

THE Board of Control of the Michigan College of Mining and Technology has officially named the mining building Sperr Hall in honor of the late Frederick William Sperr, head of the department of mining and

civil engineering from 1894 to 1926. Professor Sperr died in November, 1929. The building now named in his memory was designed, erected and equipped under his supervision.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### THE PROPOSED DIVERSION OF THE WATERS OF YELLOWSTONE LAKE

PROFESSOR L. G. ROMELL, of Djursholm, secretary of the Swedish Government Committee on Planning and Recreation, who was at one time head of the department of forest soils at Cornell University, recently addressed a letter to Secretary Harold L. Ickes protesting against attempts made in the seventy-fifth Congress to permit diversion of the waters of the Yellowstone Lake for irrigation purposes in the Upper Snake River basin, Idaho.

Professor Romell wrote: "It may not be the business of anybody outside the United States to express himself on the proposed engineering and water diversion project in the heart of the world's oldest national park. However, in a way, the wonderland of Yellowstone belongs to the world. If commercial interests should be allowed to encroach upon Yellowstone Lake it would mean far more than despoliation and would be a terrific blow to the entire national park idea which could not fail to have its repercussions throughout the world."

In reply Secretary Ickes wrote in part:

I have received your letter of June 24, describing the damaging effects upon national park standards throughout the world that would follow if Congress were to authorize the diversion of waters of Yellowstone Lake for irrigation purposes, proposed in S. 3925 and H. R. 10469, introduced but not acted upon in the last session of the Congress.

It is gratifying to hear from you that Yellowstone National Park is taken as the international model for all national parks. It will be my endeavor to keep it so by opposing the present irrigation project and all proposals tending to break down the integrity of our national park standards. The enjoyment of its magnificent natural wonders is not limited to Americans. Last year alone some 6,400 visitors from 37 foreign countries visited the park.

Recalling that the Congress, in establishing the park in 1872, made it the duty of the Secretary of the Interior to provide "for the preservation, from injury or spoliation, of all timber, mineral deposits, natural curiosities, or wonders within said park, and their retention in the natural condition," Mr. Ickes said: "Like my predecessors I insist that this condition is indispensable if the Yellowstone National Park is to continue to fulfill the purpose for which it was established."

### CHANGES OF PERSONNEL IN THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

A NUMBER of changes have been made in the personnel of the Food and Drug Administration, of which Dr. W. G. Campbell is chief. These are:

Joseph Callaway, Jr., now chief chemist of the Eastern Food and Drug Inspection District, with headquarters at New York, becomes senior chemist to serve as technical assistant and secretary of the reorganized Food Standards Committee of four state food law enforcement officials and two members of the Food and Drug Administration. This committee will consider data on the authentic composition of food materials and formulate standards of identity and reasonable standards of quality and fill of container for various foods.

Roy S. Pruitt, now chief chemist of the New Orleans Food and Drug Inspection Station, also will be transferred to Washington and attached to the office of the chief to handle administrative details of the new cosmetic section of the law.

Dan Dahle, at present associate chemist in the Food Division of the Food and Drug Administration in Washington, who has had long experience in the development of food methods, has been assigned to develop laboratory methods for the analysis of cosmetics and will work in close cooperation with Mr. Pruitt.

Dr. J. J. Durrett, now chief of the Drug Division of the administration in Washington, becomes principal technical adviser and is attached to the office of the chief of the administration. He will share with other officers the responsibility of determining administrative questions on the application of the new law to drugs, devices, special dietary products and cosmetics, and will give special consideration to the adequacy of information submitted by manufacturers with their applications on new drugs filed in compliance with the provisions of the act.

Dr. Theodore G. Klumpp, now senior medical officer of the Drug Division, succeeds Dr. Durrett as chief of that division. Dr. Klumpp is a graduate of Princeton University, received his medical degree at Harvard Medical School in 1928, served his internship at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston, was assistant resident physician at Lakeside Hospital, Cleveland, Ohio, instructor at Yale University Medical School, and an associate physician at the New Haven Hospital.

### FOOD STANDARDS COMMITTEE OF THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE HENRY A. WALLACE has approved the recommendation of the Food and Drug Administration for the appointment in that organization of a Food Standards Committee, which will func-