

Wisconsin in 1875 and there continued until his death, forty-three years later, as student, teacher, investigator and president.

As student he won the highest honors of the university, and as teacher he made his department a power both in general education and in the production of professional geologists. Trained as a geologist in our university and in the study of problems offered by our state, his ability and insight earned for him the recognition of the scientific world of all nations for his masterly solution of the most difficult and fundamental problems of geology.

The characteristics which made him a great teacher, a great scholar and a great investigator, he continued to display to the full as president of the university. He had a singularly clear, noble and growing understanding of the duty of a state university to its commonwealth and he led the university far in the performance of that duty. He multiplied and strengthened the vital connections between university and state; not only developing and enriching its scholarship, but also carrying knowledge and light to all parts of the state and to all phases of its life. Thus the University of Wisconsin, under his guidance, became an example and a leader among the civic institutions of learning in the nation.

Dr. Van Hise contributed much to aid state and nation in questions of public policy arising from conservation, the control of industry and the newer development of international relations. To them he brought the same power to analyze problems and to present their solution which marked his work a science. Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved* by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the legislature of the state of Wisconsin expresses its grief in the death of President Charles Richard Van Hise and records its gratitude for his distinguished service rendered to the state through many years. With grief for the untimely death, with profound regret for the irreparable loss, the legislature expresses Wisconsin's just pride in her son and records the inspiring story of his public services and the noble devotion of his life.

#### AN INTER-ALLIED FELLOWSHIP OF MEDICINE

We learn from the *British Medical Journal* that Sir W. Arbuthnot Lane presided over a meeting at the house of the Royal Society of Medicine on December 4 to consider further the desirability of forming an association for cooperation in medicine among the English-

speaking countries, but not limited to them. Among those present were Major J. H. Means (U. S. A.), Lieutenant-Colonel Castellani (Italy), and Professor Weinberg (Paris). The acting honorary secretaries appointed at a previous meeting were Sir St. Clair Thomson and Mr. J. Y. W. MacAlister. The latter submitted a report in which he said:

The present movement was originated at a largely attended meeting held by invitation at Lord Eustace Percy's house, at which he urged that the opportunity presented by the coming together of medical men from America and all parts of the British Dominions should be utilized to organize some form of permanent organization which would result in a closer union between the English-speaking peoples through the medium of the medical profession. The proposal was warmly endorsed by those present, and Sir St. Clair Thomson and myself were asked to act as honorary secretaries and to endeavor to formulate a definite scheme and take the necessary steps for carrying it into effect.

I am afraid we have been able to do very little beyond sowing seed. A circular setting out our aims was prepared by Sir St. Clair Thomson, and circulated, in the first place, to the chiefs of the medical forces of this country, of the Dominions and of America, and from these very cordial expressions of approval and promises of support were obtained. The circular, backed by the opinions of those to whom we had first appealed, was then issued to a wider public, and many very gratifying and encouraging letters have been received. But practical progress depended as usual on the all-important question of finance, and in that direction we have no success to report. We had asked for and been promised an interview with the Prime Minister and Mr. Bonar Law in the hope of persuading the government to make a grant, but (one dare not say "unfortunately") the armistice intervened, and since then it would have been futile, if not impertinent, to trouble the Prime Minister with our affairs, and so, as far as finance is concerned, we have no progress to report. We have received letters which encourage us to believe that if a definite and approved scheme is prepared we may be able to get financial help from private persons.

After some discussion, in which the chairman, Sir Walter Fletcher, Sir St. Clair Thomson, Colonel Stock, Colonel Heald, Major Means, Colonel Castellani, Colonel Weinberg, Dr. Sorapure, Mr. MacAlister and others took

part, it was unanimously resolved to constitute the proposed organization with the object of drawing together the members of the medical profession in the inter-allied countries with a view to promoting intercourse and cooperation for the promotion of medical science and public health.

A general committee was nominated, and Sir Arbuthnot Lane was appointed honorary treasurer, and Sir St. Clair Thomson, Mr. Douglas Harmer and Mr. J. Y. W. MacAlister honorary secretaries (*pro tem.*).

#### THE PRODUCTION OF QUICKSILVER IN 1918

THE domestic output of quicksilver in 1918, according to statistics compiled by F. L. Ransome, of the United States Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, was 33,432 flasks of 75 pounds each, valued at the average quoted market price at San Francisco (\$117.92 a flask) at about \$3,942,301. Compared with the output of 1917 of 36,159 flasks, valued at \$3,808,266, this shows a decrease in quantity of 2,727 flasks but an increase in value of \$134,035.

The productive states were California, Texas, Nevada, Oregon and Idaho, named in the order of decreasing importance.

The production of California was 23,231 flasks, against 23,938 flasks in 1917, a decrease of 707 flasks. As usual of late years, the New Idria mine, with which is included the San Carlos mine, yielded nearly half of the total output of the state. Only one other mine in the state, the New Almaden (including the El Senador mine), produced over 2,000 flasks in 1918. New Almaden has produced to date about 1,124,100 flasks and in 1865 alone produced 48,138 flasks from ore that yielded 11.3 per cent. of quicksilver. In total production New Idria, with 315,434 flasks to the end of 1918, ranks second, and Oat Hill (Napa Consolidated), with about 140,000 flasks, comes third. Sulphur Bank nearly trebled its output of the previous year and probably would have made still larger gains were it not for the fact that the high sulphur content of the ore renders furnace treatment and condensation difficult.

In general, quicksilver mining in California maintained fairly well during the year the revival of activity due to the war, as indicated by comparison of the output (33,432 flasks) with the production of 11,303 flasks in 1914. A large number of mines that were formerly productive have remained idle, however, and with the gradual return to normal conditions other mines are likely to revert to this class.

The output of quicksilver in Texas was 8,475 flasks, against 10,791 flasks in 1917. The Ellis mine, near McKinney Springs, considerably increased its output, and the Mariposa mine also made a small gain. The output of the Chisos mine, however, declined, and that of the Big Bend showed a still larger falling off. The Big Bend has been nearly exhausted down to the level of the underground water, so that pumping and additional development will be necessary if any considerable output is to be maintained. Prospecting has been continued by the Rainbow Mining Co., on the westward continuation of the Chisos ore zone, and some ore is reported to have been found.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. WILLIAM N. LOGAN, professor of economic geology in Indiana University, was appointed state geologist by Governor Goodrich on January 1.

PROFESSOR NELLIS B. FOSTER, now lieutenant-colonel in the Medical Corps of the United States Army, has presented his resignation as professor of medicine and dean of the school of medicine of the University of Michigan, as he expects to be detailed to the military service for an indefinite period.

DR. A. HOYT TAYLOR, professor of physics at the University of North Dakota, now a lieutenant commander in the Navy, has resigned after a year's leave of absence and will continue his work at the Bureau of Standards on naval radio communication.

MAJOR LAWRENCE MARTIN, general staff, U. S. Army, on leave of absence as associate professor of physiography and geography in the