

ment of medical education in the United States. The following announcement has been made:

"The General Education Board announces a gift from John D. Rockefeller of twenty millions of dollars, the income to be currently used and the entire principal to be distributed within fifty years for the improvement of medical education in the United States."

The working capital previous to this accretion amounted to between \$35,000,000 and \$40,000,000. Since the present sum is to be devoted exclusively to medical education, whereas the board's previous resources, under the terms of the charter granted it by Congress, have been devoted to "promoting education within the United States, without distinction of race, creed or sex," the activities of the organization with respect to medical teaching will be greatly increased.

The board will meet in December, at which time a detailed program with respect to medical education will be mapped out.

Mr. Abraham Flexner, secretary of the board, stated in a general way that just as the board in the past out of its general funds has made considerable donations to the treasuries of medical schools of such universities as Yale, Johns Hopkins, Chicago and Washington in St. Louis, it will, as soon as its plans are worked out, spend large sums for the improvement of the hospital facilities, the teaching staffs and the laboratory facilities of such schools as are decided to be worthy of help. It was pointed out that under the terms of the gift while the entire principal must be distributed within fifty years, there is nothing to prevent the concurrent distribution of both principal and interest and this, he said, undoubtedly would be done.

Mr. Flexner stated that there would be a general survey of the schools of the country which would determine not only which ones could be improved, but also what were the specific needs in each instance. The needs of all parts of the country would be taken into consideration in apportioning such sums as it is decided to disburse from the fund.

LECTURES ON POPULAR SCIENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

THE Sunday afternoon lectures on popular science topics given the research men of the University of California and Stanford University and the local representatives of the various United States Bureaus under the auspices of the California Academy of Sciences in the Museum in Golden Gate Park are serving a good purpose in bringing into closer relations the scientific expert and the public. The following illustrated lectures have been announced:

October 12: Dr. Walter P. Taylor, assistant biologist, United States Biological Survey, Washington, D. C., on "The flora and fauna of Mount Rainier."

October 19: Mr. C. A. Kupfer, forest investigator, United States Forest Service, San Francisco, on "California's future; what the Forest Service is doing to determine and meet the coming demands for timber and other National Forest resources."

October 26: Mr. R. F. Hammatt, in charge information, United States Forest Service, San Francisco on "Some forestry problems, both government and private."

November 2: Mr. F. D. Douthitt, grazing examiner, United States Forest Service, San Francisco, on "Range management on the National Forests in California."

November 9: Mr. Don P. Johnston, assistant district forester, United States Forest Service, San Francisco, on "Industrial research in the Forest Service."

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NATURALISTS

THE American Society of Naturalists will hold its thirty-seventh annual meeting at Princeton University, on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 30 and 31. The society will offer, beginning on Tuesday morning, December 30, a program to which its members are invited to contribute papers.

A symposium on "Some Relations of Biology to Human Welfare" will be presented on Tuesday afternoon.

The Naturalists' dinner will be held on the evening of Tuesday. At the close of the dinner Edward M. East will give an address entitled "Population."