

ganization which includes 29 societies in the United States and 79 in 42 other countries, reports a world-wide increase in work for the promotion of mental health during the 10 years since it was organized, not only in countries where it has member societies, but in a number of others with which it has no formal link.

Five major mental health objectives have been singled out for intensive effort: (i) to increase the study of child development in different countries; (ii) to increase the knowledge of the many causes and the distribution of mental illness; (iii) to improve and extend the teaching of the principles of mental health in medical and nursing schools, teacher training colleges, schools of social work, theological seminaries and similar centers of professional training; (iv) to develop knowledge and techniques for dealing with the human relations problems which arise in industries and all types of occupations; and (v) to encourage the study and creation of better methods of preventing and dealing with psychological problems arising from migration within and between countries, whether voluntary or involuntary.

In addition to the major objectives, each country is being encouraged to develop more extensive national programs, particularly in those aspects having areas of special local significance. The United States, with its 29 member societies, will conduct a program on a larger scale than most other countries. To coordinate activities in the U.S., a steering committee has been named as follows: Marian J. FitzSimons, Frank Fremont-Smith, John P. Gillin, Alberta Jacoby, Marian McBee, Mabel Ross, Ruth Simonson, George S. Stevenson and Mottram P. Torre.

Responsibility for financial support of plans and projects within the United States has been assumed by the World Federation for Mental Health: United States Committee, Inc. This committee, formerly known as the International Committee for Mental Health, was founded by Clifford Beers in 1930. Its present officers are: Mrs. Clifford W. Beers, Earl D. Bond, Arthur H. Ruggles and Mrs. Henry Ittleson, honorary presidents; Mrs. Charles S. Ascher, president; Mrs. Jonathan Bingham and John A. P. Millet, vice presidents; Frank Fremont-Smith, general secretary; and George S. Stevenson, treasurer.

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

General. Applications will be accepted through 15 October by the National Science Foundation for both the senior postdoctoral and science faculty fellowships. Henceforth, these fellowships will be

awarded annually in December rather than biannually as awarded in previous years. Awards will be made in the mathematical, physical, and engineering sciences; medical and biological sciences, including anthropology and psychology (excluding clinical psychology); and in selected fields of social science. Included as well are interdisciplinary fields which overlap two or more scientific disciplines.

To be eligible for senior postdoctoral fellowships, candidates must be citizens of the United States with special aptitude for advanced training, and must have held the doctoral degree for at least 5 years or have equivalent education and experience.

The science faculty fellowships are directed toward college teachers of science who wish to improve their competence as teachers. These fellowships are open to any citizen of the United States who holds a baccalaureate degree or its equivalent, has demonstrated ability and special aptitude for science teaching and advanced training, and has taught at the collegiate level as a full-time faculty member for not less than 3 years, and intends to continue teaching.

Annual stipends to a maximum of \$12,000—adjusted to match as closely as feasible the regular salaries of the recipients—will be awarded under both these programs. Fellows may engage in study or research at any accredited non-profit institution of higher learning in the United States or at any similar institution abroad approved by the National Science Foundation. A limited allowance to aid in defraying the cost of travel for a fellow and his dependents will also be available. Application materials may be obtained from the Division of Scientific Personnel and Education, National Science Foundation, Washington 25, D.C.

Science teaching. The National Science Foundation has announced that proposals will be accepted until 1 September from colleges and universities for the support of 1959–60 Academic-Year Institutes. These institutes offer full-time work in science and mathematics through programs designed especially to improve the quality of instruction offered by high school science and mathematics teachers. Directions for preparing proposals and forms to be used in making application may be obtained by interested institutions of higher education from the Division of Scientific Personnel and Education, National Science Foundation, Washington 25, D.C.

Foundation grants will provide support for 19 Academic-Year Institutes during the 1958–59 school year starting in September. It is expected that grants will be awarded for about 30 institutes for the 1959–60 school year. Each institute provides instruction for about 50

teachers. Foundation grants enable the sponsoring institutions to offer stipends up to \$3000 plus additional allowance for dependents and travel. Grants also cover tuition and fees, an allowance for books, and operating costs beyond those supported by tuition payments.

Foundation grants extend complete freedom to sponsoring institutions to administer and conduct their respective programs, and teachers seeking training offered by Academic-Year Institutes should apply directly to the sponsoring college or university, not to the foundation. Most institutions will provide for an additional closely allied summer program which may enable many participating teachers to earn graduate degrees.

Social science. The next closing date for receipt of proposals in the Social Science Research Program of the National Science Foundation is 1 October. Proposals received by that date will be evaluated in the fall. Approved grants will be activated in time for work to begin in the second semester or the summer of 1959. The Social Science Research Program supports basic research in anthropology, archeology, demography, human ecology, economic and social geography, economics, social psychology, sociology, and history and philosophy of science.

Proposals received after 1 October will be reviewed following the winter closing date of 1 February 1959, with activation of approved grants in the summer and fall of 1959. Inquiries should be addressed to the National Science Foundation, Washington 25, D.C.

Population Trends

The newly published United Nations *Demographic Yearbook* for 1957 reports that the population of the world is increasing at an average rate of 5400 persons every hour, or 47 million a year, a rate that is calculated to double the estimated world total of 2737 million inhabitants within the next 40 years. United Nations statisticians have estimated the world birth rate at 34 per 1000 inhabitants and the death rate at 18. During the past 20 years the death rate has declined well over 25 percent in most countries and as much as 50 percent in several. And since the birth rate has remained high and unchanged in most of these same countries, the world population has increased almost 25 percent in one-fifth of a century. Other information contained in the annual statistical publication is as follows:

Percentagewise, Latin America is the fastest growing area of the world, with an estimated population increase of 2.5 percent annually, as against a world aver-