

are easily leaders in the domain of knowledge based on the exact determinations of atomic weights—a knowledge which leads among other results to habits of more exact, more critical methods in all fields of our science. Arrhenius told us that America is leading in the difficult work of the rigorous examination of the theory of ionization and of establishing it on a finished basis. The development of the field of free energy relations is more intensely cultivated, here I imagine, than in any other country. In the application of modern theories of atomic structure and of the electron theory of valence to all branches of chemistry, especially also to organic chemistry, we are, I believe, easily in the front. Our very youth, as a people, has preserved to us in science as in national sentiment, that whole-hearted enthusiasm for ideals, which in world politics has made us the most altruistic nation on the face of the earth and which in science finds its expression in the pursuit of knowledge for the sake of the pure truth alone, a pursuit characteristic of the best research in our universities and colleges!

And so let me conclude my remarks on the outlook for chemistry in America by emphasizing that we have a goodly heritage of success both in our great industries and in our great universities, which will form the safe basis of a brilliant future, if we will but approach the problems of the moment and of the immediate future in characteristically American fashion, with a spirit wisely combining altruistic principles with practical, worldly common sense. This means the “square deal” in industrial life for the product of the brains of the research chemist, combined with wise laws to insure to capital a fair and tolerably safe return for investment in chemical industries, needed to make our country chemically independent. And it means too

the placing of chemistry in our universities on a plane with the other great professions, law and medicine, in order to hold in this great science, so important for the welfare of the nation, the needed numbers of men of brilliant minds and energetic ambitions—combined with the devotion on their part to the search for the truth, for the establishment of the great laws of our science, for the sake of that truth, that science, alone!

JULIUS STIEGLITZ

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

### SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

#### THE LANE MEDICAL LECTURES

THE sixteenth course of Lane Medical Lectures at Stanford University will be delivered by Simon Flexner, M.D., LL.D., director of laboratories, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York City, N. Y., on the evenings of October 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12, 1917, at 8:15 o'clock in Lane Hall, Stanford University Medical School, San Francisco, California, on “Physical basis and present status of specific serum and drug therapy.”

The titles of the separate lectures are as follows:

October 8: Epidemic Meningitis; Lobar Pneumonia; Bacillary Dysentery and Specificity in Bactericidal Sera.

October 9: Gaseous Gangrene; Shiga Bacillary Dysentery; and the Principles of Homoserum Therapy.

October 10: Poliomyelitis and the Principles of Homoserum Therapy.

October 11: Local Specific Therapy as illustrated by the Serum Treatment of Epidemic Meningitis, Poliomyelitis and Tetanus.

October 12: Chemotherapy of the Spirochetal Infections.

#### THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

DURING the season from October, 1917, to April, 1918, inclusive, the Anthropological Society of Washington, D. C., will provide a very interesting program of papers or lec-

tures chiefly concerned with divers nations of Europe and the East now at war or likely to be involved before long, including especially some of our less known and smaller allies. The general plan of most of these monographs will be a résumé of earliest known data, racial origins, shiftings and blendings, historical development and present status, aiming to further a more thorough acquaintance with these peoples, their characteristics and capabilities and the causes which have made them what they are. The appended schedule may be subject to some changes in detail as the season advances and is now necessarily incomplete as to one or two items, but will give a sufficient idea of what is to be expected. The society meets at 4.30 P.M. in rooms 42-43 of the new building of the National Museum on alternate Tuesdays, beginning October 2d, 1917.

#### PROGRAM

October 2. Dr. Aleš Hrdlička, Bohemia and the Bohemians.

October 16. Dr. Mitchell Carroll, The Story of Greece.

November 6. Professor James H. Gore, Belgium.

November 20. Mr. George J. Zolnay, Roumania, Past and Present.

December 4. Dr. Amandus Johnson, Scandinavia; Mr. Juul Dieserud, Certain Customs of Norway.

December 18. France.

January 15. Dr. Voyslav M. Yovanovitch, Serbia.

January 29. Voyslav M. Yovanovitch, Italy.

February 12. Dr. Joseph Dunn, Scotland.

February 26. Dr. B. Israeli, Russia.

March 12. Mr. E. T. Williams, The Origin of China.

March 26. Mr. E. T. Williams, Holland.

April 9. Dr. Paul Haupt, Mesopotamia and Palestine.

April 22. Annual meeting and election of officers.

Some, perhaps, most, of these lectures will be illustrated by lantern slides or otherwise. The public will be welcome.

WM. H. BABCOCK, *President*

#### EFFECTS OF THE WAR ON TECHNICAL EDUCATION

WALTER HUMPHREYS, registrar of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has compiled registration statistics which indicate the effects of the war on technical education. The total registration is between eighty-five and ninety per cent. of what it was last year at the same time. The freshman year shows an increase, the percentage in terms of last year's figure being 104, while the second, third and fourth years classes are respectively 93 per cent., 75 per cent. and 86 per cent., of the number in the school in June.

The graduate students stand at 60 per cent. of last year's figure. There is the most shrinkage in the juniors, the sophomores of last year, to whom two years more of schooling has perhaps seemed a long time. The return of eighty-six per cent. of the juniors to be seniors is evidence in favor of the junior summer camp. The purpose of this was to give some military practise and an opportunity to anticipate fourth-year studies, and complete work at an earlier date.

In a consideration of the effect on the courses it may be well to omit those with less than fifty men, since the defection of a few students makes an undue percentage shrinkage. One of them, however, naval architecture, is stimulated by the war, the increase being 16 per cent. The course in naval architecture has always been small in attendance and has been maintained by the institute as a contribution to education.

Of the larger courses civil engineering maintains practically the same figure as in former years, the shrinkage being 1.2 per cent., while electrical engineering opens the year with a loss of only 2 per cent. Chemical engineering has 12 per cent. increase. Engineering administration is practically holding its own, having lost only six and one half per cent. since the last registration. Architecture has declined nearly one third in the number of its students. Perhaps the undue cost of building materials, fifty to one hundred per cent. in many cases, and the consequent gossip that building operations will be at a standstill, has had its influence in deterring young men from taking it up with