

Tones of Instruments, of Vowels and Spoken Words.

At the College of Medicine of the University of Illinois, Chicago, Drs. Bartlett, Burmeister, Davis, Dreyer, Eycleshymer, Falls, Fantus, Hartung, Miller, Moore and Welker recently organized a medical research club of the University of Illinois. Dr. D. J. Davis was elected president, and Dr. Wm. H. Welker was elected secretary for the balance of the college year. Dr. Eycleshymer presented a paper entitled, "Some Observations on the Decapitated Young *Necturus*."

THE *British Medical Journal* understands that arrangements have nearly been completed for the establishment, as a memorial to Lord Lister in Edinburgh, of a Lister Institute. It is proposed that the institute, which will be devoted mainly to research in bacteriology and pathology, shall work in connection with the university, but that it shall be managed by an independent board consisting of representatives of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, and of the university, and probably of the Carnegie trustees, who have recently become interested in the laboratories of the Royal College of Physicians. It is intended that certain facilities for teaching shall also be provided. It would appear to be the intention that eventually all pathological work, both in research and teaching, in Edinburgh shall be under the general supervision of the professor of pathology, who, in addition to holding that chair and taking an appropriate share in the conduct of the new institute, will act as honorary pathologist to the Royal Infirmary.

DR. WILLIAM KELLY SIMPSON, professor of laryngology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, died on February 6, aged fifty-eight years.

DR. K. H. F. ROSENBUSCH, formerly head of the geological-mineralogical laboratory at Heidelberg, distinguished for his contributions to mineralogy, has died at the age of seventy-eight years.

DR. FELIX HAHNSCHAFFE, professor of geology in the Berlin Mining Academy, has died at the age of fifty-three years.

THE U. S. Civil Service Commission announces an open competitive examination for assistant chief, Bureau of Chemistry, to fill a vacancy in this position in the bureau of chemistry, Department of Agriculture, at \$4,000 a year. It is desired to secure the services of a man of broad training and extensive practical experience in physiological chemistry and medicine as well as experience as an administrative officer to assist in the research and supervisory work of the bureau of chemistry, and the enforcement of the food and drugs act. Applicants will not be assembled for examination, but their relative qualifications will be rated upon the evidence adduced as to their education and training, practical experience and fitness, and their publications. Applicants must give in their applications a complete statement of their educational training, a complete statement of their practical experience, and a list of their publications. Copies of such publications should be filed with the application. An educational training including an M.D. degree from a medical school of recognized standing and special training in analytical and physiological chemistry other than that included in the medical course; and not less than three years' experience as a medico-legal expert, and some experience as an administrative officer, are prerequisites for consideration for this position. Applicants must have reached their thirtieth but not their forty-fifth birthday on the date of the examination.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

BOWDOIN COLLEGE has received a bequest of \$500,000 for the general fund of the college from the estate of Edwin B. Smith, former assistant attorney general of the United States, who died in New York on January 5.

YALE UNIVERSITY receives \$500,000 under the will of Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, who died on January 21. The Royal Victoria College at Montreal, a girls' school, is given \$1,000,000. Lord Strathcona leaves to St. John's College, Cambridge, \$50,000; to the University of Aberdeen, for the creation of a chair of agriculture, \$25,000; to the Presby-

terian College at Montreal, \$60,000, and to Queen's University, Kingston, Canada, \$100,000. In addition to this sum he bequeathed to the Royal Victoria Hospital at Montreal \$500,000, and to hospitals in the British Isles, \$90,000. The bequest to Yale University is

for the promotion of the modern sciences, and for instruction in the practical questions arising from the application of scientific knowledge to the industrial, social and economical problems of the times, it being my special desire to have the said sum expended so far as in the opinion of my trustees may be deemed advisable for instruction in civil and mechanical engineering, with special reference to the construction, equipment and operation of transportation of passengers and freight, whether by land or water, and the financial and legislative questions involved.

THROUGH the will of the late Mrs. Elizabeth Mattox, of Terre Haute, the sum of \$45,000 will be added to the general endowment of De Pauw University.

MRS. WILLIAM PORTER HERRICK, widow of the late William Porter Herrick, has given to the University of Colorado, \$5,000, to be used as an aid fund for worthy students.

SIR HILDRED CARLILE, M. P., has given \$500,000 to Bedford College, London, as a memorial to his mother, Mrs. Edward Carlile.

DR. HUGO FROMMSDORFF, on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of his doctorate, has given \$5,000 to the University of Heidelberg for a foundation for the advancement of chemistry.

ACCORDING to the daily press President Edmund J. James, of the University of Illinois, called, on February 3, a meeting of the faculty and announced that he had received reports that he did not possess the confidence and support of the faculty without which he did not wish to retain the presidency. The faculty in secret ballot by a vote of 188 to 4 declared confidence in President James.

It is announced that Dr. Frank J. Goodnow, Eaton professor of administrative law and municipal science at Columbia University, at present constitutional adviser of the Chinese Republic in Peking, has been offered the presidency of the Johns Hopkins University.

DR. M. A. BRANNON, professor of biology in the University of North Dakota and dean of the college of liberal arts, has been elected president of the University of Idaho.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

LABELLING MICROSCOPIC SLIDES

WITHIN the last year or so SCIENCE has published four short articles on labelling slides.¹ From this it would seem to be a subject of some interest. I have therefore ventured to add a method which I have been using with entire satisfaction for some time past.

The objections to scratching slides or other glassware with a diamond or carborundum is that the label can not be removed, if for any reason this is necessary. Another objection that is equally serious is the difficulty of making clear and legible labels where several words must be written. These reasons led me to abandon this method long ago.

Marking with wax pencils is of doubtful value owing to the extreme care necessary to avoid removing the label through contact with xylol or by mere rubbing. My own experience with waterproof ink has been that it is also too easily rubbed off or washed off while passing slides through water or aqueous stains.

Etching or grinding the surface of the slide is satisfactory where the surface thus prepared is to be used frequently but is entirely too troublesome for ordinary slides. Moreover, the pencil label is not always easily legible.

I now use an ordinary india ink (l'encre de chine) to which I have added a little ordinary water glass (sodium silicate solution) such as is sold at the corner drug store for preserving eggs. It is usually better to thin, after adding the water glass, with enough water to make the ink flow freely. With this ink one can write with a fine pointed pen any label that he

¹ A. F. Blakeslee, "A Labelling Surface for Glassware," SCIENCE, 37: 561, 1913; Zae Nor-
thrup, "A New Method for Labelling Microscopic
Slides," SCIENCE, 38: 126, 1913; Ernest Shaw
Reynolds, "Labelling Microscopic Slides," SCI-
ENCE, 38: 363, 1913; Frank E. Blaisdell, "Label-
ling Microscopic Slides," SCIENCE, 38: 665, 1913.