trained in nuclear research or theory, have been elected to the Harvard faculty. One is Dr. Robert Rathbun Wilson, formerly assistant professor of physics at Princeton University, who helped to evolve the atomic bomb. Others are Dr. Julian Seymour Schwinger, formerly assistant professor of physics at Purdue University, and Dr. Edward Mills Purcell, formerly tutor in Harvard's department of physics.

The Harvard cyclotron or atom-smasher, was constructed at the Gordon McKay Engineering Laboratory in 1938 to aid in the study of phenomena involved in disintegration of atomic nuclei. It was designed to produce atom-smashing projectiles of at least 8,000,000-volt energies. It was one of the mechanical pioneers in the study of what takes place when atoms are disintegrated.

Return of the cyclotron from war service, which reached an apex with the first use of atomic bombs over Japan, will be celebrated through the necessary construction of a new building in which it is to be placed. Dr. Wilson, who directed the Division of Research in Experimental Physics at Los Alamos, supervised the dismantling of the cyclotron in Cambridge and its re-assembly in New Mexico.

The new committee on nuclear physics and chemistry, headed by Dean Buck, will be representative of allied fields of scientific research. As reported in SCIENCE, the sum of $425,000 which it has been authorized to spend may be used for buildings, equipment or salaries. Within these financial bounds, there is no limitation on the allotment of funds in any one year for the next five years.

THE RESEARCH CORPORATION OF NEW YORK

THE Research Corporation of New York, a nonprofit organization devoted to advancing research and technology by use of revenues from inventions assigned to it by public-spirited inventors during a period of five years, will make grants for research and teaching to educational institutions amounting to the sum of $2,500,000. Preference in making these grants will be given, other factors being equal, to smaller institutions and those of more limited financial resources for research.

Dr. Joseph W. Barker, acting president of the corporation, has returned from service as special assistant to the Secretary of the Navy to his work with the corporation and with Columbia University. One hundred to two hundred grants of $2,500 to $5,000 will be made each year in order that students will be enabled to undertake at universities and colleges research of peace-time importance in pure science, especially in chemistry, physics, mathematics and engineering.

The first grants will be made by a special committee of members of industrial and university laboratories. The committee is composed of Acting President Barker, dean of engineering at Columbia University; Dr. Thomas H. Chilton, director of engineering for du Pont de Nemours and Company; Dr. William D. Coolidge, x-ray consultant for the General Electric Company; Timothy E. Shea, manufacturing engineer of the Western Electric Company; Dr. Lloyd P. Smith, associate research director of the Radio Corporation of America; Colonel Stafford L. Warren, professor of medicine at the University of Rochester; and Dr. Robert R. Williams, inventor of the synthesis of vitamin B_1 and coordinator of research of the Research Corporation.

Grants will be made to the institutions at which the investigators work and teach. The funds allotted will be available for the purchase of needed equipment and for employment of assistants either as fellows or otherwise. Awards will be based primarily upon demonstrated ability.

The Research Corporation was begun in 1912 with the gift, through Dr. F. G. Cottrell, of patent rights on electrical precipitation, which is used for removing dust, fume and mists from industrial gases and from the atmosphere. From revenues derived from these and other patents it has made grants of $1,279,637 in past years to fifty-two institutions. In recent years the Research Corporation has served universities by administering inventions that may arise in their laboratories.

Applications should be addressed to Dr. Robert R. Williams, Research Corporation, 405 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

FREEDOM FOR SCIENTIFIC WORK

THE following resolution has been passed by the Southwestern Section of the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine:

WHEREAS, there is now much discussion regarding Federal subsidy in support of scientific endeavor, in order to assure the continuance of the benefits of scientific effort, and

WHEREAS, the many reports, published discussions, and other comments relating to this important matter do not fully emphasize assurance of desired and continued freedom for scientific workers, now be it

Resolved, by the Southwestern Section of the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine that appropriate protagonists for Federal support of scientific work be informed of the section's wish, in company with responsible scientists throughout the nation, to have clear assurance of freedom of scientific endeavor, under any form of Federal subsidy, support, or encouragement, with the understanding that such freedom extend not only to scientific studies and scientific undertakings themselves,

but also to the reporting and discussion of results derived therefrom, and be it further

Resolved, that the section express its concern lest any interference with the necessary freedom of scientific work and the reporting of data therefrom may result in the development of a scientific orthodoxy, which would be detrimental to the ideals of science and democracy and, to the further development of our civilization.

This resolution after discussion was carried unanimously.

CHAUNCEY D. LEAKE, *Chairman*,
DONALD SLAUGHTER, *Secretary*,
SOUTHWESTERN SECTION

NEWS FROM ABROAD

DR. FRANS VERDOORN, editor of *Chronica Botanica* and botanical adviser to the Board for the Netherlands Indies, writes that according to reports received from Java and Singapore, the scientific institutions in the Buitenzorg area (West Java) are relatively in good condition. The classic collections in the Herbarium, as well as the grounds of the famous Botanic Gardens at Buitenzorg, have not been damaged to any considerable extent (it also seems that herbarium material has not been transferred to Japan). The rich library of the Department of Economic Affairs and most of the experiment station buildings are also intact. The following may be quoted from a letter from Dr. C. G. G. J. van Steenis, the well-known authority on Malaysian botany, just received in the U. S. A.:

I lost altogether one year's work, but worked harder than in any other period . . . finished several papers, and am almost ready with my cyclopaedia of botanical collectors, and book on Malaysian Plant Life. . . . Was released as a prisoner of war, August 11, 1942, again in jail, December 14, 1942 to April 13, 1943, worked again to August 13, 1945. Now again interned. . . . The biologists Dr. W. K. Huitema, Ir. P. N. Hackenberg, Dr. J. H. G. Ferman, Dr. M. P. Both, Ir. C. van der Giessen, and P. van der Groot have died. Of many others, especially Dr. M. A. Donk, Dr. P. J. Eyma and T. H. van den Honert, not yet any news. Dr. O. Posthumus, H. C. D. de Wit and my wife still working. Hope to be released soon. . . .

Dr. Rudolf Allers, professor of psychology at the Catholic University of America, writes:

Your readers may be interested to hear that I received a letter from Professor F. J. J. Buytendijk, M.D., head of the laboratory of physiology, Rijksuniversitet, Groningen, telling me that he has returned to his work after half a year of concentration camp and two years of underground activity. He reports that his whole library has been destroyed. He would appreciate enormously whatever he would get in way of reprints and books.

Professor J. Murray Luck, of Stanford University, writes:

Professor Jean Roche, of the Biochemical Laboratory, Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy of the University of Marseilles, stayed in Marseilles during the occupation. The laboratory welcomed biochemists of various countries unable to work under German control and gave to them the possibility of continuing their work. This was initiated at the time the south of France was not under German occupation. He has been the editor of "*Travaux des Membres de la Société de Chimie biologique*," part of "*Bulletin de la Société de Chimie biologique*," which were edited in Marseilles in order to escape German control and to permit the acceptance of papers which would be free of any political or racial considerations. The publication of the Bulletin was continued even when the south of France was occupied and four volumes have been issued constituting parts of volumes 23 to 26. During this period his work on the chemistry of proteins, chiefly on respiratory pigments and on serum proteins, has been progressing. He has been working particularly on the myoglobins, protein solubility, and was directing research on the chemical mechanisms of ossification (quantitative studies on the calcification of bone slices in vitro; role of ascorbic acid in bone formation). The chief work has been devoted to the phosphatases and the alkaline phosphatases of kidney and intestine have been crystallized. Professor Roche will be very grateful to American biochemists for reprints of papers in the above fields and for the receipt of reviews in these subjects.

About 30 biochemists were working in Professor Roche's laboratory at the time of the liberation. A few books and *The Biochemical Journal* have been obtained from England but the shortage of books, periodicals, reprints or original publication, and general reviews of American origin is very severe.

News received by *Chronica Botanica* reads:

According to word received from our associate Dr. W. Robijns, director of the "Jardin botanique de l'État" of Brussels, the collections are all safe (it has been reported elsewhere that part of the gardens have been destroyed). Dr. Robijns continues: "Unfortunately Dr. R. Mosseray, assistant at the 'Jardin botanique de l'État' and officer in the Belgian Army, was killed in May, 1940. His death was a real loss for our Institute.—I am glad to say that, during the occupation, our scientific activity has not only been continued, but even extended.—The '*Bulletin du Jardin botanique de l'État*' was issued regularly, but only once a year. We made and started to execute a plan for a Flora of the Belgian Congo, that will comprise about 20 volumes for the whole of the Spermatophytes. The manuscript of Vol. I is nearly completed. On the other hand, I started the preparation of a Flora of the Spermatophytes of the National Albert Park-Kivu region (Belgian Congo), which is finished about half way. You may see that we have not lost our time during the occupation, and that we kept up our minds and our hope in final victory, by steadily preparing for the future!"

Dr. Zacarias de Jesús, of the University of the