It has become so evident in this war that the intelligent and scientific criminal is a terrible menace, and dislodging him at times such a weary and fatal task, that we must find some way of preventing our leaders and groups or classes, whether governmental or industrial, from becoming this kind of danger.

Have we not reached the time when we are willing to turn to the One who ordained civil government for our good, acknowledge that He ordained it and not we ourselves, and make our leaders or rulers "whom God and this people shall choose"—"men fearing God and hating covetousness"?

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SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

According to the annual report of the trustees of the American Medical Association the principal expense in the publication of *The Journal* is that of paper, this expense being one third of the total expenses. The price of paper began to go up rapidly in the spring of last year. About June and July, book paper was almost unobtainable and commanded a price three or four times what was being paid, the low rate prevailing for the entire year 1915, the cost of paper being approximately $116,000. In 1916 the cost of paper was approximately $134,000—an increase of about $18,000 over the preceding year. It is estimated that for the present year, 1917, the paper will cost about $170,000. This means an increase in 1917 over last year of $37,000, and of $54,000 over 1915.

These new conditions presented problems to the board that had to be met. It was necessary to increase the annual subscription price, decrease the size of *The Journal*, or get along with decreased income. Increasing the subscription price was not possible. But the size of *The Journal*, it is said, can be reduced without seriously lessening its value or its usefulness to its readers. The number of fellows of the association receiving *The Journal* has been as follows:

1900	8,445
1901	9,841
1902	11,107
1903	12,553
1904	13,899
1905	17,570
1906	20,826
1907	26,255
1908	29,382
1909	31,999
1910	33,032
1911	33,540
1912	33,250
1913	36,082
1914	39,518
1915	41,254
1916	41,938
1917	42,744

The above figures do not include honorary fellows, nor those fellows who have substituted *The Archives* or the *Children's Journal* for *The Journal* of the American Medical Association.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Governor Whitman, of New York state, has signed the annual appropriation bill which provides for the expenses of the two state colleges at Cornell University during the coming fiscal year, from July 1, 1917, to June 30, 1918.

We learn from the Cornell *Alumni Weekly* that the bill carries for the State College of Agriculture $779,401. Of this amount $35,750 is to provide for specific deficiencies in appropriations made by the two preceding legislatures. The present legislature had already passed, some six weeks ago, an emergency item of $55,910 for the College of Agriculture to enable it to carry on its work during the current year in view of the reduction in the general appropriation bill a year ago. When this emergency item is added to the general appropriation bill just passed it makes a gross appropriation provided by the present legislature of $835,311 as against a gross appropriation of $518,325.66 made by the 1916 legislature, or an increase of $316,985.34. When, however, the

emergency and deficiency items, which together amount to $91,660, are subtracted, there is left a net appropriation of $743,651 for the year 1917–18.

In addition to the above appropriations the general appropriation bill this year provides a specific item of $42,000 for printing the publications of the College of Agriculture. Heretofore no special appropriation for printing has been made, but the college printing has been paid for out of a lump appropriation known as the legislative printing fund. The printing for the next fiscal year must be limited to the amount of this specific item.

Included in the $743,651 in the general appropriation bill are a number of small items, of which the aggregate sum is $34,000, for new construction and improvements. The largest of these is an appropriation of $12,000 for the addition of a unit to the central heating plant. When this unit is installed the old heating plant in Roberts Hall is to be removed and the boiler room remodeled to provide additional space for the general purposes of the college. An item of $8,000 is included for remodeling this boiler room. To put in additional roads, sidewalks and drains and general improvements to the grounds, $5,000 is provided; for a new piggery with detached pens, $7,000; for a packing shed on the pomology grounds, $1,000, and for small storage houses for the department of plant breeding a small item is included.

AN INSTITUTE OF APPLIED OPTICS FOR FRANCE

MR. E. S. HODGSON writes in *Nature* that a scheme is on foot in Paris to establish an Institute of Applied Optics, with the object of securing closer cooperation between theory and practise in the optical trade. It has been suggested, according to an article in *La Nature,* that the scope of the institute should fall into three sections, viz., (i) a college of optics, providing a thorough theoretical and practical training for opticians, and promoting among its students a taste for optical research; (ii) a central optical laboratory, where tests of glasses and optical instruments would be made for men of science, public bodies and manufacturers and research work of general interest carried out; and (iii) a special trade school in which the students could obtain a thorough training in the practical branches of the trade.

It is proposed that the institute should publish transactions in a form following, the *Zeitschrift für Instrumentenkunde.* The students of the college of optics would be recruited from the educated classes—army and navy officers, students or ex-students of the universities and technical colleges, astronomers, illuminating engineers, manufacturers of optical instruments and doctors interested in physiological optics. There would be two distinct branches of instruction, viz., general optics and instrumental optics. The courses would be supplemented by lectures on all modern optical questions. The period of study is suggested as one year.

The central laboratory would serve as a test laboratory for manufacturers of optical instruments and for glass manufacturers, as a practise laboratory for the students, and as a research laboratory for the college staff.

The professional, or trade, school would take young people for three years and give them a thorough training in (i) glass-working, and (ii) construction and fitting up of optical instruments. The scheme has received the favorable consideration of various government departments and of certain scientific and learned societies in Paris; indeed, the publication of the transactions of the institute is already assured. While it would be difficult to install the machinery and plant necessary for the trade section of the institute, it is suggested that the program of the courses should be considered and the principal courses commenced in the school year of 1917–18.

THE CROCKER LAND EXPEDITION

DR. HARRISON J. HUNT, a member of the Crocker Land expedition, arrived in Copenhagen on June 2, reporting the expedition still in northern Greenland. Direct news from Donald B. MacMillan, head of the expedition, announcing that he and his companions had only enough supplies to last them until August of this year, has now been received by Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn, presi-