for scientific studies have been made of selected groups and forwarded to workers in several institutions in the United States, Canada, England, Holland, Germany, France, Russia, Japan, Australia and New Zealand. Another large collection is at Buitenzorg, Java, with 15,000 samples of Dutch East Indian woods. There are also large collections in the Philippines, India, Federated Malay States, as well as in European countries, and hundreds of samples have already been distributed for special research.

The Yale Forestry School is trying the experiment of providing small subventions for local collectors in tropical countries and is said to be meeting with marked success. Over 300 timber samples have recently been received as the result of a local expedition into the high mountain range near Santa Marta, Colombia. The Lower Amazon region is being explored by Dr. Alphonso Ducke, of the Botanical Garden of Rio de Janeiro. Dr. A. Rimbach is collecting in the interior of Ecuador, a locality almost unknown to the outside world. A good collection of woods has been made for the first time on Mt. Kinabalu in British North Borneo. The most recent expedition is that of Mr. J. H. L. Waterhouse, of Australia, who is collecting on the British Solomon Islands Protectorate. This undertaking is in cooperation with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England, and has the sanction of the high commissioner for the Western Pacific and the resident commissioner at Tulagi. There are, in addition, many local collectors in out-of-the-way places in the tropics.

The first step toward uniformity of botanical terms has been the making of a dictionary, now undergoing its second revision, which is in English, French, German, Dutch, Spanish, Portuguese and Polish. This will be made the basis for a book in which every term will be fully illustrated and described.

GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED FOREST LANDS

THE merging in one department of all federal agencies and auxiliary services administering government owned or controlled forest lands has been recommended by an advisory subcommittee of the U. S. Timber Conservation Board headed by Dr. Henry S. Graves, dean of the School of Forestry of Yale University. According to a statement issued by the board, the principal recommendations are:

Merging in one undesignated department the several administrations of federally-owned or controlled forest lands, together with all auxiliary services pertaining thereto.

The abolishment of the present system of paying to counties a percentage of the National Forest receipts, substituting therefor direct contribution to be adjusted, in a degree, to local needs. This is to be paid annually and such procedures should possibly be helpful in improving state forest taxation methods.

Extreme conservatism in public timber disposal, apparently recognizing the principle that publicly owned timber is a reserve supply to be drawn on only as required to advance public interest, local and national.

Steps to harmonize federal forest acquisition and administration and to promote sound controls thereunder.

Cooperative study by government and states of problems of tax delinquency in critical regions where forestry protection is threatened. This may suggest either public acquisition or the use of public timber supply to extend the operations of private concerns toward the continuance of local community interests.

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS

THE annual meeting of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers was held at Ohio State University from June 20 to 23. A symposium on "An Engineer's Policy for Agriculture" was a feature of the meeting. The president of the society, Leonard J. Fletcher, of Peoria, Illinois, general supervisor of agricultural sales of the Caterpillar Tractor Company, presided. The speakers were C. F. Kettering, of Detroit, president of the General Motors Research Corporation; J. T. Jardine, chief of the Office of Experiment Stations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and Arthur Huntington, public relations engineer of the Iowa Railway and Light Corporation. Several hundred engineers, economists, farm leaders and scientific men from universities, technical schools, the industries and state and federal services participated.

The convention opened with sessions of the college division. Among the speakers were R. J. Baldwin and George Amundson of Michigan State College; Ben D. Moses, of the California Agricultural Experiment Station, and R. W. Trullinger, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The topics discussed included cooperative relations with industries, agricultural engineering teaching, agricultural engineering research, agricultural engineering extension, relations with vocational education, and logical future development of research in agricultural engineering.

Dr. George W. Rightmire, president of the university, addressed the delegates on Tuesday morning and Mr. Fletcher delivered the annual presidential address. Other addresses included "Adventures in Science" by Dr. L. A. Hawkins, of the Research Laboratories of the General Electric Company; "Fuels for High-Compression Motors," by Thomas Midgley, Jr., a director of the American Chemical Society; "An Agricultural

Engineer's Observations in Russia," by E. J. Stirniman, formerly associate professor of agricultural engineering at the University of California and later agricultural engineer for the Grain Trust of the Soviets, and "To-morrow's Job for the Agricultural Engineer," by President Fletcher.

At a general session on Thursday morning L. A. Jones, chief of the division of drainage and erosion control, Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, U. S. Department of Agriculture, discussed "Soil Erosion—A National Menace"; M. S. Winder, secretary of the American Farm Bureau Federation, spoke on "How the Farmer Looks at the Engineer," and Professor F. W. Duffee, of the University of Wisconsin, described "A Specific Example of a Planned Engineered Agriculture."

Other speakers at the Columbus meeting were: Professor Moses; W. B. Robert, Aluminum Company of America; M. A. R. Kelley and S. P. Lyle, U. S. Department of Agriculture; H. B. White, University of Minnesota; J. L. Strahan, consulting agricultural engineer; Professor F. L. Fairbanks and Professor H. W. Riley, Cornell University; F. P. Hanson, Caterpillar Tractor Company; Professor L. D. Baver, University of Missouri; Roy Bainer and J. P. Fairbank, University of California.

THE INTERNATIONAL CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION

MR. WILLIAM H. DONNER, of Villanova, Pa., retired steel manufacturer of Pittsburgh, has placed at the disposal of this foundation cash and securities on the basis of to-day's values amounting to $2,000,000. This was set aside by Mr. Donner as a trust in 1929 when his son, Joseph W. Donner, died in Buffalo.

The object of the foundation, as announced by Mr. Donner, is to "increase interest in and the amount and quality of cancer research; develop new minds and theories; broaden the viewpoint of some investigators already in the field, and increase cooperation among scientists throughout the world, correlating results of their investigations and preventing duplication of work."

No money will be given for buildings, and the funds will not be spent in any one institution, state or country. Not more than 35 per cent. of its income is to be allotted to one institution, not less than 50 and not more than 65 per cent. within the United States.

At the organization meeting on June 8, the following officers were elected:

President: W. H. Donner.
Vice-President: A. V. Morton.
Treasurer: The Fidelity-Philadelphia Trust Company.
Secretary: Dr. M. W. S. Schramm.

The directors include, in addition to the president and vice-president: Dr. Thomas S. Gates, president of the University of Pennsylvania; The Honorable George Wharton Pepper, former United States Senator; Dr. Edward R. Weidlein, director of the Mellon Institute of Industrial Research, of Pittsburgh.

Drs. James Ewing, of New York City; Burton T. Simpson, of Buffalo, and Francis Carter Wood, of New York City, constitute the scientific advisory committee.

RETIRING MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY OF THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

THE retirement of four members of the faculty of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology after more than forty years of service, has been announced. These are Frank A. Laws, professor of electrical measurements; James R. Lambirth, assistant professor of mechanical engineering; Robert H. Smith, professor of machine construction, and Arthur G. Robbins, professor of topographical engineering. They all retire with the title of professor emeritus.

Professor Lambirth has had the longest service. He has been instructing in forging for 48 years, and nearly 15,000 students have passed through his class. At the age of eighty-four years he is still active. He is a native of Chelmsford, England. Professor Lambirth joined the staff of the institute in 1884. Until several years ago he had not known illness, and for thirty-nine years he never missed a class.

Professor Laws, who is a native of Brockton, is a graduate of the class of 1889. He joined the staff in the year of his graduation as an assistant in physics, and in 1897 became assistant professor of electrical measurements. From 1906 until 1913 he held an associate professorship in electrical testing. Professor Laws was a member of the staff of the research laboratory of electrical engineering in 1913–14, and a member of the research division of the department since 1918.

Professor Smith's teaching career at the institute began in 1886. In 1919 he was appointed assistant professor of mechanical engineering, and was promoted to the rank of professor of machine construction in 1931. Professor Smith is well known to generations of Technology students. He is the author of "Elements of Machine Work," "Principles of Machine Work," and "Advanced Machine Work." In April, 1928, he was elected an honorary member of the Technology Alumni Association.

Professor Robbins in 1886, the year of his graduation, joined the staff as assistant in civil engineering. He was appointed assistant professor of high-