

the population? What is our total food production, and can it be modified so as to secure more efficient utilization? Information on these and related questions should be kept up to date and available, using present statistical data so far as they suffice and collecting additional data if needed.

II. *Physiological*.—A scientific study of problems of human nutrition, such as those instanced by Lusk and others which might be added. The results of these investigations would afford the indispensable groundwork of the statistical studies just mentioned.

III. *Agricultural*.—A broad study of the economy of food production in the light of the food requirements of the nation and from the standpoint of the mutual interests of producer and consumer. All the innumerable problems of plant and animal nutrition would find their place here, as well as broader questions regarding the relative economy of production of animal and vegetable foods and of different classes of each and of the most economical level of production under varying conditions.

IV. *Extension and Publicity*.—A very important function of the institute would be to bring the results of its work effectively to the attention of the community and of legislatures and executives, and to impress on them its vast economic and social importance.

It goes without saying that such an institute should cultivate most cordial relations with existing agencies. It should supplement, not supplant. If wisely and conservatively directed it might do much to bring about cooperation and coordination in the activities of extension departments, of nutrition laboratories, of experiment stations, and of the research and statistical divisions of the department of agriculture, so far as they relate to nutrition. Whether its objects could be sufficiently attained in this way or whether its policy should include in addition the establishment of laboratories of its own would be a question for the decision of the board of control.

Finally, as regards financial support, I believe that if as the result of free discussion and comparison of views a scheme can be worked out which has the approval of the scientific men of the country and which commends itself to the National Research Council as

practicable and as promising material benefit to the public, past experience warrants the belief that the necessary funds will be forthcoming.

H. P. ARMSBY

THE OSLER PRESENTATION

ON July 11, 1919, Sir William Osler, Regius professor of medicine in the University of Oxford, was honored by the presentation of two anniversary volumes, made up of medical contributions by English and American colleagues, commemorating his seventieth birthday (July 12). The presentation was made by Sir Clifford Allbutt at the house of the Royal Society of Medicine on behalf of some 150 subscribers and contributors, in the presence of a large and distinguished audience. The plan of a birthday memorial originated at Oxford, and was successfully carried through by a committee with Dr. William H. Welch as chairman, Dr. Casey A. Wood, as secretary and Dr. Henry Barton Jacobs as treasurer. In the early stages, the work was financed through the energy and initiative of Colonel Casey A. Wood, and the manuscripts were edited and carried through the press by Drs. Charles L. Dana (New York) and Charles Singer (Oxford).

Sir William Osler, the recipient of this unusual tribute, is looked up to and honored everywhere as a leader of British and American medicine. In succession, he has held the chairs of medicine at McGill (1874), the University of Pennsylvania (1884), the Johns Hopkins University (1889) and Oxford (1904). His eminence in clinical medicine is based upon an extraordinary knowledge of pathology, acquired in his early days at Montreal, and upon the fact that he has taught medicine to students inductively, away from the textbooks, and by direct contact with the sick in the wards. At an early age (1874) he described the blood-platelets, which he was the first to define as the third corpuscle of the blood and in relation to the formation of thrombi. He also discovered the parasite of verminous aneurism (*Filaria Osleri*), first pointed out the relation between mycotic

aneurism and mycotic endocarditis, first described the ball-valve thrombus at the mitral orifice, the visceral complications of erythema multiform (1895), chronic cyanosis with polycythemia (1895), the erythematous spots in malignant endocarditis (1908), and other clinical minutiae recorded in the bibliography of 730 titles in the Osler number of the *Bulletin of the Johns Hopkins Hospital* (July, 1919). These discoveries are all the more remarkable, in that Osler's life has not been that of the laboratory physician, but one of absolute and exclusive devotion to his patients and his pupils. No other physician has been such an universal friend to his colleagues, to students and to the younger members of his profession. He enjoys the esteem and affection of the entire medical profession.

An account of the presentation is given in the *British Medical Journal* (July 19, p. 80):

In presenting the volumes, Sir Clifford Allbutt said:

In these volumes we hope you will find the kind of offering from your fellow workers which will please you best—immaterial offerings indeed, but such as may outlive a more material gift. As to you we owe much of the inspiration of these essays, and as in many of their subjects you have taken a bountiful part, so by them we desire to give some form to our common interests and affections.

We pray that health and strength may long be spared to you and to her who is the partner of your life; and that for many years to come you will abide in your place as a Nestor of modern Oxford, as a leader in the van of medicine, and as an example to us all.

In reply Sir William Osler said:

Sir Clifford Allbutt, Ladies and Gentlemen: As the possessor of a wild and wagging tongue that has often got me into trouble, I thought it would be better on such an occasion to make full notes beforehand of what I wanted to say. Two circumstances deepen the pride a man may justly feel at this demonstration of affection by his colleagues on both sides of the Atlantic—one, that amid so much mental and physical tribulation my friends should have had the courage to undertake this heavy two-volume task, and the other, that this honor is received at the hands of my brother Regius, a friend of more than forty years. (Applause.) There is no sound more pleasing than

one's own praises, but surely an added pleasure is given to an occasion which graces the honorer as much as the honored. To you, Sir Clifford, in fuller measure than to any one in our generation has been given a rare privilege; to you, when young, the old listened as eagerly as do now, when old, the young. (Applause.) Like Hai ben Yagzan of Avicenna's allegory, you have wrought deliverance to all with whom you have come in contact.

To have enshrined your gracious wishes in two goodly volumes appeals strongly to one the love of whose life has been given equally to books and to men. A glance at the long list of contributors, so scattered over the world, recalls my vagrant career—Toronto, Montreal, London, Berlin and Vienna as a student; Montreal, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Oxford as a teacher. Many cities, many men. Truly with Ulysses I may say, "I am a part of all that I have met."

Uppermost in my mind are feelings of gratitude that my lot has been cast in such pleasant places and in such glorious days, so full of achievement and so full of promise for the future. Paraphrasing my lifelong mentor—of course I refer to Sir Thomas Browne—among multiplied acknowledgment I can lift up one hand to heaven that I was born of honest parents, that modesty, humility, patience and veracity lay in the same egg, and came into the world with me. To have had a happy home in which unselfishness reigned, parents whose self-sacrifice remained a blessed memory, brothers and sisters helpful far beyond the usual measure—all these make a picture delightful to look back upon. Then to have had the benediction of friendship follow one like a shadow, to have always had the sense of comradeship in work, without the petty pinpricks of jealousies and controversies, to be able to rehearse in the sessions of sweet, silent thought the experiences of long years without a single bitter memory—to have and to do all this fills the heart with gratitude. That three transplantations have been borne successfully is a witness to the brotherly care with which you have tended me. Loving our profession, and believing ardently in its future, I have been content to live in it and for it. A moving ambition to become a good teacher and a sound clinician was fostered by opportunities of an exceptional character, and any success I may have attained must be attributed in large part to the unceasing kindness of colleagues and to a long series of devoted pupils whose success in life is my special pride.

To a larger circle of men with whom my con-

tact has been through the written word—to the general practitioners of the English-speaking world—I should like to say how deeply their loyal support has been appreciated. Nothing in my career has moved me more, pleased me more, than to have received letters from men at a distance—men I have never seen in the flesh—who have written to me as a friend. And if in this great struggle through which we have passed sorrow came where she has not been before, the blow was softened by the loving sympathies of many dear friends. And may I add the thanks of one who has loved and worked for our profession, and the sweet influences of whose home have been felt by successive generations of students?

To the committee and the editors I am deeply indebted for the trouble they have taken in these hard days, and to the publisher, Mr. Paul Hoeber, for his really pre-war bravery; and our special thanks are due to you, kind friends—and in saying this also I would associate Lady Osler with myself—who have graced this happy ceremony with your presence.

The ceremonies terminated with the proposal of a vote of thanks to Sir Clifford Allbutt by Sir D'Arcy Power, and concluding remarks by Sir Donald McAlister and Sir Clifford Allbutt.

F. H. GARRISON

ARMY MEDICAL MUSEUM

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

MEDICAL EDUCATION AND PRACTISE IN CHINA

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association calls attention to the fact that under the influence of several American and other missionary boards and by the aid of such prominent American medical schools as Harvard, Yale and the University of Pennsylvania, and with the generous financial assistance of the China Medical Board, which was organized by the Rockefeller Foundation, there has been great medical progress in China in recent years, and there are twenty-six medical schools in China. Five of these at present are members of the Association of Medical Colleges of China. Membership in this association is limited to colleges, which provide a four-year medical course, and which require for admission two or more years of college work, including courses with labora-

tory work in physics, chemistry and biology.

Two practically new medical schools, including premedical departments, are being erected as Peking and Shanghai by the China Medical Board of the Rockefeller Foundation. These are the Peking Union Medical College and the Shanghai Medical School. The plan is to make these equal to any other medical schools in the world in buildings and equipments, as well as in hospital facilities and in educational standards.

The Rockefeller Foundation is also aiding financially other medical schools in China, particularly the Shantung University School of Medicine at Tsinan, The Hunan-Yale College of Medicine at Changsha, and the medical schools of Nankin, Canton, Soochow and elsewhere.

A strong appeal is still being made for medical missionaries. In China, with an estimated population of more than 400,000,000 people, including Manchuria and Mongolia, there are said to be at present only 2,000 scientifically trained physicians. It is stated that at the end of 1917 there were 351 foreign medical missionaries who had working with them 212 foreign physicians. During that year these physicians cared for about 120,000 hospital inpatients. Although large, these figures do not begin to touch the great needs of medical service in that country.

The *Journal* notes that all civilized nations are interested in helping to provide better medical service in China for the sake of their own people, if not for the sake of the Chinese, because China is at present the source of many of the epidemics which are liable to sweep over the entire world. It is for the medical practise of the entire world to combat disease wherever it is found by checking it at its very source. If any physician would prefer to have a large practise regardless of the financial income involved, he would have no difficulty in securing it in China, where there is indeed great need of skilled medical service.

MINERAL PRODUCTION OF THE UNITED STATES IN 1918

THE Department of the Interior has issued a preliminary report on the mineral produc-