

the adoption of well-considered plans for a co-operative movement of the medical profession, public health officials, boards of trade, churches, schools, the press and other agencies for the cure and prevention of this disease. If you deem it wise to undertake this commission I shall be glad to be permitted to work with you to that end and you may call upon me from time to time for such sums as may be needed during the next five years for carrying on an aggressive campaign, up to a total of one million dollars (\$1,000,000).

While it would be a privilege to act in any movement which offers assurance of relieving human suffering, it is a peculiar pleasure to me to feel that the principal activities of your board will be among the people of our southern states. It has been my pleasure of late to spend a portion of each year in the south and I have come to know and to respect greatly that part of our country and to enjoy the society and friendship of many of its warm-hearted people. It will, therefore, be an added gratification to me if in this way I may in some measure express my appreciation of their many kindnesses and hospitalities.

Very truly,

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER

The reply was signed by all the members of the commission, and was as follows:

NEW YORK, Oct. 26, 1909.

MR. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER,
New York City.

Dear Sir: Your generous offer to pay such sums as may be needed during the next five years up to a total of one million dollars to carry on a scientific and popular campaign for eradicating "hookworm disease" has our heartiest approbation and we accept your invitation to administer this trust with a keen appreciation of the opportunity that you give us to do a great public good. We have to-day taken steps for organization and incorporated for practical work and have named this board the "Rockefeller Commission for the Eradication of Hookworm Disease."

The "hookworm" parasites often so lower the vitality of those who are affected as to retard their physical and mental development, render them more susceptible to other diseases, make labor less efficient, and in the sections where the malady is most prevalent, greatly increase the death rate from consumption, pneumonia, typhoid fever and malaria. It has been shown that the lowered vitality of multitudes long attributed to malaria and climate and seriously affecting eco-

nomic development, is, in fact, largely due in some districts to this parasite.

The disease is by no means confined to any one class; it takes its toll of suffering and death from the highly intelligent and well-to-do as well as from the less fortunate. It is a conservative estimate that two millions of our people are infected by this parasite. The disease is more common and more serious in children of school age than in other persons. Widespread and serious as the infection is, there is a most encouraging outlook. The disease can be easily recognized, readily and effectively treated and by simple and proper sanitary precautions successfully prevented. The undertaking proposed by you is therefore not only full of promise of great benefit, but is eminently definite and practicable. We desire, individually as well as collectively, to thank you for this opportunity to be of service to our fellowmen and we enter upon our task with a deep sense of the responsibility laid upon us.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE National Academy of Sciences will meet at Princeton University, beginning on Tuesday, November 16.

BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY held on October 20 its first congregation for the conferring of honorary degrees. The degree of LL.D. was conferred on Mr. Balfour, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Andrew Carnegie and other distinguished guests, including the following men of science: Sir William Crookes, Sir Archibald Geikie, Sir Joseph Larmor, Sir Douglas Powell, Sir William Ramsay, Lord Rayleigh, Professor Rutherford, Professor Silvanus Thompson, Professor Tilden and Sir J. J. Thomson.

At the meeting of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society, on November 5, the Nichols medal will be awarded to Dr. L. H. Baekeland for his papers on "The Synthesis, Constitution and Industrial Application of Bakelite" and "Soluble and Fusible Resinous Condensation Products of Formaldehyde and Phenol."

MR. SHACKLETON was presented with a gold medal of the Royal Society of Geography at Brussels and a diploma of honorary membership after lecturing before the society on October 20.

DR. JULIUS WIESNER, professor of botany at the University of Vienna, has retired from active service.

PROFESSOR J. VOSSELER, director of the Biological Station at Amani, has been appointed director of the Zoological Garden at Hamburg.

DR. G. LOPORIORE has been appointed director of the Agricultural Station at Modena.

MR. JULIAN S. HUXLEY, B.A., late scholar of Balliol College, Oxford, has been elected to the biological scholarship at Naples for 1909. Mr. Huxley, who is a grandson of the late Professor Huxley, gained the Newdigate prize for English verse in 1908.

THE Liston Victoria jubilee prize of the value of £100, which is awarded every fourth year by the Royal College of Surgeons, of Edinburgh, to the fellow or licentiate of the college who has done the greatest benefit to practical surgery during the period since the last award, has been adjudged to Mr. Robert Jones, of Liverpool.

THE following awards by the British Institution of Mining and Metallurgy have been announced: The gold medal of the institution to Professor William Gowland, who has recently vacated the chair of metallurgy at the Royal School of Mines, in recognition of his services in the advancement of metallurgical science and education. The "Consolidated Goldfields of South Africa (Limited)" gold medal to Mr. W. A. Caldecott for his work in the investigation of methods of reduction and treatment of gold ores. The "Consolidated Goldfields of South Africa (Limited)" premium of 40 guineas conjointly to Mr. C. O. Bannister and Mr. W. N. Stanley, in recognition of their work in the investigation of the thermal property of cupels, and for their joint paper on "Cupellation Experiments."

IN accordance with the recommendations of the recent departmental committee on the West African Medical Staff, the secretary of state for the British colonies has appointed the following men to be an advisory committee on medical and sanitary questions connected with the British colonies and protect-

orates in tropical Africa: Mr. H. J. Read, C.M.G., of the Colonial Office (chairman); Sir Patrick Manson, K.C.M.G., M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S., senior lecturer, London School of Tropical Medicine; Sir Rubert Boyce, M.D., F.R.S., dean of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine; Mr. C. Strachey, of the Colonial Office; Mr. W. T. Prout, C.M.G., M.B., late principal medical officer, Sierra Leone; Mr. Theodore Thomson, C.M.G., M.D., of the local government board; Mr. W. J. Simpson, C.M.G., M.D., F.R.C.P., professor of hygiene, King's College, London; Mr. J. K. Fowler, M.A., M.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.P., late dean of the faculty of medicine, University of London.

DR. ALLAN KINGHORN, who has recently returned from northeast Rhodesia and central Africa, where he was sent by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, together with Mr. R. E. Montgomery, to investigate the sleeping sickness there, has been appointed by the secretary of state for the colonies to proceed to West Africa where he will continue his work on the sleeping sickness. Since his return from Africa Dr. Kinghorn has been engaged at the research laboratories of the school, and together with Mr. Montgomery has completed a report of the Zambesi Sleeping Sickness Expedition. Mr. Montgomery has been appointed to a post under the Colonial Office in British East Africa at Nairobi.

By the will of the late Mr. Mitchel Valentine, after a few minor bequests have been given, the residue of the estate, valued at \$2,000,000, is to be divided equally between the Presbyterian Hospital and Hahnemann Hospital of New York.

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE has given 450 acres of land as the site for a sanitarium for tuberculosis patients. The land is at Cresson, Pa., at an elevation of 2,400 feet.

THE Mount Weather Research Observatory of the United States Weather Bureau has just completed its first sounding balloon campaign in the west. Small rubber sounding balloons were sent up simultaneously at two points, viz., Fort Omaha, Nebr., and Indianapolis,

Ind. Thirteen ascensions were made at Fort Omaha and seven at Indianapolis. Owing to an unforeseen difficulty at the last-named place the full program could not be completed. All the meteorographs sent up at Indianapolis have been recovered and thus far about one half of the Omaha instruments have been returned.

THE American Academy of Medicine will hold its third mid-year meeting at Yale University on November 11 and 12, when it will conduct a conference on "The prevention of infant mortality." There will be four sessions devoted, respectively, to medical, philanthropic, institutional and educational prevention, before which papers will be presented by distinguished speakers.

DR. VON BRUNCK, of the "Badische Anilin," has made a gift of 50,000 Marks to the Munich Academy on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of his entry in the industry.

Nature states that prizes to the value of £1,500 are offered by the National Medical Academy of Mexico for work on typhus fever. Of the sum named, £1,000 will be awarded to the discoverer of the cause of typhus, or of a curative serum, and £500 to the investigators whose work is judged most useful in helping towards such discovery. The competition is international, but all essays must be written in Spanish. They can be received up to February 28, 1911.

THE Herter lectures at the University and Bellevue Hospital Medical College will be given this year by Professor Otto Cohnheim, of the University of Heidelberg. The lectures begin on Monday, December 6, at 4 P.M., and continue daily throughout the week. The subject is "Enzymes and their Actions." Those interested are cordially invited to attend.

THE fourth lecture in the series under the J. C. Campbell lecture fund was given on October 19, before the society of the Sigma Xi at Ohio State University, by Professor H. T. Ricketts, of the University of Chicago. The subject of the address was "The Transmission of Disease by Insects."

ON the program of the meeting of the American Philosophical Society for November 5 is a paper on "The Correlation of the Gastric and Intestinal Digestive Processes and the Influence of Emotions upon them" (with X-ray illustrations of the movements of the food in the digestive organs), by Dr. W. B. Cannon, professor of physiology in Harvard University.

PROFESSOR OTTO FOLIN, of Harvard University, has delivered a lecture before the Academy of Medicine, Cleveland, O., on "Ten Years' Progress in the Field of Metabolism."

THE American ambassador presided at the opening meeting of the winter session of the London School of Tropical Medicine, on October 26, when Professor W. Osler, M.D., F.R.S., regius professor of medicine at Oxford University, made the address on "The Nation and the Tropics."

THE Bradshaw lecture of the Royal College of Physicians of London, delivered on November 2 by Professor J. A. Lindsay, was on "Darwinism and Medicine." The FitzPatrick lectures by Sir T. Clifford Allbutt, on November 4 and 9, are on "Greek Medicine in Rome."

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association states that the dedication of the monument to the memory of Professor P. Tillaux took place in the amphitheater of anatomy of the hospitals of Paris on October 29. This monument was the last work of the sculptor Chaplain. It is in marble, and represents Tillaux standing, his right hand on a half-dissected cadaver, giving his lesson in anatomy. The monument stands in the garden of the amphitheater where Tillaux was director of anatomy before being appointed professor in the medical school.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

FOLLOWING the acceptance of the gift by Mr. W. C. Procter of \$500,000 for the Graduate College of Princeton University, the trustees have chosen as its site the land added to the campus in 1905. This tract is a short distance to the southwest of the central campus. It contains 240 acres, sloping to the