

Franklin Martin, of Chicago. This committee will send a delegate to assist the London Medical Committee here in the detailed organization of the hospital. It has, we are informed, been planned upon the most modern lines, and will be complete in every department of medical and surgical activity; accommodation will be arranged for every class of patient. A research institute, modelled upon the Rockefeller Foundation of New York, will form an integral part of the plan. The consulting staff will bring together distinguished members of the profession in the United States and Great Britain. The visiting staff will be nominated by the executive medical committee. The governing council of the hospital consists of many prominent members of the American colony in London. Mr. Philip Franklin is acting as honorary secretary.

THE COMMITTEE ON FOOD AND NUTRITION OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

THIS committee held an organization meeting at Cornell University Medical College, New York City, on July 11. The following tentative program was presented by Professor Henry P. Armsby and was adopted with but slight modifications:

Regarding the committee as being substantially a coordinating rather than a research body, the following tentative outline of objects and methods is suggested.

OBJECTS

1. To promote scientific research upon the nutrition of men and of animals (especially animals of agricultural importance) and to bring about closer relations between the two fields of work.

2. To promote study of the economic aspects of nutrition—*i. e.*, study of national and international as distinguished from personal nutrition.

4. Pending the possible establishment of a National Institute of Nutrition, to act as an unofficial clearing house for existing research institutions and to promote coordination of both American and foreign research.

4. To promote sane and authoritative extension and propaganda work in the interest of better nutrition.

METHODS

In considering methods, it must be borne in mind that the committee has only moral and not manda-

tory authority. In all plans, care must be taken to preserve the democracy of science.

1. (a) Preparation of a broad program of research in both human and animal nutrition, emphasizing especially gaps in present knowledge with suggestion of problems of more immediate importance.
(b) Maintenance of research fellowships.
(c) Subsidizing of especially important researches.
2. (a) The cooperation of statistical agencies would appear necessary.
3. (a) Meetings of the committee and of nutrition investigators in general, especially for the sake of maintaining personal touch and considering programs of research.
(b) Correspondence and publications.
(c) Representation of the United States in the International Scientific Commission of Nutrition.
4. (a) Cooperation with existing governmental agencies and educational institutions, especially of the land grant colleges.
(b) Cooperation with the American Public Health Association.

Among the questions affecting public welfare which require immediate investigation, the committee considered the following the most important:

(a) Practical changes in methods of food production for the purpose of reducing the cost of living without reducing the quality of nutrition.

(b) Diet in relation to industrial efficiency.

(c) The food requirements of growing children.

It was estimated that thirteen fellows of the National Research Council could profitably be put to work at once upon these problems and various possible sources of funds were discussed.

Miss Isabel Bevier was elected an additional member of the subcommittee on human nutrition and Dr. W. H. Jordan and President Raymond A. Pearson were elected additional members of the sub-committee on animal nutrition.

Information has been received from Dr. Alonzo E. Taylor, who is still in Paris, that "The Inter-Allied Scientific Food Commission closed its existence at Brussels on May 25 with recommendations to the governments

involved to form an Institute for the Study of Nutrition, to be connected with and a part of the League of Nations in precisely the same manner as the League of the Red Cross will stand with reference to sanitation."

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. ERNST HEINRICH HAECKEL, professor of zoology at the University of Jena since 1865, died on August 9 at the age of eighty-five years.

At a meeting of the Royal Society of London, held on June 26, Dr. Simon Flexner, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, was elected a fellow.

THE former students of Dr. T. C. Chamberlin, for twenty-seven years head of the department of geology at the University of Chicago, are planning to hold a dinner in his honor on the evening of September 27 in Chicago. Dr. Chamberlin has recently retired with the title of professor emeritus and expects to celebrate his seventy-sixth birthday in September. Further information concerning the dinner may be obtained from Kirtley F. Mather, Granville, Ohio.

OUR attention has been called to the fact that prior to the election of Dr. George E. Hale to be a foreign associate of the Paris Academy of Sciences the distinction had been conferred on five other Americans: Benjamin Franklin (1772), Count Rumford (1803), Louis Agassiz (1872), Simon Newcomb (1895), and Alexander Agassiz (1904).

IN recognition of his fifty years' service as a teacher of physical education, Dr. Dudley A. Sargent, retiring director of the Hemenway Gymnasium, was presented on August 7 with a large loving cup and punch bowl. The gift comes from students in the department of physical education of the Harvard Summer School.

THE Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, acting through its Committee on Science and the Arts, has awarded to Joshua J. Skinner, of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture, its Edward Longstreth Medal of Merit for a paper on "Soil Alde-

hydes," appearing in the five issues of the *Journal* of The Franklin Institute from August to December, 1918. In awarding this medal, the committee reported:

These papers present the results of scientific study of a new class of deleterious soil constituents, clearly described and effectively illustrated, the whole forming a valuable contribution to the science of agricultural chemistry, and one of marked practical importance.

In 1912 this medal was awarded to Dr. Oswald Schreiner and Dr. E. C. Lathrop, also of the Bureau of Animal Industry.

DR. ASA C. CHANDLER, assistant professor of zoology and physiology at the Oregon Agricultural College, who made a study in the trenches at the European war front of rats and parasites in their relation to transmitting diseases to human beings, is now in California and will return to the college next school year.

DR. D. G. BYERS, of the University of Washington, has been appointed chief of the division of chemistry in the Bureau of Soils, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Mr. W. O. Robinson, of the Chemical Warfare Service, has returned to the bureau.

MR. W. E. PERDEW recently resigned his position as chemical engineer in the Petroleum Division of the Bureau of Mines to enter the employ of the Union Petroleum Company of Philadelphia.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM PETERSON, geologist for the Utah Agricultural Experiment Station and College, has been granted a six-months' leave of absence to make an appraisal of the mining properties of Utah for the State Board of Equalization.

PROFESSOR W. M. COBLEIGH, professor of chemistry in the State College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts, of the University of Montana, has been appointed state chemist under provisions made in an oil inspection law passed by the Montana legislature. The work of the state chemist will be organized as a part of the required work of the department of chemistry.

PAUL ASHLEY WEST, formerly instructor of chemistry, The Jessup Scott High School, has