

QUOTATIONS.

THE GERMAN YELLOW-FEVER EXPEDITION.

WE recently referred in our news columns to the fact that not long ago the Institute for Ship and Tropical Diseases in Hamburg sent a fully equipped expedition to South America to study yellow fever in particular. The results already obtained by American, English and French observers will now be subjected to thorough tests, and further reports from the expedition will be awaited with much interest. We see in expeditions of this kind the strongest evidence of the great interest now felt in tropical diseases and hygiene. This movement seems to date back only a few years. The epochal discoveries of Patrick Manson and Ronald Ross were followed by the establishment in Liverpool of a school for tropical medicine by means of funds contributed by wide-awake and philanthropic business men. This school has sent out several investigative expeditions, the results of which have been important in the fight against malaria, and more recently in clearing up the etiology of sleeping sickness. In addition, this school gives courses in tropical medicine. Other seaports have followed the example of Liverpool, and similar institutions have been started in London, Hamburg, Bordeaux and elsewhere for teaching and research, location in seaport towns being necessary in order to gain access to the proper clinical material. The German expedition, which also is to study and report on sanitary conditions in South American harbors, is supported financially by the merchants of Hamburg. Whether viewed from the philanthropic or commercial point of view, the study of tropical diseases and maritime sanitation is so important that we can only rejoice because it is fast becoming a matter of international competition. It may not be out of order to ask what is being done in this field in the great seaports of the United States, in addition to guarding against the importation of infectious diseases. So far as we know there is now no place in America where a physician may receive special instruction of the proper kind in tropical diseases and allied subjects. We look for the establishment of an institution of this kind in Manila before

long, but it is quite evident that there is room and need for one or more such institutes in the United States proper.—*Journal of the American Medical Association.*

CURRENT NOTES ON METEOROLOGY.

MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW.

The Monthly Weather Review for March, 1904 (dated May 23), contains the following, among other articles: Professor R. F. Stupart, of the Canadian Meteorological Service, writes on the 'Origin of American Cold Waves,' stating his belief that cold waves may originate almost anywhere over the more northern portions of the continent, and also expressing a doubt in regard to the cold being due entirely to radiation. Rev. Chas. H. Lee, of Racine, Wis., reports that in winter clouds may often be observed gathering on the eastern horizon over Lake Michigan, and moving landward. These clouds are usually seen about noon, after a clear, cold morning, with a temperature of about 0° F. At first the surface of the lake steams 'like a boiling kettle.' Later the steaming ceases, and clouds break off and slowly float shoreward from a great mass of accumulated vapor over the lake to the east. A paper on 'Precipitation for Twenty-nine Years at Dodge City, Kansas,' by E. D. Emigh, leads to the conclusion that there is no foundation for the assertion that the rainfall in western Kansas is increasing from year to year. Rev. Marc Dechevrens, of the Observatory of St. Louis, Island of Jersey, contributes a description of the observations made by him on 'The Vertical Component of the Wind' on the island of Jersey, by means of the Dechevrens universal anemometer. To this article are appended notes by Professors Abbe and Marvin. H. H. Clayton, of the Blue Hill Observatory, contributes 'A Study of Some Errors of Kite Meteorographs and Observations on Mountains,' this being the result of the careful kite work done at Blue Hill since 1894. 'The Winter of 1903-04,' which was characterized by unusual cold east of the Mississippi River, is discussed by W. B. Stockman. The editor of the *Review* considers 'Uniformity in Meth-