GENERAL SCIENCE

Cooperation Growing Among Scientists

➤ INTERNATIONAL cooperation among scientists of the Americas has grown rapidly during the war, and is expected to continue its increase now that peace has come, Dr. Raymund L. Zwemer, executive director of the Interdepartmental Committee on Cultural and Scientific Cooperation, Department of State, told his audience in a radio address. Subjects covered range through the whole alphabet of science from anthropology to volcanology.

As a concrete example, Dr. Zwemer cited the joint program of research carried on by Mexican and American scientists on the new volcano Paricutin. This has involved not only volcanology but many other sciences, from the related ones of seismology and geology to some that at first would hardly be thought of in connection with volcanoes, such as botany and soil conservation.

As another example, the speaker mentioned a three-cornered cooperative project fostered by the Weather Bureau, involving Cuba, Mexico and the United States. Much of the weather we get in this country is bred in the Caribbean and Gulf areas, and without the assistance of Cuban and Mexican meteorologists we would not be building up the better knowledge of weather conditions in these southern waters that is vitally needed in all three countries.

Dr. Zwemer spoke as the guest of Science Service on the "Adventures in Science" program broadcast by the Columbia Broadcasting System.

Science News Letter, September 15, 1945

WILDLIFE

Oyster Crop Short Again Because of Manpower Lack

➤ OYSTERS will be far from plentiful again this year, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has announced after a survey of the principal oyster areas of the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. The only bright spot in the otherwise dim prospects is the Long Island region, where carefully tended oyster beds are bringing to maturity the crop that was set in 1940 and 1941.

Lack of manpower to take care of the shellfish while they are growing and to bring them in when they reach marketable size is an outstanding factor in the shortage. In one important oyster area, in the neighborhood of Hampton Roads, Va., increased water pollution due to wartime industrial activity has been an additional factor in decreasing oyster yield.

Science News Letter, September 15, 1945

INVENTION

Combined Scouring And Polishing Powder

➤ A COMBINED scouring and polishing powder, covered by patent 2,384,006, is the invention of Joseph M. Bleakney of Manhasset, N. Y. It incorporates sawdust, to make it lighter and less scratchy in its action; other ingredients are diatomaceous earth, soap powder and a binder.

Science News Letter, September 15, 1945

The *guinea pig*, standard laboratory helper, came originally from Peru.

Sugar helps preserve the color and flavor of canned fruit, but if sugar is not available, the fruit may be canned unsweetened and sweetened when used.

Black and white halftone reproduction showing the prominent lines of the spectra of pure metallic elements, which identify them to the spectrographer.