

Geographic Society is now having large rubber balloons fabricated. In the meantime improved instruments for detecting ozone and for radioing information back to earth are under construction in the laboratories of the National Bureau of Standards.

COURSES IN MODERN MANUFACTURING AND RESEARCH

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn and the Stevens Institute of Technology, in cooperation with the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, have announced a series of post-graduate courses in industry which will enable selected graduate engineers to study modern research and manufacturing methods and earn credit for masters' and doctors' degrees.

These courses are the first to be held in the New York metropolitan area in which an industrial concern has cooperated with a group of educational institutions to provide training for advanced degrees to graduate students. They will be similar to those held with the cooperation of Professor H. E. Dyché, head of the school of electrical engineering at the University of Pittsburgh. As a result of graduate study in these classes in the past twelve years, sixty-six students have been awarded masters' degrees and six students Ph.D. degrees.

Students chosen for enrolment in the New York classes will include graduate engineers now employed by the Westinghouse Company and graduate students in engineering from the three cooperating schools. A joint committee, including Dean Erich Hausmann, of the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn; Dr. H. J. Masson, of New York University; Dean F. C. Stockwell, of Stevens Institute of Technology, and J. H. Belknap, manager of technical employment and training for the Westinghouse Company, will examine students and supervise the courses.

Among the first courses authorized will be classes in advanced illumination and in symmetrical components. D. W. Atwater, manager of the commercial engineering department of the Westinghouse Lamp Division and past president of the Illuminating Engineering Society, has been appointed Westinghouse lecturer for the class in advanced illumination. The course, following advanced study procedure in technical schools, will consist of two-hour lectures each on Monday nights, for sixteen weeks at the Westinghouse offices in New York City. The course on symmetrical components, dealing with electrical distribution systems, will be taught by B. V. Hoard, engineer of the Westinghouse Meter Works at Newark, N. J., and S. H. Wright, of the engineering department at Pittsburgh. Instruction will include details of technical procedure in current laboratory research and commercial production. Engineers in the industry will present the latest developments in each field.

MOUSE GENETICS

A CIRCULAR letter signed by L. C. Dunn, W. H. Gates, G. D. Snell and W. L. Russell was recently forwarded to biologists interested in mouse genetics, asking for opinions with regard to the possible establishment of a Committee on Mouse Genetics Nomenclature and of a Mouse Genetics News Service. As a result, at the meeting of the International Congress of Genetics at Edinburgh Professors F. A. E. Crew and L. C. Dunn and Dr. G. D. Snell were appointed a Committee on Mouse Genetics Nomenclature.

A meeting with Dr. A. L. Hagedoorn (Holland) in the chair was called to consider a set of nomenclature rules drawn up by the committee and to discuss details of the News Service. Twenty-five members of the congress were present. The recommendations of the meeting as regards nomenclature were submitted to the committee.

The offer of the director and staff of the Roscoe B. Jackson Memorial Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine, for the publication in mimeographed form of the *Mouse Genetics News* was gratefully accepted. It was suggested that a register of stocks and the various Pure Lines should be drawn up in order to end the confusion in the naming of Pure Lines used in various laboratories which has arisen during the last few years. It was recommended that stock lists of all the laboratories concerned should be published from time to time. It was further suggested that notice should be given by a laboratory before any stocks are discontinued; it has happened several times in the past that valuable material has been irretrievably lost, because every laboratory has relied on other places for its maintenance. It is proposed that the News Service should also arrange for exchange of stocks, and it is hoped that its activities may be extended to rabbits and other rodents, and it is suggested that an appeal be made to all laboratories concerned to collaborate wholeheartedly by promptly answering correspondence and sending information.

The meeting discussed the establishment of centers, preferably in the United States for the maintenance and safe keeping of stocks, particularly of genes (pathological and otherwise). It was pointed out that the continuity of genetical work depends on keeping genes alive, as genes which have died out are as irrevocably lost as extinct animal or plant species. It was urged that this matter should receive the immediate consideration of the News Service and that an appeal should be made to the Carnegie and Rockefeller Foundations for financial assistance.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

THE San Francisco meeting of the American Association of Museums, which met from June 26 to 28,

drew, according to *Museum News*, an unexpectedly large attendance. More than 200 members were registered, of whom 150 were from out of town and 70 from east of the Mississippi. Three members came from Honolulu and two from Canada. It is reported in the *News* that the meeting was marked by especially successful entertainment features and by a generous spirit of hospitality on the part of the San Francisco museums and their friends and of officials of the Golden Gate International Exposition.

Dr. Clark Wissler, curator of anthropology and dean of the scientific staff of the American Museum of Natural History, was reelected president of the association, and Henry Butler Allen, director of the Franklin Institute, was elected a vice-president, succeeding Frank B. Jewett.

Section chairmen were elected as follows: Art Museums Section, George H. Edgell, director, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Art Technical Section, Francis Henry Taylor, director, Worcester Art Museum; Children's Museums Section, Mrs. Dean C. Osborne, president, the Auxiliary, Brooklyn Children's Museum; Education Section, Charles Russell, curator, Department of Education, American Museum of Natural History, New York; National and State Parks Section, Ned J. Burns, chief of the Museum Division, National Park Service, Washington, D. C.; Public Relations Section, Daisy Weld Warner, director of Publicity and Radio, Cleveland Museum of Art; Registrars Section, Imogene C. Robertson, registrar of the Buffalo Museum of Science; Science Museums Section, Carlos E. Cummings, director of the Buffalo Museum of Science; Science Technical Section, Ottmar F. von Fuehrer, staff artist, Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh; Superintendents Section, Albert N. Henriksen, superintendent of the Brooklyn Museum, New York.

At the invitation of the museums of Detroit, Mich., that city was chosen as the meeting place for 1940.

THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

THE sixty-eighth annual meeting of the American Public Health Association and meetings of related organizations will open at Pittsburgh, Pa., on Sun-

day, October 15, closing on Friday, October 20. Thirty-five hundred health officers, nurses, engineers, school physicians, laboratory directors and other specialists are expected to attend. Every state in the Union, Canada, Cuba and Mexico, and many European countries will send delegates to participate in a scientific program that will cover the official public health activities of the North American continent.

The Sixth Institute on Public Health Education will open on Sunday, October 15. The meetings of the institute continue on Monday, October 16, at which time there will meet the International Society of Medical Health Officers, the American School Health Association, the Association of Women in Public Health and the National Organization for Public Health Nursing. The following conference groups also convene on Monday: the State Laboratory Directors, the State Sanitary Engineers, the Municipal Public Health Engineers, the Directors of Local Health Service and the State Directors of Public Health Nursing. Other organizations meeting during the week are the Pennsylvania Public Health Association, the Tri-State Food and Health Officials, the American Social Hygiene Association, Delta Omega and the American Association of State Registration Executives.

There will be six general sessions of the Public Health Association during the week at which "Medical Care," "Cancer," "Professional Education" and "The American Way as Seen from Abroad" are among the subjects to be discussed. The ten sections of the association have arranged an extensive series of joint and individual meetings covering topics of interest to health officers, laboratory workers, vital statisticians, industrial hygienists, public health engineers, food and nutritionists, child hygienists, public health education experts, epidemiologists and public health nurses. There will be a Health Exhibit with commercial and scientific displays. The headquarters will be at the William Penn Hotel. The preliminary program has been reprinted from the August issue of *The American Journal of Public Health* and may be obtained from the American Public Health Association, 50 West 50th Street, New York, N. Y.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

M. HENRI PIÉRON, professor at the Collège de France and director of the Institute of Psychology of the University of Paris, was elected at the Liège meeting president of the French Association for the Advancement of Science.

OWING to the early adjournment of the Dundee meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science Dr. Isaiah Bowman was presumably unable to give the first British and American Association lecture.

The lecture, which is entitled "Science and Social Pioneering," will be printed in *SCIENCE*.

ON the occasion of the seventh assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics, at a special convocation on September 11, Washington University conferred the honorary degree of doctor of science on Dr. Dan La Cour, director of the Danish Meteorological Institute, Copenhagen, who was president, and on Brigadier Harold St. John Loyd Winter-