

is tolerated well by the body and is superior, he believes, to small bone grafts or bone dust previously used for filling small cavities in the skull. It is suitable for defects up to one and one-half inches in diameter. It might be used following operations for removal of a small brain tumor, drainage of a brain abscess and repair of a depressed fracture of the skull.

No ill effects of any kind have followed use of the wire mesh during the past eighteen months.

Science News Letter, November 17, 1945

GEOLOGY

Norwegian Geologists Will Study Rock Records

► RETURN of science in Norway to normal conditions is signalized by arrangements now being made for a geological research expedition into a high mountain area in the central part of the country, to study records left in the rocks and soil by the waning remnants of the last great Ice Age glacier. A communication to this effect has been received by the Geological Society of America from Dr. Kaare Munster Strom, president of the Geological Society of Norway.

The expedition, which will be in the field from about June 25 to July 5, will be under Dr. Strom's leadership. The size of the party will have to be limited because of lack of shelter in the rugged mountain country, but two or three American geologists may be included.

Science News Letter, November 17, 1945

INVENTION

Superheated Steam For Roasting Coffee

► USE of superheated steam for roasting coffee instead of the conventional dry roasting is advocated in patent 2,388,298, taken out by T. J. Stephens of New York City. The coffee grains are slowly poured into one end of a slowly rotating kiln-like cylinder with a spiral web inside to keep the mass distributed and moving towards the other end. The beans are subjected to the action of superheated steam throughout their course. The inventor claims that this process makes for better flavor, more cups of coffee per pound, and greatly decreased production of harmful unsaturated organic compounds in the roasted beans. He also states that the same process can be used for roasting nuts, grains and other vegetable products.

Science News Letter, November 17, 1945

GENERAL SCIENCE

Scientists Deferred

Those who are under 26 and have done war research for two years may now ask to be allowed to complete study for a science or engineering degree.

► YOUNG scientists under 26 years of age who have done research for at least two years on war projects such as the atomic bomb, antimalarial medicines, DDT, or radar may now ask for deferment from the draft in order to complete study for degrees.

No promises are made of deferment by Selective Service. Each case will be handled individually on its merits and must be recommended by an official of the Office of Scientific Research and Development.

This is the first step taken in response to recommendations made last July in a report to the President by Dr. Vannevar Bush, director of the Office of Scientific Research and Development, in which he pointed out the critical shortage of scientists in training to carry on essential research.

The new policy is based on a letter written by Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson to Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, Director of Selective Service.

This plan, proposed by the Secretary of War, takes care of only a small part of the urgent problem of insuring that the United States have available trained scientists for postwar research needed for industry and an adequate national defense.

It makes no provision for scientists under 26 who already have their Ph.D. degrees, although these men are perhaps the most valuable both for research and for the instruction of scientists in training. It takes at least six years to train high school graduates to research effectiveness.

Nothing is done about the scientists who up until 23 months ago were still in college and who interrupted their training to do war research. The plan only applies to men who have been engaged for two years or more on war research.

No provision is made for deferment of talented 18-year-olds who up until their eighteenth birthday were taking scientific training.

Nothing is done about getting thousands of scientists in our armed forces out of uniform and back into research or scientific training, which was one of the

strongest recommendations of the Bush report.

Nothing is done toward getting many scientists in the armed forces back into industry where they are needed for reconversion and development of new products, as advocated by professional organizations such as the American Chemical Society.

Only those scientists who have been engaged on war research for two years or more and who now have been enrolled in a recognized college or university to complete work for a degree in science or engineering are affected. Such individuals, under this plan, may write to George W. Bailey, Office of Scientific Research and Development, 1530 P Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., sending a statement from their employer certifying that they have spent two years or more in war research, a statement from a university or college official that he has been accepted for enrollment, and also a short personal history.

Science News Letter, November 17, 1945

AERONAUTICS

Carrier-Based Plane Goes 500 Miles an Hour

► THE BRITISH Navy's announcement of the de Havilland jet-propelled plane, the Vampire, to be used as a carrier-based fighter, indicates a new advance attained by English jet-engine manufacturers.

Looking somewhat like the twin-boomed Lockheed P-38 Lightning, it is said to have a level flight speed of over 500 miles an hour and a ceiling of nearly 50,000 feet. Powered with a single de Havilland Goblin jet engine, which also powered the original Lockheed jet fighter, the P-80 Shooting Star, the Vampire is of all-metal construction and has arresting gear for carrier landings retracting into the exhaust jet cowlings.

Another very successful British jet plane, the twin-engined Gloster Meteor, was the only Allied jet fighter to see action in the war, but except for the fact that its speed is in the 500-mile-an-hour class, performance data are still restricted.

Science News Letter, November 17, 1945