

With the marvelous expansion of the industry of this country and the growing necessity of science to industry, the scientific bureaus have been utterly unable to hold their assistants against the competition of industry which is taking their highly trained men at salaries the government does not pay or even approach.

I feel very deeply that there ought to be more adequate compensation for the scientific and technical men in the government service so that none of them may be compelled to accept positions on the outside.

Many of these scientific men are of fine type for government work, care little for the commercial field, take an intense professional interest in their tasks and are of inestimable value to the government.

RESIGNATION OF PROFESSOR E. F. NICHOLS FROM THE YALE UNIVERSITY FACULTY

ANNOUNCEMENT is made from Yale University that the resignation of Ernest Fox Nichols, Sc.D., LL.D., professor of physics, has been tendered and accepted. Professor Nichols has accepted the post of director of pure science in the Nela Research Laboratories of the National Lamp Works of the General Electric Company, at Cleveland, Ohio.

In offering his resignation Dr. Nichols wrote the following letter to the Yale corporation in explanation of the conditions which had led to his decision:

SLOANE LABORATORY,
YALE UNIVERSITY,
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT,
April 21, 1920

THE CORPORATION OF YALE UNIVERSITY.

Gentlemen: I have been offered the post of director of pure science in the Nela Research Laboratories, National Lamp Works of the General Electric Company, at Cleveland, Ohio. The position offers complete freedom in the choice of research problems, and places at my unhampered disposal such human and material resources as no university I know of can at present afford.

I would like to accept this offer and therefore respectfully ask you to release me at the close of the present academic year from my post of professor of physics in Yale University.

The thought of leaving present colleagues and university surroundings is to me, in many ways, a source of deep regret, and I have hesitated long over my decision; yet the heightened opportunities

of the new position are in everything else so advantageous that the offer becomes finally irresistible.

With appreciation and sincere regard,

Yours very truly,

Signed: ERNEST FOX NICHOLS

Dr. Nichols went to Yale University in the fall of 1916 to occupy a new chair of physics, having resigned the presidency of Dartmouth College, in which capacity he had served since 1909, in order that he might have the desired opportunity to continue his scientific work. Professor Nichols is a graduate of the Kansas Agricultural College in the class of 1888, and has held professorships of physics in Colgate College, Dartmouth College and Columbia University. During the war from 1917 to 1919 he was absent from Yale University, to engage in research and development work for the navy.

THE ALLEGHENY OBSERVATORY

THE following minute was adopted by the observatory committee and also by the executive committee of the board of trustees of the University of Pittsburgh at its meeting on January 14:

In complying with the request of Dr. Frank Schlesinger that he be relieved of his duties as director on April 1, 1920, to take charge of the Yale Observatory, the committee desire to express their appreciation of his fifteen years of active and fruitful service, during which the Allegheny Observatory has made many valuable contributions to astronomical science, and worthily upheld its international reputation created by Langley and Keeler. While we regret to lose the valuable cooperation and friendly personal relationship which our long association with Dr. Schlesinger has developed, we sincerely congratulate him on the enlarged and attractive field of scientific usefulness which his new position offers; and heartily wish for himself and family, continued health, happiness and success. Moreover, we look forward with pleasure to our continued cooperation in the solution of the great astronomical problems which are rapidly bringing into closer fellowship the astrophysicists of the world.

On the evening of March 22, a few days before Dr. Schlesinger's departure for New