H. T. Malloy and K. A. Evelyn, McGill University: On the determination of bile in blood, using the new photo-electric colorimeter. B. Schachter, University of Toronto: Purification of the gonadotropic substance in human pregnancy urine. Drs. D. L. Selby and R. W. I. Urquhart, University of Toronto: on the effect of experimental unilateral nephrosis on the secretion of urine. Dr. S. Weinstein, University of Toronto: An attempt to crystalize prolan. Drs. R. F. Wilkinson and R. G. MacKenzie, University of Toronto: A clinical study of the prevention of thrombosis in man by means of heparin. R. J. Wilson, University of British Columbia: A study of the type of staphylococcus which produces food poisoning in man. Dr. B. Chown, University of Manitoba: On some types of kidney disease which are probably due to an excess of mineral secretion. Dr. D. Beall, University of Toronto: An attempt to introduce an amino group in oestrone and oestrodiol. Dr. G. H. Ettinger, Queen's University: An endeavor to account for the large amount of acetylcholine contained in the placenta. E. J. Reedman, University of Toronto: On free and combined vitamin C.

V. E. HENDERSON
A. W. HAM
Honorary Secretaries

CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MONUMENT

BY proclamation of President Roosevelt, two of the Channel Islands, off the coast of southern California, have been transferred from the Bureau of Lighthouses of the Department of Commerce to the Department of the Interior, to be established as a national monument by the National Park Service.

Five islands are included in the Channel Islands group, which were discovered in 1542 by the Portuguese navigator, Juan Rodriques Cabrillo, whose remains are buried on San Miguel. The two now given national monument status are Santa Barbara and Anacapa. The latter is in reality three small islands, but these lie so nearly in a straight line, with such narrow channels between them, that they have long been considered as a single island. Combined length of the three is approximately four and a half miles, with a maximum width of about half a mile. High sea cliffs, almost perpendicular, are characteristic of the Anacapa group, with numerous wave-cut caves eroded into their forbidding declivities. The highest elevation is 980 feet. Santa Barbara's length is one and a half miles; its maximum width, one mile. There are so few breaks in its bold, precipitous shores that but one landing place is possible, and that is accessible only in mild weather. Except for two hills, one 547 feet in elevation, the top of the island is a comparatively flat expanse, bordered by steep cliffs.

The monument has been established to conserve the unique geological and biological features of the two islands. Both present fascinating geologic stories; both consist largely of volcanic rocks of the Miocene age. In some places three distinct elevated beaches are clearly defined by terraces along the high cliffs. In these a wealth of fossils has been found, ranging from marine invertebrates to Pleistocene elephants and fossil trees.

More than eight endemic flowering plants, some thirty endemic mammals or birds, and sixteen land mollusks add further to the scientific fascination of the two islands. As research reserves, available for study, the islands will not for the present require any development.

THE ENDOWMENT OF THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE Rockefeller Foundation has made a conditional grant of $1,500,000 to the University of Chicago for the endowment of research in the biological sciences on condition that an additional sum of $500,000 can be obtained from outside sources before June 30, 1941.

During the next three years the foundation will provide $180,000, at the rate of not more than $60,000 a year, for biological research. This grant has been made so that the equivalent of the income of the capital sum of $1,500,000 will be available to the university during the period allowed for raising the matching sum of $500,000. Should the university be able to meet the condition in a shorter period, the temporary annual grants will be cancelled. Since 1929 the foundation has provided grants for the support of basic laboratory research in fundamental biological problems. The endowment will support permanently this work on a somewhat larger scale than in the past.

Dr. Robert Maynard Hutchins, president of the university, made a statement in which he said:

> Because this grant is one that is vital to the university's research in the cause and treatment of disease, we shall make every effort to secure the matching funds from friends of the university.
>
> Fundamental research in the biological sciences must be carried on to achieve systematic advance in medicine. When the General Education Board gave us $3,000,000 in December, 1936, to develop our Medical School, it specifically recognized this relationship.
>
> The university's clinical work, conducted for research purposes, is in close cooperation with the natural sciences departments. We recently appointed an eminent physicist, Dr. James Franck, to a professorship in physical chemistry to study a biological problem. Medical research at the university to-day is a cooperative enterprise reaching from the hospitals into such remote fields as botany. The offer of the foundation, therefore, is of great importance to our program.

Many of the investigators at the university and much of its important research work have been supported in part by the annual grants of the foundation

during the past ten years. According to Dr. William H. Taliaferro, dean of the Division of Biological Sciences, the grants have "yielded results out of all proportion to the sums invested." The money has been used to provide impetus to long-term projects begun and partly financed with university funds, and to begin new projects of unusual promise.

The recent discovery by Dr. Lester Dragstedt of lipocaic, the hormone which enables diabetics to utilize fat, as insulin does sugar, was one of the projects supported by the annual grant. Two of the most important of the long-term projects assisted were the work of Professor Fred C. Koch, biochemist, on sex hormones, and the studies of Professors Frank R. Lillie and Carl R. Moore on the biology of sex. The research of Dean William H. Taliaferro on the mechanism of immunity, particularly to diseases caused by parasites, also received allotments from the grants.

Allotments were made last year to twenty-six projects, ranging from $100 to $14,000. These included research in bacteriology, anatomy, botany, physiology, biochemistry, neurology, psychology, zoology and mathematical biophysics.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR TESTING MATERIALS

THE forty-first annual meeting of the American Society for Testing Materials will be held at Chalfonte-Haddon Hall, Atlantic City, from June 27 to July 1, inclusive. There will be as many as seventeen technical sessions in order to provide adequate time for the authors and for reports of chairmen of the committees, and also for those who will present written and oral discussion of the papers.

The annual address of the president, Dr. A. E. White, will be given at the opening session on Tuesday morning, June 28. Evening sessions will be held on three days. There will be no technical sessions on Monday, June 27, which will be available for meetings of committees. Additional committee meetings will be held on Thursday afternoon.

The thirteenth Edgar Marburg lecture will be delivered on Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock by Dr. Albert Sauveur, professor emeritus of Harvard University, on "The Torsion Test." Following the presentation of the Marburg lecture, the award of the Charles B. Dudley medal will be made to Robert H. Heyer, of the Research Laboratories of the American Rolling Mill Company, for his paper entitled "Analysis of the Brinell Hardness Test" presented at the annual meeting in New York City in 1937. Mr. Heyer's paper was selected by the Dudley Medal Committee as being "an outstanding contribution in the field of research."

The most important session from the technical standpoint will be a symposium on impact testing. This is being developed in cooperation with the Welding Research Committee of the Engineering Foundation. W. W. Werring, of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, Incorporated, chairman of the Section on Impact Testing of Committee E-1 on Methods of Testing, and M. F. Sayre, professor of applied mechanics, Union College, who is representing the Welding Research Committee, are in charge of preparing the symposium.

VERNON LYMAN KELLOGG

THE following resolution has been adopted by the Division of Biology and Agriculture of the National Research Council:

Vernon Lyman Kellogg was born in Emporia, Kansas, on December 1, 1867. He attended the University of Kansas where he graduated in 1899. Here he became assistant professor of entomology in 1890 and private secretary to Chancellor F. H. Snow in which positions he remained until he was called to Leland Stanford University in 1894 as assistant professor. He was closely associated with President David Starr Jordan and collaborated with him in giving courses and in the production of numerous text books. During the World War he worked with Herbert Hoover in relief work in Belgium and France. Upon his return to this country he became active in the formation and administration of the National Research Council in which he was chairman of the Division of Biology and Agriculture. Upon the permanent establishment of the National Research Council he became its secretary, in which office he continued active until ill health forced him to retire in 1932.

He was largely responsible for the administration of the council and held positions upon several of the divisions and innumerable committees. In all this work he was tireless, efficient and influential in securing harmonious action. Under his direction the business of the council proceeded through the formative years without delay or conflict. He was thoughtful and considerate of others and did not spare himself in the service of the organization for which he had relinquished his career as a teacher and investigator. Still devoted to the application of science to human living, however, he wrote extensively upon many topics, always interestingly, authoritatively and well. Although in recent years unable to carry on active work at the council he retained until the last a lively interest in its affairs and personnel. After a long and distressing illness he finally put aside the heavy burden at Hartford, Connecticut, August 8, 1937.

The Division of Biology and Agriculture here records its heartfelt appreciation of his services in the division and in the wider circle of the council as a whole. It desires particularly to record its high estimate of him as a man and a fellow worker in science.

RECENT DEATHS

DR. JOHN J. ABEL, who retired with the title emeritus in 1932 from the professorship of pharmacology