

spending a year in Italy, where he obtained much information as to the remarkable progress of modern Italy. Illustrated.

March 3: "The Birds of Mexico." By Mr. Frank M. Chapman, of the American Museum of Natural History. With motion pictures of roseate spoon-bills, man-o-war birds and white ibises.

March 10: "From the Amazon to the Orinoco. The Five Guianas." By Mrs. Harriet Chalmers Adams. With motion pictures.

March 17: "Travels and Experiences in Mexico." By Mr. John Birkinbine, Ex-President of the American Institute of Mining Engineers. Illustrated.

March 24: "The Shrines of Greece; Olympia, Delphi, Eleusis, Athens, Mycenæ, Tiryns, Epidaurus and the Island of Crete." By Miss Marion Cock. Illustrated.

March 31: "The Romance and Grandeur of Spain." By Dr. Charles Upson Clark, of Yale University. Illustrated.

April 7: It is hoped that former Vice-President Charles W. Fairbanks will be able to address the Society on this date on some subject connected with his recent journey around the world.

April 14: "The Fiords and Fisheries of Norway." By Dr. Hugh M. Smith, Deputy Commissioner of the Bureau of Fisheries. With motion pictures.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO AND MR. ROCKEFELLER

At the convocation of the University of Chicago on December 20, the following letter from Mr. John D. Rockefeller to the president and trustees was read:

I have this day caused to be set aside for the University of Chicago, from the funds of the General Education Board, which are subject to my disposition, income-bearing securities of the present market value of approximately ten million dollars, the same to be delivered to the university in ten equal annual instalments beginning Jan. 1, 1911, each instalment to bear income to the university from the date of such delivery only. In a separate letter of even date my wishes regarding the investment and uses of the fund are more specifically expressed.

It is far better that the university be supported and enlarged by the gifts of many than by those of a single donor. This I have recognized from the beginning and, accordingly, have sought to assist you in enlisting the interest and securing the con-

tributions of many others, at times by making my own gifts conditional on the gifts of others, and at times by aiding you by means of unconditional gifts to make the university as widely useful, worthy and attractive as possible. Most heartily do I recognize and rejoice in the generous response of the citizens of Chicago and the West.

Their contributions to the resources of the university have been, I believe, more than seven million dollars. It might, perhaps, be difficult to find a parallel to generosity so large and so widely distributed as this, exercised in behalf of an institution so recently founded. I desire to express my appreciation also of the extraordinary wisdom and fidelity which you as president and trustees have shown in conducting the affairs of the university.

In the multitude of students so quickly gathered, in the high character of the institution, in the variety and extent of original research, in the valuable contributions to human knowledge, in the uplifting influence of the university as a whole upon education throughout the West, my highest hopes have been far exceeded. It is these considerations, with others, that move me to sum up in a single and final gift, distributing its payment over a period of many years to come, such further contributions as I have purposed to make to the university.

The sum I now give is intended to make provision, with such gifts as may reasonably be expected from others, for such added buildings, equipment and endowment as the department thus far established will need. This gift completes the task which I have set before myself. The founding and support of new departments or the development of the varied and alluring field of applied science, including medicine, I leave to the wisdom of the trustees, as funds may be furnished for these purposes by other friends of the university.

In making an end of my gifts to the university, as I now do, and in withdrawing from the board of trustees, my personal representatives, whose resignations I enclose, I am acting on an early and permanent conviction that this great institution, being the property of the people, should be controlled, conducted and supported by the people in whose generous efforts for its upbuilding I have been permitted simply to cooperate; and I could wish to consecrate anew to the great cause of education, the funds which I have given, if that were possible; to present the institution a second time, in so far as I have aided in founding it, to the people of Chicago and the West; and to

express my hope that, under their management, and with their generous support, the university may be an increasing blessing to them, to their children and to future generations.

Very truly yours,
JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER

The trustees, in adopting a resolution expressing their grateful appreciation of Mr. Rockefeller's generosity, ordered spread upon the records a minute, a copy of which will be engraved and conveyed to Mr. Rockefeller by a special committee of the board. The minute reads in part:

The board of trustees of the University of Chicago accepts the gift made by Mr. Rockefeller and pledges itself to carry out in the spirit as well as in the letter, the conditions accompanying it. It is now twenty-one years since, in May, 1889, Mr. Rockefeller made his first gift to the University of Chicago. This final gift will make the total amount which the university will have received from its founder approximately thirty-five million dollars.

We know of no parallel in the history of educational benefactions to gifts so munificent bestowed upon a single institution of learning. But unique as they are in amount, they are still more remarkable for the spirit in which they have been bestowed. Mr. Rockefeller has never permitted the university to bear his name, and consented to be called its founder only at the urgent request of the board of trustees. He has never suggested the appointment or removal of any professor. Whatever views may have been expressed by members of the faculty he has never indicated either assent or dissent. He has never interfered directly or indirectly with that freedom of opinion and expression which is the vital breath of a university, but has adhered without deviation to the principle that while it is important that university professors in their conclusions be correct, it is more important that in their teaching, they be free.

More significant still, this principle has been maintained even in his attitude toward the teaching of a subject so intimate as religion wherein the mind is keenly sensitive to differences of opinion. Although at times, doctrines have been voiced in the university which traverse those the founder is known to hold, he has never shown a desire to restrain that freedom which is quite as precious in theology as in other fields of thought. Such a relationship between a great benefactor and the institution which he has founded affords a motto

for educational benefaction through all time to come.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

IN this issue of SCIENCE is published the address of the retiring president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. We hope to publish in succeeding issues the more important addresses and papers read at the meeting of the American Association and the national scientific societies together with reports of their proceedings.

THE Nobel prizes, amounting to about \$40,000 each, were distributed by the King of Sweden on December 10 with the usual ceremonies. The prize-winners in science were present to receive their prizes and gave the statutory lectures. The recipients were, as already announced, Professors Van der Waals (physics), Wallach (chemistry) and Kossel (medicine).

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY will confer the degree of doctor of science on Dr. George E. Hale, director of the Solar Observatory, on Mount Wilson.

THE bill to grant \$250,000 for the construction of a monument to Commodore Perry at Put In Bay, O., and the holding of a centennial celebration in 1913 in commemoration of the battle of Lake Erie, has been favorably acted upon by the house committee on expositions.

THE French Society of Biology has awarded the Godard prize to Mlle. Anna Drzewina.

It is announced from Cambridge that the special board for biology and geology has adjudged the Walsingham medal for 1910 to A. V. Hill, of Trinity College, for his essay entitled "The Heat Produced by Living Tissues, with Special Reference to Muscular Activity"; and a second Walsingham medal to J. C. F. Fryer, of Gonville and Caius College, for his essay entitled "The Structure and Formation of Aldabra and Neighboring Islands—with Notes on their Flora and Fauna."

DR. ALBERT ROSS HILL, president of the University of Missouri, delivered the address at the seventy-seventh convocation of the University of Chicago. His subject was