

be in an exceptionally favourable position for the promotion of the therapeutic and physiological investigations which Prof. Lawrence at Berkeley and Prof. Hevesy at Copenhagen have so strikingly originated. It is hoped that on his return from California, Dr. Harrison will organize and direct research in these subjects in the University of Birmingham.

#### The Ontario Research Foundation

THE report of the Ontario Research Foundation for the year 1938 (Sessions Paper, No. 48, 1939. Pp. 36. Toronto: King's Printer, 1939) refers to the extension of the soil survey of the central part of Southern Ontario eastward to the Quebec border. The Department of Agriculture has also determined the general relations between the performance of certain varieties of apple, and climatic and soil conditions in the apple-growing sections of the Province. The Department of Pathology and Bacteriology has continued its studies of bovine mastitis. Attention has been focused on the prevention of human infection by pasteurization of milk, and experimental work was continued during the year on *Brucella Abortus*. Studies relating to the sheep nose fly were continued during the year as well as on the parasites of game and fish. The Textiles Department has been responsible for investigations on causes of fabric fraying and the quantitative and consistent measurement of this tendency. They have also been responsible for testing work on the fastness to light of dyestuffs used in the Canadian textile industry, and have commenced a study of the fundamental and physical characteristics of single silk fibres. The testing work and control work of the department, particularly in connexion with rayon merchandise, have also increased. The facilities of the Department of Engineering and Metallurgy for the investigation of products associated with air-conditioning have been extended, and were put to considerable use in the year. A study of the resistance of metals and alloys to abrasion and wear has developed to a stage which permitted a new programme of work to be prepared, and results of tests on suitable metals have been collated.

THE Department of Chemistry in its investigation of paint failures in the Paint and Varnish Laboratory has continued to yield information essential to understand the problem of protective finishes, and a fundamental investigation of the processing of drying oils is in progress. Other work on a low cost plastic moulding powder prepared from wood meal has overcome the difficulties due to the absence of some properties which are essential to commercial success, and a low cost powder is now available which can be moulded commercially. Interpolymerization of styrene and other organic chemicals has been studied in the cellulose and plastics laboratory and a new series of interpolymers developed which are notable in their resistance to swelling in commercial solvents. During the year an Analytical Laboratory was established to serve as a central laboratory in the

Foundation for analytical problems. The Paper, Printing and Adhesives Laboratory has worked mainly on packaging and adhesive problems due to difficulties through odours and moisture. In the Department of Biochemistry work on the production of lactic acid and other chemicals by the action of micro-organisms has been conducted, as well as pilot scale tannery operations to improve the vegetable chrome process for the manufacture of sole and belting leather which was developed in 1937, and in addition to improving the colour of the leather it is hoped to improve still further its durability under normal wearing conditions. Attention is also being given to the development of spue on finished leather, and a complete report on the technology and economics of pectin production has been prepared for one of the large apple growers of the Province.

#### "Nomenclator Zoologicus"

WE have received a sample part of the "Nomenclator Zoologicus", edited by Dr. S. A. Neave, of which the first volume is about to be published by the Zoological Society. The work, which will be completed in four volumes, aims at giving "as complete a record as possible of the bibliographical origins of the name of every genus and subgenus in zoology published since 1758, the date of the tenth edition of Linnæus' 'Systema Naturæ', up to the end of the year 1935". Up to 1850, not only the generic but also the specific names are indexed in Sherborn's monumental "Index Animalium". Since that date, however, the scale of zoological publication has increased so vastly that a continuation of "Sherborn" would be a task of overwhelming magnitude. Even in the all-important matter of generic names the systematist has been compelled to spend much time and labour in tracing their origin and in trying to avoid re-inventing old names for new genera. The "Nomenclator Animalium generum et subgenerum" published by the Prussian Academy of Sciences, begun in 1926, was designed to remedy this state of affairs, but it has been making its appearance in so leisurely a fashion that, although already thirteen years out of date, it is not yet completed. Dr. Neave, who has had the assistance of the specialists on the staff of the British Museum (Natural History), as well as of many other zoologists in Great Britain and abroad, hopes to complete publication by the end of 1940. Apart from cross-references and variations in spelling, he and his collaborators have collected about 192,000 generic names, of which at least 5,000 have escaped inclusion in former nomenclators and in the "Zoological Record". No doubt many omissions remain to be discovered, and zoologists are asked to send a note of any they may find so that they may be included in a supplementary list at the end of the last volume.

#### Forestry in South Africa

WE welcome the issue of the first number of a new forestry publication appearing in the *Journal of the South African Association* (No. 1, Oct. 1938, Pretoria, published by the Association, April and