

of Mexican mathematicians, with addresses presented by Professors Graef, Lefschetz and Wiener.

The generosity and gracious hospitality of the Mexican Mathematical Society and of the Governor of the State of Jalisco, of which Guadalajara is the capital, could not have been exceeded. In the middle of the week there was an excursion to the beautiful Lake Chapala, an hour's ride by automobile from the meeting place, and a very attractive dinner was served in connection with the excursion. There was, also, ample opportunity to see the artistic monuments and the like for which Guadalajara is famous. It will be remembered that the city is the location of some of the best murals of Orozco, and these were greatly admired by the members of the congress. The meeting terminated with a general banquet, and all these occasions provided many opportunities for close contact between the members and guests.

The meeting was a success in every way and the attendance was considerable, mathematicians and other scientists coming from all parts of the Republic. The fame of these meetings is spreading and there is no doubt that they are making a noteworthy contribution to the development of mathematics in Mexico and to the good relations between Mexican scientists and those of the United States.—S. L.

THE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING OF REGULAR ARMY MEDICAL CORPS OFFICERS

DURING the period of the emergency it has been necessary to place the bulk of Regular Army Medical Corps officers in administrative positions in the Major Commands of the Army. This necessary procedure has caused a shortage of adequately, professionally trained Regular Army Medical Corps officers to take up the care of the Army sick and wounded, upon the release of AUS officers to civilian life.

In order that the Medical Department may be prepared to continue the excellent professional care of the sick and wounded in Army hospitals, the Surgeon General has requested the chief of staff to authorize courses in professional training for Regular Army Medical Corps officers. This request has been approved and a plan of training officers relieved from administrative or other assignments where professional experience was not available has been developed and placed in operation. This plan calls for the assignment of Regular Army Medical Corps officers to installations where courses in professional training, eventually leading to board certification, is to be carried out. The plan calls for training, not only in military medical installations, but in outstanding civilian installations. Representatives of all major forces concerned have contributed to this

plan and officers assigned to any of these forces are eligible for the professional training.

The plan has been put into immediate operation in order that fully qualified Regular Army Medical Corps officers may be available to replace the presently highly qualified AUS officers, who are to be released in the present demobilization program, and who are at present holding the top professional positions in Army hospitals.

The Surgeon General is insistent that the outstanding record of care of the sick and wounded in this war be maintained, and for this reason, the far-reaching plan which he has prepared places foremost the professional qualifications and continued professional training of the Medical Corps officers. It is the sincere hope of the Surgeon General that all Medical Corps officers of the Army of the United States give earnest consideration to a career in the Regular Army, and he feels that with the development of his present plan, outstanding opportunity for professional advancement will be afforded to all Medical Corps officers.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE ILLINOIS STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

THE Board of Natural Resources and Conservation of the State of Illinois, upon the recommendation of Dr. M. M. Leighton, chief of the State Geological Survey, has recently made the following promotions and appointments:

Dr. Ralph E. Grim, petrographer and head of the Division of Petrography, has been made petrographer and principal geologist in charge of the Geological Resources Section. He will have general direction of the work done in that section, which comprises the following divisions: Coal, Oil and Gas, Industrial Minerals, Clay Resources and Clay Mineral Technology, Groundwater Geology and Geophysical Exploration, Areal and Engineering Geology, Stratigraphy and Paleontology, and Subsurface Geology.

Dr. Carl A. Bays, geologist and engineer, has been promoted to the position of head of the Division of Groundwater Geology and Geophysical Exploration. This division was recently established and is an outgrowth of the Division of Subsurface Geology.

Dr. C. L. Cooper, associate geologist, has been promoted to the post of geologist in the Division of Stratigraphy and Paleontology.

The following promotions and appointments were made in the Geochemical Section of the Survey:

Dr. G. Robert Yohe, chemist, becomes chemist and head of the Coal Division. Dr. Yohe and Dr. Orin W. Rees, chemist and head of the Analytical Division, are assistant chief chemists in interim during the absence of Dr. Frank H. Reed, chief chemist, now in Europe.

Dr. Glenn C. Finger, chemist, has been appointed chemist and head of the Fluorspar Division, and Oren

F. Williams, research assistant, has been promoted to assistant chemist.

Dr. William F. Bradley, chemist, has been made chemist and head of the Division of X-ray and Spectrography.

A Division of Chemical Engineering has been established, and Harold W. Jackman, chemical engineer, has been made chemical engineer and head. Donald M. Fort has been appointed assistant chemist and assigned as one of six members of this division.

Mrs. Regina M. Lewis, recently research analyst in the library of the U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C., has assumed the position of geological librarian of the survey.

The Board of Natural Resources and Conservation comprises the Honorable Frank G. Thompson, director of the State Department of Registration and Education and chairman *ex-officio*; Dr. Arthur C. Willard, president of the University of Illinois, member *ex-officio*; Professor Norman L. Bowen, University of Chicago, representing the field of geology; Professor Roger Adams, University of Illinois, chemistry; Louis R. Howson, of Alvord, Burdick and Howson, Chicago, engineering; Professor E. J. Kraus, University of Chicago, forestry, and secretary of the board; and a member to be appointed as successor to the late Professor William Trelease, of the University of Illinois, representing the field of biology.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

PROFESSOR MARSTON TAYLOR BOGERT, of Columbia University, has received a letter from Professor Jaroslav Heyrovsky, of the Physico-chemical Institute, Charles University, Prague.

After the years of anxiety, we are well, though somewhat underfed. Some of my colleagues died unfortunately under most deplorable conditions in German concentration camps; of those you know Professor Antonin Simek, physical chemist of the Masaryk University in Brno, has been executed. I was, fortunately, able to work all the time in my laboratory and to do purely scientific work in my branch—polarography.

I am eager to know the development of physical chemistry in your country and also to tell something of the advances we did here to those of my American colleagues who work in my line. I am therefore looking forward to an opportunity of using a visiting professorship or a lecture trip, which would enable me to stay a semester or two in U. S. A. May I ask for your advice or friendly support to this aim? The wonderful experience I gained in your country as Carnegie visiting professor in 1933—thanks to your very kind offer—is a steady spur in my scientific endeavors and source of unforgettable joy.

Dr. Bogert has also received from Dr. Frank Kreysa, Stankov, the following wire:

Your brave armies, your insuperable science have vanquished as we anticipated the last enemy of mankind even as the world was expecting it. We felicitate you

and your whole great nation and hail this famous victory. We thank you as well for the liberation of our children in USA. Special thanks to you for fatherly protection of our son.

Dr. Gustav Egloff, of the Universal Oil Products Company, has received the following letter from Professor Dr. Ir. H. I. Waterman, of the University of Delft:

I safely returned from German imprisonment and shall be starting work at the Delft University again. Till 1943 I could continue my ordinary scientific work. We did some work on magneto optic rotatory power of pure organic substances and their mixtures. I did this work in collaboration with the late Professor Wiessman, one of my colleagues.

I should be glad to come over to U. S. A. for some time, but I believe it is difficult to get a permit. Perhaps you know that I was invited to be a guest professor for two years at the University of Minnesota. The Germans, however, did not allow me to leave the country in 1943 and later I was taken prisoner and stayed in different camps.

I am anxious to hear what kind of scientific work was done in U. S. A. In 1940 I received the last bulletins.

I hope to hear from you in due course and I remain with best wishes also from Mrs. Waterman.

Mrs. Margaret M. Nice, of 5725 Harper Avenue, Chicago 37, Ill., writes:

A letter dated June 23, 1945, from Dr. N. Tinbergen, ornithologist and animal psychologist at the University of Leiden, gives news of himself and colleagues. In 1942 sixty professors resigned in protest against the "nazification" of the university; twenty of them were imprisoned as hostages along with thirteen hundred other patriots and internationalists. C. J. Van der Klaauw and Jan Verwey were released in 1943, Tinbergen not until 1944. Other biologists who survived are H. N. Kluijver, G. C. A. Junge, Boschma an De Beaufort, L. Tinbergen, G. V. Van Oordt, Baerends, Kortlandt, "A. F. J. Portielje and Bierens de Haan, though both nearly starved to death." "My students are gradually returning. Several of them are still in Germany where they were kept as slaves. At least three have died; one was captured and executed as a member of the underground forces." Despite conditions, considerable research has been accomplished.

Professor H. W. Shimer, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, writes:

It may possibly be of interest to your readers that the following wire was received by Mrs. Grabau (Mary Antin) from the Provost Marshall General of Washington, "Am pleased to inform you that Dr. Amadeus W. Grabau was contacted 21 August 1945 by Emergency Liaison Team from China in Pekin area."

Dr. William Randolph Taylor writes:

A card has been received from Dr. Johs. Boye Petersen, a well-known student of the fresh-water algae, stating