

THE Royal Society announces that two John Foulerton studentships will shortly be awarded for original research in medicine, the improvement of the treatment of disease, and the relief of human suffering. Researches must be carried out under the supervision and control of the Royal Society. The studentships are of the value of £400 each, and are tenable for three years, but may be extended to a total period of six years. Candidates must be of proved British nationality; both sexes are eligible.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

At a recent meeting of the New York Endowment Fund Committee of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Mr. Coleman du Pont presiding, President R. C. MacLaurin announced that \$1,500,000 had been subscribed toward the \$8,000,000 endowment fund. "Mr. Smith," the anonymous donor of \$7,000,000 to the institute, has agreed to give \$4,000,000 to the fund if \$3,000,000 is pledged by January 1, 1920.

DR. GEORGE W. CRILE, of the School of Medicine of Western Reserve University, has given \$100,000 to endow a chair of surgery. Dr. Crile is chief of the surgical staff of the school. He headed the Lakeside Hospital Unit of Cleveland, one of the first American units in France.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY has received a gift of \$6,000 for research work in food chemistry.

PROFESSOR SAMUEL N. SPRING has returned to the United States for the first term of the present college year to teach silviculture, forest law and policy in the Department of Forestry at the University of Missouri. He will resume his work as professor of silviculture at Cornell University on January 1, being at present on leave of absence.

RICHARD M. FIELD has been appointed assistant professor of paleontology and historical geology at Brown University. He also continues his association with the research staff of the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Cambridge.

EDWARD H. MACK, Ph.D. (Princeton, 1916), has returned from overseas duty and has gone to the Ohio State University as assistant professor of physical chemistry.

PROFESSOR EDWIN MORRISON, for thirteen years head of the department of physics at Earlham College, has been granted a year's leave of absence and is teaching engineering physics in the Michigan Agricultural College.

C. M. YOUNG, formerly of the University of Kansas, has returned as professor and head of the department of mining engineering.

DR. HORST OERTEL has been appointed head of the department of pathology at McGill University.

DR. EDWARD HINDLE, Kingsley lecturer and fellow of Magdalene College, Cambridge, assistant to the Quick Professor of biology, has been elected to the chair of biology in the School of Medicine, at Cairo, Egypt, in succession to professor A. Looss. Dr. Hindle was instructor in zoology at the University of California from 1909 to 1910.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE DOUBLE USE OF THE TERM ACCELERATION

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: The use of clear and distinct meanings of terms has not kept pace with the progress in science. One repeatedly hears appeals for the standardization of the meanings of terms. Great confusion arises when different writers use the same term with entirely different meanings. In the writer's opinion, it is quite as important to fix the definitions of the fundamental terms as it is to fix the units; scientific organizations ought to get together, arrive at some conclusion, and then appeal to the Bureau of Standards to officially standardize such definitions as they do the units.

A notable case which gives rise to much confusion, is the term acceleration. The engineer always used this term to mean the rate of increase of speed, that is, velocity divided by time, hence its dimensions are LT^{-2} ; it is measured in feet (or meters) per