tution could be explained only on a basis of stereoisomerism, he developed an extension of the valence hypothesis and introduced the concept "coordination number" of elements.

This conception was the stimulating cause of a great mass of researches which embodied the discovery of many new compounds, many new examples of isomerism, brought rational classification into the whole field of complex inorganic compounds and led by logical development of theoretical views to the discovery of optically active inorganic compounds. None realized more clearly than he that in his extension of the valence hypothesis he had not reached any ultimate truth but had merely added one definite stepping stone.

To the little laboratory in Zurich, with its all too limited equipment, he attracted students from every part of the world. Eventually adequate funds were placed at his disposal, with which was constructed one of the model laboratories of Europe. His fear at the time was that he might not be able to carry into the commodious new quarters the spirit which had permeated the old laboratory. This fear was groundless, as the character of the researches from the new laboratory abundantly proved.

In 1912 Professor Werner was LeBlanc Medallist of the Société Chemique de France. In 1915 he was elected an honorary member of the Chemical Society (London) and in the same year was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

An indefatigable seeker after truth has gone to his rest. The example of his life remains a constant inspiration.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE UNITED STATES COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY AND RECENT CONGRESSIONAL LEGISLATION

During the past session of Congress, the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey was benefited by provisions in three bills.

In the act making appropriations for the naval service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, it is provided "That the superintendent of the Coast and Geodetic Survey shall have the relative rank, pay and emoluments of a captain in the navy, and that hereafter he shall be appointed by the president, by and with the consent of the senate, from the list of commissioned officers of the Coast and Geodetic Survey not below the relative rank of commander for a term of four years, and he may be reappointed for further periods of four years each.

In the act making appropriations for the sundry civil expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, it is provided "That the title of 'superintendent' of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey is hereby changed to 'director,' but this change shall not affect the status of the present incumbent or require his reappointment, provided further that the secretary of commerce may designate one of the hydrographic and geodetic engineers to act as assistant director."

The third act which contains legislation affecting the commissioned personnel of the Coast and Geodetic Survey is one entitled, "An act to increase the efficiency of the commissioned and enlisted personnel of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey, and the Public Health Service, through the temporary provision of bonuses or increased compensation." This act provides for certain increases in salary for all commissioned officers varying in amount from $480 to $840 per annum. It contains the following provision affecting the commissioned force of the Coast and Geodetic Survey:

> That in lieu of compensation now prescribed by law, commissioned officers of the Coast and Geodetic Survey shall receive the same pay and allowances as now are or hereafter may be prescribed for officers of the Navy with whom they hold relative rank as prescribed in the act of May 22, 1917, entitled, "An act to temporarily increase the commissioned and warrant and enlisted strength of the Navy and Marine Corps, and for other purposes," including longevity; and all laws relating to the retirement of commissioned officers of the Navy shall hereafter apply to commissioned officers of the Coast and Geodetic Survey; *Provided*, That hereafter longevity pay for officers in the Army,

Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Public Health Service and Coast and Geodetic Survey shall be based on the total of all service in any or all of said services.

This law makes a substantial increase in the pay and allowances of the commissioned personnel of the Coast and Geodetic Survey who hold relative rank from second lieutenant to colonel in the army and from ensign to captain in the navy. The commissioned personnnel of the Surveys will also be greatly benefited by the retirement clause of this act. The salary scale for the commissioned personnel of the survey had previously been so inadequate that it was impossible to secure applicants for the vacant positions. This is shown by the fact that there are to-day about 40 vacancies in the commissioned force of 140. This has been increased to 50 by the retirement of ten officers who have reached the retirement age. In the future the pay and allowances of the lowest commissioned grade will be about $2,500 per annum. Appointments to this grade will be made from the grades of junior engineer and deck officer, the entrance positions. Six months' experience in the lowest grade is necessary before promotion to the commissioned personnel.

The U. S. Civil Service Commission will shortly announce an examination to be held about the middle of July from which to secure eligibles to fill the entering positions.

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATIONS ENDOWMENT OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON

THE Rockefeller Foundation has offered to give about $6,000,000 to University College, London, and its hospital. Dr. George E. Vincent has issued a statement in which he says:

Since the Rockefeller Foundation is cooperating with governments in many parts of the British Empire it recognizes the importance of aiding medical education in London, where the training of personnel and the setting of standards for health work throughout the empire are so largely centered.

The University College and Hospital School have been selected because of the physical unity of the hospital and medical school buildings and the close relationships existing between the University College, which provides the laboratory courses, and the University College Hospital and Medical School, which furnishes clinical teaching.

The college and school are fortunate in having assembled a group of able men who are deeply interested in teaching and research. E. H. Starling and William M. Bayliss, physiologists, and G. Elliot Smith, anatomist, are scientists of distinction, while T. R. Elliott, G. Blanker Thomas Lewis, Sir John Bradford, C. C. Choyce, H. R. Kenwood, H. Betty Shaw and Sydney Martin are clinicians of recognized standing.

The authorities of the schools, supported heartily by the faculty, have organized full-time clinical "units" in such a way as to combine the care of patients and research with the teaching of students. This feature of the work especially influenced the foundation to decide to assist in furthering a plan which it is believed will have an important effect upon the development of British medicine.

The building program for which £590,000 have been appropriated will include an institute of anatomy comparable with any in the United States. A new home for nurses, new quarters for resident physicians, a biochemical building, laboratory facilities in close connection with hospital wards, the remodeling of a hospital with the addition of twenty beds, and a new obstetrical unit with a capacity of sixty patients. These additions will provide a total of 500 beds.

It is proposed to increase the annual expenditures by the approximately £50,000, of which the foundation will provide endowment to produce an income of £30,000. This additional maintenance will be expended upon a new staff in anatomy, an increase in the staff of physiology, the provision of a full-time unit in obstetrics and various items of increased laboratory and clinical service throughout the institutions concerned. It is believed that the obstetrical unit plan offers prospects of a success which will be of value to the entire world. The subject now in England, as elsewhere, is poorly taught and needs reorganization under improved conditions.

The foundation has a special interest in the proposed Institute of Anatomy because thus far under British auspices a true university department which combines both teachings and research in the fields of anatomy, histology and embryology has not been developed. It is believed that such an institute, by unified efforts in these three branches of anat-