

quired by the museum is a sketch made for John Hunter representing a duck which had partially assumed the plumage of a drake, a subject in which he was greatly interested. Lastly, we may add that the executors of Dr. Robert Roxburgh have presented the original mechanical spray apparatus which Lord Lister employed in the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, and exhibited at the Plymouth meeting of the British Medical Association in 1871 during the course of his address in surgery. It had two nozzles attached to independent caoutchouc tubes, furnishing large clouds of spray, that could be directed, if necessary, to opposite sides of the part operated on. Dr Roxburgh was Lister's last house-surgeon at the Royal Infirmary. Lister went to King's College, London, to fill the chair of clinical surgery in succession to Sir William Fergusson in 1877.

#### THE MAYO FOUNDATION AND THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

THE board of regents of the University of Minnesota have ratified by unanimous vote the permanent agreement making the Mayo Foundation at Rochester the absolute property of the university, to be used perpetually for higher medical education and research. Securities totaling \$1,650,345, representing the fortunes of Drs. William J. and Charles Mayo, were turned over to the university.

"We turn over to the regents the bulk of our savings of a generation as an outright gift," said Dr. William J. Mayo, who is a member of the board of regents, but who did not vote on the proposal. "The money came from the people, and we feel it should return to the people—a continuing fund that shall serve this state for generations to come."

Expenses of the foundation will be paid by the Drs. Mayo until a fund of \$2,000,000 has accumulated. Thereafter the income from the fund will maintain it.

The foundation has been affiliated with the university for two years, which was agreed upon as a trial period. Under the final agreement the headquarters of the foundation can be moved from Rochester to another point in the state after twenty-eight years. Ten per cent. of the yearly income may be expended

outside the state and another ten per cent. may be used to investigate epidemics inside and outside the state.

It was announced that one of the Mayos would go to France with recruits next year and that they would take turns there until the end of the war.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

M. PAUL PAINLEVÉ has been chosen to be premier of the French Republic. M. Painlevé has been professor of mathematics in the University of Paris and of mechanics at the Paris Polytechnic School.

M. G. FAYET, assistant director of the Nice Observatory, has been appointed director in succession to the late General Bassot.

Dr. R. W. WOOD, professor of physics in the Johns Hopkins University, is now in France engaged in scientific research in co-operation with members of the Paris Academy of Sciences. Dr. Wood left about three weeks ago, following the receipt of a cablegram from Premier Ribot offering him the tentative ranking of major in the French army.

Dr. RAYMOND PEARL, biologist and head of the department of biology of the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station, has been granted leave of absence from that institution for the duration of the war, to take charge of the statistical department of the United States Food Administration. He left the experiment station for Washington early in June, accompanied by Dr. Frank M. Surface, biologist of the Maine Station, who was also granted leave of absence for the same work. The following are associated, for the duration of the war, with Dr. Pearl in the statistical work of the Food Administration:

Dr. H. S. Jennings, The Johns Hopkins University.  
Dr. W. E. Kellicott, Goucher College.  
Dr. H. R. Willard, University of Maine.  
Mr. John Rice Miner, Maine Agricultural Experiment Station.

Dr. A. W. DOX, for the past seven years chief of the section of chemistry of the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, has been granted leave of absence to accept a commis-