

First, there should be complete freedom of research, both as to choice of problems and methods of attacking them, on the part of individuals and institutions. No hampering restrictions of any kind should be attached to grants of funds nor should there be attempts by any supervisory agency to regiment scientists or to control the direction of their research. Voluntary cooperation is to be encouraged, and ample support should be given investigators whose studies do not fit into any preconceived program.

Second, the body responsible for the administration of federal support should be completely free from political control and should select its own executive officer. Men chosen for this task should be of the highest scientific reputation and enjoy the confidence of scientists generally. It is desirable that the National Academy of Sciences, which was established to advise the government on scientific matters, should present in nomination a panel of names from which the members of the administrative body would be appointed.

Third, provision should be made for the support of the most fundamental and theoretical scientific investigations, most of which have no obvious practical application. Popular interest and support will naturally center on problems which promise immediately useful returns, but great care should be taken that fundamental problems, always the ultimate source of knowledge upon which applications must be based, are not neglected.

Fourth, since the almost complete cessation of education in science during the war has resulted in a serious deficit in trained scientific personnel in this country, it is important to increase substantially the number of persons receiving such training. This can be done by establishing, through federal funds, a series of undergraduate scholarships, graduate fellowships, and post-doctoral fellowships in the sciences. Compulsory enrollment in a National Science Reserve should not be a stipulation for such support.

FELLOWSHIPS IN THE MEDICAL SCIENCES OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

FELLOWSHIPS in the medical sciences, similar to those which have been administered by the Medical Fellowship Board of the National Research Council since 1922, will again be available for the year beginning July 1, 1946. These fellowships, supported by grants from the Rockefeller Foundation to the National Research Council, are designed to provide opportunities for training and experience in research in all branches of medical science. They are open to citizens of the United States or Canada who possess an M.D. or a Ph.D. degree, and are intended for recent graduates who are not yet professionally established.

In addition to these fellowships the Medical Fellowship Board administers two groups of research fellowships, made available through a grant from the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, Inc. The first group, open to applicants who hold either

the Ph.D. or M.D. degree, is for the purpose of providing opportunities for special training and experience in the study of filtrable viruses. The second group, open only to graduates in medicine who have completed one or more years of hospital experience in clinical surgery and are planning a career in orthopedic surgery, is designed to provide opportunities for training and research in those basic medical sciences that will be of particular value in furthering progress in the field of orthopedic surgery.

A series of fellowships in anesthesiology has been established through a grant from the American Society of Anesthesiologists. These fellowships are offered with a view to fostering a closer union between the clinical practice of anesthesiology and the fundamental disciplines on which anesthesia rests. Applicants must hold the M.D. degree and must have completed one or more years of hospital experience as intern or resident.

Fellows will be appointed at a meeting of the Medical Fellowship Board late in February, 1946. Applications to receive consideration at this meeting must be filed on or before January 1. Appointments may begin on any date determined by the board.

For further particulars address the Secretary of the Medical Fellowship Board, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington 25, D. C.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

THE following letter dated August 8 from Dr. H. W. Newton, of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, has been received by Dr. Neal J. Heines, of Paterson, N. J.:

Dear Dr. Heines,

Thank you for your letter of July 16. I regret that I am unable to send anything but a short reply, because my correspondence has to be kept to the very minimum on account of my partial loss of sight from the onset of glaucoma.

The enclosures you send will, I am sure, be of interest to the Director of the Solar Section of the B.A.A. with whom I am in touch.

Thank you also for your expressions of good wishes for our safety at Greenwich. The five and one half years have been very difficult ones though a great experience. The observatory has suffered a considerable amount of superficial damage from blast and a few direct hits, but is safe fundamentally.

With reciprocal good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

H. W. NEWTON

P.S. I have not seen Mrs. Maunder for some time. She has not been very well, I think.

He has also received the following communication, dated September 27, from Dr. W. Runner, of the Astronomical Observatory at Zurich:

Dear Mr. Heines,

Many thanks for your sunspot report for August 1945.

This is the last time I am acknowledging you the receipt of your observations as I shall retire from my duties at the Zurich Observatory and as professor of astronomy at the Federal Institute of Technology and at the university the end of this month. I wish to thank you again for your welcome and useful cooperation at our spot-statistics.

Please address all further correspondence in future directly to the Federal Observatory.

With kind regards and best wishes

Very sincerely yours,

W. RUNNER

Dr. Alfred C. Redfield, of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, has received a poster which was removed from the doors of the University of Tokyo Oceanographic Institute at Moroisi Ko on Sagami Wan by Captain L. S. Parks, Commander Submarine Squadron TWO, on September 2, 1945, while units of that command were engaged in demilitarizing numerous midget submarines located in that area.

This is a marine biological station with her history of over sixty years; If you are from the Eastern Coast, some of you might know Woods Hole or Mt. Desert or Tortugas; If you are from the West Coast, you may know Pacific Grove or Puget Sound Biological Station; This place is a place like one of these; Take care of this place and protect the possibility for the continuation of our peaceful research; You can destroy the weapons and the war instruments; But save the civil equipments for Japanese students; When you are through with your job here, notify to the University and let us come back to our scientific home;

THE LAST ONE TO GO

Captain Parks suggests that it might be of interest to the institutions named to realize that their fame had spread even to enemy territory.

Scientists in general will appreciate this testimony to faith in the international bonds of science and will be grateful to Captain Parks for preserving it.

A letter has been received from Edith Ju-Hwa Chu, D.Sc., professor of chemistry at the National University of Peking, China, who is now in Austin, Texas. She writes:

A letter from Professor Léon Bertin, of *Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle*, Paris, France, has just been

received and it reads as follows: "Answering your letter of November 27th, I am very sorry to inform you, Mr. P. W. Fang passed away in Paris, on the twenty-fifth of August, during a German bombardment. We keep here the remembrance of a very great worker and of the most sympathetic friend."

Mr. Ping-Wen Fang, a research biologist in the Research Institute of Zoology and Botany, the *Académie Sinica, China*, carried on his research in the *Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle*, Paris, since 1934. He was a specialist in ichthyology and discovered a number of new species of several genera, such as *Pheretima*, *Gobiobotia*, *Homalopteris* loaches, etc., of China. His accidental and untimely death is a great loss to all his friends and to the biological science as well.

News of museums in Munich is contained in a letter from Lieutenant E. T. Boardman, of the Cranbrook Institute of Science:

Maximilianeum (housed several science and other cultural societies and their collections). Façade almost intact but gutted. All or most of mineral and fossil collections reported destroyed since the Nazis refused removal of crates of specimens intended for removal.

Alpines Museum (formerly housing material pertaining to natural history and ethnology of the Alpine highlands) now a gutted shell.

Deutsches Kunst Museum (municipal museum of arts and crafts) survived with minor damage. Now converted from a hospital into an American Army mess hall and officer's Post Exchange.

Deutsches Museum (industrial history) has survived structurally and part is in good enough condition to be used for displaced persons. Halls are bare down to masonry in many instances.

The condition of the Museo Civico di Storia Naturale is reported by Professor Oscar de Beaux, director, in a letter to Dr. Robert T. Hatt, Cranbrook Institute of Science:

Our Museum has severely suffered by the war. We had the half of our library burnt away, all the North American and South American papers, the German, Italian, Indian and Australian papers and the entomological works are destroyed. Also a few of the entomological collections and a few of mounted mammal specimens were burnt away or at least strongly damaged by fire. The building was also strongly damaged by fire and explosions. I had to do a hard effort in order to protect what could be protected, and now all is to be begun again.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. WENDELL M. STANLEY, biochemist of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in Princeton, N. J., has been awarded the 1946 William H. Nichols Medal of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society, in recognition of his work on the chemistry of viruses.

At the annual dinner in New York City of the American Chemical Society, the Chemical Industry Medal for 1945 was presented to Dr. Sidney D. Kirkpatrick, editor of *Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering*, in recognition of his contributions to the advancement of chemical engineering and research.