Belgium, to whom any inquiries should be addressed. The Commission, on the other hand, functions continuously and will have yearly meetings, never twice consecutively in the same country. It enjoys the status of an almost com-

pletely autonomous committee of the Union Internationale Contre le Cancer. A report on the Commission has been forwarded by the U. S. Department of State to all nations invited through the Department to participate in the Congress. The journal *Cancer Research* will soon publish a description of the Commission. (E. V. COWDRY.)

On April 17 Connecticut College was host to the 13th annual Connecticut Valley Student Scientific Conference, in which 350 representatives of 11 New England colleges participated. Keynote speaker was Ernest C. Pollard, of the Department of Physics, Yale University, whose subject was "The Widening Field of Physical Research." Each of the sections (Botany and Bacteriology, Chemistry, Home Economics, Mathematics, Physics and Astronomy, Psychology, Zoology and Physiology) consisted of demonstrations, exhibits, and scientific papers.

These conferences, planned by students for students and patterned after national scientific meetings, were held annually from 1931 to 1942, at which time they were suspended because of the war. This, the first such meeting since the war, was participated in by American International, Dartmouth, Mount Holyoke, Saint Joseph, Smith, Springfield, and Connecticut Colleges, Wesleyan University, the Universities of Connecticut and Massachusetts, and the U. S. Coast Guard Academy. Eleanor Penfield, Connecticut College senior, was chairman.

NRC News

The study of the Pleistocene epoch—the last million years or more of geologic time—involves a unique situation. In the broad sense this field of study is geologic, for it embraces the entire record of an established unit of Earth history. But when viewed more closely, this field, while still the province of the geologist, has a number of highly important facets that are also the concern of other sciences. The anthropologist and the archeologist are concerned with early man and his industry, a vast area that lies largely within the Pleistocene

framework. The botanist and the zoologist are concerned with the succession of geographic assemblages of plants and animals that have preceded the present ones; this inquiry merges with the work of the paleontologist. The climatologist inquires into the character and succession of climates in various parts of the world during the Pleistocene as well as in earlier times. The pedologist is interested in the changes that have affected the soil-making processes during the Pleistocene and in their climatic implications. The glaciologist is interested in the genesis and properties of the various kinds of ice that played an important part in Pleistocene world history. Geographers, too, have a significant interest in various aspects of these problems.

Within the discipline of geology itself, Pleistocene research is compartmented. The glacial geologist, the stratigrapher, the paleontologist, the student of sediments, the geomorphologist, the structural geologist, and the sea-floor geologist (a comparatively new species of research worker) each has his own interest and his own approach to Pleistocene problems.

All these people are working toward the same end, toward a single final synthesis; yet the obstacles in the way of their free communication with each other while en route to their goal are numerous. The departmentalization of universities, museums, and government research institutions operates to keep many of these workers apart. Also, it inhibits the distribution of research funds outside the limits of conventional channels. The means of publication, likewise, are departmentalized, so that it is impossible for a worker interested in the whole field of the Pleistocene to cover the current literature in Pleistocene research or even to be aware of the existence of all of it.

From these facts it is apparent that the student of almost any phase of Pleistocene research is working to some extent in the dark. To make this research more meaningful and more efficient, coordination is needed—some kind of lateral contact to cut across the organizational bulkheads that interfere with progress.

Realizing this need, the Division of

Geology and Geography set up in June 1947 a Committee on Interrelations of Pleistocene Research. Including representatives of most of the fields of interest in the Pleistocene, the Committee is charged with attempting to furnish the much-needed lateral coordination. The members are: Edward S. Deevey, Jr., Department of Biology, Yale University (biogeography); Loren C. Eiseley, Department of Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania (anthropology and new-world archeology); Richard Foster Flint, Department of Geology, Yale University, chairman of the Committee; Claude W. Hibbard, Museum of Paleontology, University of Michigan (vertebrate paleontology); Chauncey D. Holmes, Department of Geology, University of Missouri (glacial erosion and sedimentation); Helmut E. Landsberg, Committee on Geophysical Sciences, Research and Development Board, Washington, D. C. (meteorology and climatology); Hallam L. Movius, Jr., Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard University (old-world archeology); Fred B. Phleger, Jr., Department of Geology, Amherst College (oceanography and sea-floor geology); Louis L. Ray, U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C. (glacial stratigraphy; alpine glacial geology); H. T. U. Smith, Department of Geology, University of Kansas (Eolian features; frozen ground; stream terraces); and James Thorp, Division of Soil Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Lincoln, Nebraska (soil science). It is hoped that representatives of other fields of interest will be added later.

The whole committee met in New Haven on April 5-6 to explore its problems and to define its task. As far as the writer knows, this is the first time a group of active representatives of these fields has met to discuss the general problems of Pleistocene research. The results were stimulating to a high degree. The concrete aspects of the Committee's program will be announced in due course.

The Committee invites constructive suggestions from all interested scientists. These should be sent to the appropriate individual members, if they are concerned with special fields, or

to the chairman, if they have general application. (RICHARD FOSTER FLINT, *Chairman*.)

Deaths

James K. Whittemore, 72, associate professor emeritus of mathematics at Yale University, died March 22.

Lewis G. Westgate, 79, emeritus professor of geology at Ohio Wesleyan University, died March 30 at his home in Delaware, Ohio. He had been a professor at the University from 1900 until his retirement in 1939 and resumed his duties from 1942 to 1944.

Clara Latimer Bacon, 81, emeritus professor of mathematics at Goucher College, died April 14 in Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Bacon retired from her teaching duties in 1934.

Alfred C. Lane, 85, formerly Pearson professor of geology and mineralogy at Tufts College, died April 15 in Cambridge, Massachusetts. At one time Dr. Lane had been head of the National Research Council's committee on estimation of geologic time by atomic disintegration and was president of the Geological Society of America in 1931.

The Philosophy of Science Association has been reorganized with Philipp Frank, of Harvard University, as president and C. West Churchman, of Wayne University, Detroit, as secretary-treasurer. Members of the Governing Committee are Gustav Bergmann, State University of Iowa; Thomas A. Cowan, Wayne University; Clyde Kluckhohn, Harvard University; Sebastian Littauer, Columbia University; and F. S. C. Northrop, Yale University.

Applications for membership (\$5.00 per year) may be sent to the secretary-treasurer. The Association encourages the establishment of local groups in the philosophy of science.

Prof. Churchman is acting editor of *Philosophy of Science*, the Association's official journal, and manuscripts should be sent to him.

The Institute of International Education has recently outlined the latest developments with respect to the Fulbright Act (Public Law No.

584) (see *Science*, May 9, 1947, pp. 483-485; July 25, 1947, p. 78). We are now informed that agreements have been signed with three countries—China, Burma, and the Philippines—and that the Board of Foreign Scholarships has approved programs of educational exchanges with the first two of these. Negotiations are still in progress with Australia, Austria, Belgium, Egypt, France, Greece, Iran, Italy, the Netherlands, the Netherlands East Indies, New Zealand, Norway, Siam, Turkey, and the United Kingdom.

Since the money available from the sale of surplus property abroad is in foreign currencies and not convertible to American dollars, individual arrangements must be made for each American participant in the program for such dollar balances as he will require to meet his family needs and other obligations in the United States during the period of his absence abroad.

The types of activities envisaged under the Act include: (1) aid in international reconstruction by assisting foreign countries to secure the services of American specialists in various fields to assist the peoples of these countries in understanding the American people, their achievements, and their ideals; (2) provision for Americans to study, teach, and do research abroad, thus adding to our knowledge of foreign areas, peoples, and cultures; (3) opportunities for a limited number of foreign students to study in American institutions abroad and to assist foreign students and teachers to engage in educational activities in the United States by paying for their transportation in cases where foreign currencies can be used.

The program as approved for China is as follows: 20 U. S. professors to go to Chinese universities; 10 U. S. advanced research scholars (post-Ph.D.) to carry on work in China; 20 U. S. graduate students to study in China; 30 Chinese students and professors to receive travel grants to the U. S.; and 100 Chinese students to study in American colleges and universities in China.

No transportation funds to or from China are available at the present time, nor do Fulbright grants for

study abroad, made for a full academic year, cover members of the grantee's family. The deadline for return of applications for study in China is June 1.

The program for Burma includes: 8 U. S. professors and specialists to Burma; 5 U. S. research scholars to Burma; 5 U. S. graduate students to Burma; 2 U. S. secondary school teachers to the Village Teachers Training School and the State Post-Primary School; 5 Burmese students to the Medical Center for Frontier Areas in Burma; and a limited number of Burmese students' travel grants to the U. S.

Travel funds to and from Burma are available.

The Philippine program has not been announced.

Inquiries and requests for applications should be addressed to the administering agencies. These are: Fulbright Division, Institute of International Education, 2 West 45th Street, New York City 19 (for pre-doctoral graduate students); Conference Board of Associated Research Councils, 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington 25, D. C. (for professors, specialists, and post-Ph.D. research scholars); U. S. Office of Education, Washington 25, D. C. (for American teachers in *national* schools abroad); Dr. Roy T. Davis, Director, Schools Service, American Council on Education, 744 Jackson Place, Washington 6, D. C. (for American teachers in *American* schools abroad). U. S. and foreign citizens *abroad* should make application to the U. S. Educational Foundation at the U. S. Embassy or Legation in the country in which they are resident. Applications should be made only for countries with which agreements have been concluded.

The Wasmann Collector, formerly the journal of the Wasmann Biological Society, is now being published jointly by Loyola University of Los Angeles and the University of San Francisco. Membership in the Society is no longer required of contributors. Manuscripts and requests for sample copies of the journal (now in its 7th volume) should be addressed to Edward L. Kessel, the managing editor, Department of Biology, University of San Francisco, San Francisco 17,

California. The board of associate editors consists of Carl G. Kadner and Roland A. Reed, S.J., representing Loyola University; Frank P. Filice, Harold A. Harper, and Robert T. Orr, from the University of San Francisco; and John T. Howell, guest editor from the California Academy of Sciences.

Corrections: In the announcement of recent elections to the Board of Trustees of *Biological Abstracts* (*Science*, March 26, p. 316) Stuart Mudd, of the University of Pennsylvania, should have been listed as vice-president rather than Charles N. Frey.

In describing the cover photo of the March 26 issue we neglected to state that the underwater photograph of the sea spider was taken from the *Atlantis* of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

Make Plans for—

4th International Congresses on Tropical Medicine and Malaria, May 10-18, Department of State Auditorium, Washington, D. C.

Indiana Academy of Science, annual spring meeting, May 14-15, Shades State Park, Waveland, Indiana.

American Association on Mental Deficiency, annual meeting, May 18-22, Copley-Plaza Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts.

Symposium on Spectroscopic Equipment, under joint auspices of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy and the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, May 22, Brooklyn, New York.

American Iron & Steel Institute, May 26-27, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York City.

Medical Library Association, annual meeting, May 28-30, Hotel Warwick, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

National Gastroenterological Association, 13th annual convention, June 7-10, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York City.

American Dairy Science Association, 43rd annual convention, June 14-16, University of Georgia, Athens.

American Mathematical Society, June 19, University of British Columbia, Vancouver.