

FELLOWSHIPS

It is recommended that appropriations for the fellowship program be made in general accordance with the procedure of the last two years, namely, \$100,000 for grants and \$16,000 for administration.

The fellowship committee (W. W. Alexander, Charles S. Johnson, Henry Allen Moe, Raymond R. Paty, Robert C. Weaver, and Edwin R. Embree) will not complete its choice of Fellows for the coming year until about the middle of April. At that time an annotated list of the awards for 1941 will be sent to the trustees.

The fellowship director will report orally at the meeting on the present status of this year's selections. For the purpose of review and for the information of the new trustees, the complete list of Fellows - 1937 to 1940 inclusive - which was recorded in the November 1940 docket is sent with this docket as a special exhibit in a separate binder.

These fellowships continue to be of great value in giving opportunities for advanced study and development (a) to young Negroes of the highest promise and (b) to white Southerners who are thus encouraged to work on problems of special concern to the region.

The fellowships are given on the basis of formal, written applications which must be received by the Fund by the first of January of each year. The several hundred applicants are carefully appraised on the basis of their records and the judgments of persons who know them best. Some three hundred candidates, sorted out by the fellowship director as having some distinction from the mass of applications, are studied in detail by the members of the fellowship committee. At its first two-day meeting this year on March 15 and 16, the committee made

tentative selections of about 85 top candidates. Additional information is now being gathered on these most promising cases (interviews with the candidates, supplementary information from people with whom they have worked, appraisals of the artists and musicians by the special juries in these fields made available to us by the Guggenheim fellowship system, careful judgments by individual critics on the relative merits of the top candidates in such fields as literature and science). On the basis of this additional information and these expert appraisals, final selections of about 60 Fellows will be made by the committee at meetings early in April.

This year the fellowship committee is experimenting with a new type of award in an attempt to search out potential talent among Negro students at an earlier stage of development. To this end, in addition to the fellowships of an average of \$1,500, awarded to mature persons of clearly established promise, a series of \$400 scholarships are being offered to about a dozen of the top seniors of selected Negro colleges.

The following actions are recommended:

RESOLVED That the sum of One Hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) be and it is hereby appropriated for fellowships.

RESOLVED That the sum of Sixteen thousand dollars (\$16,000) be and it is hereby appropriated, of which so much as may be needed shall be used for administration of the fellowship program during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1942.

*No report in November 1941 in docket.
Green book, including all Fellows from 1937 to 41,
prepared.*