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of Authors and Publishers, reporting that, with some manufacturing costs up from 80 to 100% since 1945, a technical publisher must now sell 5,000 copies of a modestly priced book to recover production costs and expect a small profit. Twenty-five years ago the sale of 1,500 copies would have achieved the same objective. He attributed the greatest expense of textbook production to the method of type-setting involved, the use of unusual mathematical symbols and tabular and formula matter requiring hand composition. To date, advances in printing technology have failed to bring large savings, but the hope was expressed that it might be possible to modify some of the new printing methods, such as those developed during the Chicago newspaper strike, to apply to technical publishing. This latter method is essentially a refinement of the photo-litho process. Although increased college enrollments, greater industrial demand, and an active foreign market have made it possible for publishers to avoid price increases proportional to increased production costs, Mr. Wiley stated that many worth-while and needed books are not being published simply because their market potential is too low.

The activities of the Library Committee of the Nbgemeinschaft will be reported in an article now in preparation by F. Schmidt-Ott, 88-year-old founder of the old Nbgemeinschaft der deutschen Wissenschaft (Emergency Society for German Sciences, a university association for the support of sciences in the general poverty after 1918). It is expected that this essay will be published in the Zentralblatt für Bibliothekwesen. George Leyh, librarian emeritus of the University of Tübingen, writes that the difficulties involved in organizing a new Nbgemeinschaft are far greater than after World War I, largely because of the destruction of the German State as a political entity. He feels that the first task for the reconstruction of German research libraries is to fill in gaps in periodicals and serials from 1939 until now, and, the second, to restore book losses with a view to the history and special strong points in each library's collections. Those interested in sending printed matter to Germany, as either gifts or exchanges, will be interested to know that the International Exchange Service of the Smithsonian Institution now accepts such matter for transmittal in all four zones. The Service has available a folder describing the exact procedure which should be followed.

A Colonial Microbiological Research Institute, erected by the Colonial Products Research Council in Port of Spain, Trinidad, will be opened officially on Monday, July 5, by the Rt. Hon. Lord Hankey, chairman of the Council. The Council's decision to establish the Institute followed the recommendation of Sir Robert Robinson and Prof. J. L. Simonsen, who visited the Caribbean in 1944. Invitations to attend the opening, which will be followed by two days of scientific meetings, have been extended to Canada, the United States, the Caribbean Commission, and a number of South American Republics. A. C. Thaysen, formerly of the Chemical Research Laboratory, Teddington, will direct the Institute's activities.

The U. S. Atomic Energy Commission and the Office of Naval Research have agreed upon a program of joint support of fundamental scientific research in physical and medical fields in which the two agencies have a common interest. AEC will make available up to $3,000,000 for physical research and $1,000,000 for medical and biological research for a one-year joint program. This will make possible the extension of the present ONR projects in fields related to the national atomic energy program and the initiation of some new projects. Nearly 750 ONR research projects, started at 130 institutions during the two years of operation of ONR, are being studied with a view to their possible selection for extension or intensification through joint sponsorship. Twenty-nine medical and biological research contracts, including cancer studies, have been selected for support entirely by AEC funds. About 30 projects in nuclear physics have been tentatively approved by AEC for joint support. All contracts selected under the joint program for AEC partial or entire financing will be administered by ONR. The extension of an existing project in this cooperative program will, of course, be subject to the approval of the present contractor.

The work involved is unclassified, and is done in nongovernmental laboratories, hospitals, universities, and other research institutions. The cooperative program will insure coordination of research in fields in which there is a serious shortage of qualified scientific personnel.

The physical science projects cover a wide range of investigations of a fundamental nature in nuclear and general physics, chemistry, metallurgy and ceramics, mathematics, and geophysics.

Funds for the support of the AEC-ONR research on cancer are included in the Commission's recently announced cancer research program, undertaken with Congressional authorization.

Make Plans for—

American Society of Plant Physiologists, meeting of New England Section, May 21-22, University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

American Neurological Association, June 14-16, Claridge Hotel, Atlantic City, New Jersey.

American Society for Engineering Education, June 14-18, University of Texas, Austin.

Mycological Society of America, annual foray, June 15-17, Biological Station, University of Michigan, Cheboygan.


American College of Radiology, June 18-20, Continental Hotel, Chicago, Illinois.

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