

of research. Cooperation seems to be the slogan to-day and the National Research Council, created as a war measure, is functioning to stimulate research in all of these institutions of the country in a cooperative way. Botany certainly has not been neglected as evidenced by the fundamental physiological work on fertilizers and the growing of wheat, and the fundamental work in connection with the treatment of plant diseases which will be taken up by the Research Council through the Crop Protection Institute in a cooperative way. Cooperation in every line is desirable, but is it not a fact that all great discoveries are made by individuals? These individuals should have plenty of equipment and help, and each should have a free hand to work out his or her problem.

In conclusion the plea I desire to make is that the botanist should enter more vigorously into the exploitation of fields of agronomic work, ecology and taxonomic work, as it is related to horticulture and agriculture. We have allowed some splendid fields of work to slip away from us, largely because we were indifferent to the problems of agriculture. This is not true of plant pathology which has made itself felt along economic lines. It is true that some phases of plant breeding, physiology and soil relations of plants are masquerading under various forms of agriculture and horticulture. It is not my aim to belittle much that has been accomplished by horticulturists and agriculturists, but this work, when botanical, should find its place under the head of botany. Let us look for a new era in botanical work. Then the various phases of the work will find their rightful place, not only in our teaching, but in our research as well.

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#### SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

##### THE BOWDOIN MEDICAL SCHOOL

THE Bowdoin Medical School, established a century ago by Maine's first legislature, will be closed as a department of Bowdoin College at the end of the current year next June, un-

less by that time it receives financial support.

The following announcement has been made by President Kenneth C. M. Sills by authority of the boards of trustees and overseers.

By action of the board of trustees and overseers the Bowdoin Medical School will be finally closed as a department of Bowdoin College at the end of the current year, June, 1921, unless by that time some way shall be found to meet the requirements necessary to keep the school in Class A of American medical colleges. It has been conservatively estimated that for this purpose there must be an addition to the resources of the school of \$25,000 for immediate equipment of laboratories and of at least \$50,000 yearly income for more teachers and for up-keep. Unfortunately at the present time the college sees no way of procuring such funds; the need of such an endowment has often been placed before the people of Maine, but the appeals have never received an adequate response.

The college will not apply for state aid for the school. But if the citizens of Maine and the friends of medical education who believe that the maintenance of a medical school is properly a state function, desire to have the medical school reestablished as a state institution under state control and adequately supported by the state, Bowdoin College will be glad to give all assistance possible to that end, and would doubtless offer for such a purpose for temporary use, if desired, such part of the buildings and apparatus of the college as might be available.

The trustees and overseers of the college believe that there is a place for a medical school in Maine and are hopeful that the people of the state, despite the great demands on the incoming legislature, will establish such a school as a state institution, around which all the medical and public health work of the state would be centered.

#### THE DIRECTORSHIP OF THE BUREAU OF MINES

DR. F. G. COTTRELL, director of the United States Bureau of Mines, on December 31, handed his resignation to the President, through Secretary of the Interior Payne. He leaves the bureau to take up his duties as chairman of the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Technology of the National Research Council. Dr. Cottrell recommends as his successor H. Foster Bain, of California, whose