

SCIENCE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1921

CONTENTS

| | |
|--|-----|
| <i>Dinner in Honor of Dr. Keen:</i> DR. JOHN H. JOPSON | 123 |
| <i>Address:</i> DR. W. W. KEEN | 124 |
| <i>The Relation of Mendelism and the Mutation Theory to Natural Selection:</i> PROFESSOR C. C. NUTTING | 129 |
| <i>Scientific Events:—</i> | |
| <i>Professor Calmette on a Vaccine for Tuberculosis; Awards of the Paris Academy of Sciences; The University of London's Physiological Laboratory; Popular Lectures on Scientific Subjects at the California Academy of Sciences</i> | 131 |
| <i>Scientific Notes and News</i> | 134 |
| <i>University and Educational News</i> | 137 |
| <i>Discussion and Correspondence:—</i> | |
| <i>Thrice-told Tales:</i> DR. T. C. MENDENHALL, DR. JONATHAN WRIGHT. <i>Reply to Professor Horn:</i> PROFESSOR FLORIAN CAJORI. <i>A Correction:</i> DR. DAVID WILBUR HORN. <i>Memoir of G. K. Gilbert:</i> PROFESSOR W. M. DAVIS. | 137 |
| <i>Quotations:—</i> | |
| <i>The Printing of Astronomical Observations.</i> | 140 |
| <i>Special Articles:—</i> | |
| <i>On the Stability of the Acid-base Equilibrium of the Blood in Normal and in Naturally Nephropathic Animals:</i> PROFESSOR WILLIAM B. MCNIDER | 141 |
| <i>The American Chemical Society:</i> DR. CHARLES L. PARSONS | 143 |

MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to The Editor of Science, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

DINNER IN HONOR OF DR. KEEN

ON January 20, 1921, a dinner was tendered to Dr. William Williams Keen, the eminent Philadelphia surgeon, at the Bellevue Stratford Hotel, in Philadelphia, in celebration of his eighty-fourth birthday. Dr. Keen had recently returned from Europe, whither he had gone in the summer of 1920, to preside at the meeting in Paris, of the Société Internationale de Chirurgie, of which he had been elected president in 1914, and the meetings of which had been of necessity suspended during the war. Everywhere abroad he had been received with honors befitting his position as President of this Society, and as the leader and dean of American surgery. It was thought an appropriate time for the friends and admirers of Dr. Keen in this country, to show their appreciation of his many achievements as physician, scientist, educator, man of letters, and patriotic American. The occasion proved to be one of the most remarkable tributes ever tendered a private citizen in Philadelphia. Between five and six hundred subscribers, representing all parts of the country, and all of the learned professions, and the fields of diplomacy, industry, finance, and the public services, joined in honoring Dr. Keen.

The presiding officer and toastmaster was his close friend and colleague, Dr. George E. deSchweinitz, professor of ophthalmology in the University of Pennsylvania, and like Dr. Keen, a former president of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, the premier medical society of the United States. The speakers, who dwelt on various phases of the activities of Dr. Keen's long and busy life, had all been closely associated with him in one or more of these fields of work. The list included the following gentlemen: Dr. J. Chalmers DaCosta, his one-time assistant, now Gross professor of surgery, in the Jeffer-

son Medical College, in which chair he had succeeded Dr. Keen on the retirement of the latter from active teaching. Dr. William H. P. Faunce, president of Brown University, of which institution Dr. Keen is an alumnus, and of which he has been for many years a most active trustee. Dr. William H. Welch, professor of pathology in Johns Hopkins University, and like Keen a strong exponent and defender of the field of experimental investigation in medicine. The Hon. David Jayne Hill, former ambassador to Germany, who spoke of the interest and efforts of Dr. Keen in the large problems of civic and national welfare, and of his sturdy Americanism. The many letters of congratulation to the guest of the evening had been collected and bound in three volumes, and these were presented by Major General M. W. Ireland, surgeon general of the United States Army, who detailed Dr. Keen's connection with the Medical Department of the Army, beginning with his services in the field and in the hospitals during the Civil War, and down to, and including the World War, when he held a commission as a reserve officer, with the rank of major. A bronze bust, by Samuel Murray, of Dr. Keen in his uniform as an officer of the Medical Corps, U. S. Army, was presented to him on behalf of the subscribers to the dinner, by Dr. William J. Taylor, president of the College of Physicians, and for many years his private assistant.

Dr. Keen responded in happy vein, reviewing the many world changes transpiring during his long life, with special reference to the revolutionary advances in the sciences, and particularly in medicine and surgery, in many of which he had indeed played a leading part. His address is printed below. A reception to Dr. Keen followed the dinner.

JOHN H. JOPSON

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

ADDRESS OF DR. KEEN

As I have listened to what I might call "oral photographs" of myself, I assure you that it has been with genuine humility, as I

realized how far short I had come of these fine ideals. I lay no claim to superlative virtues. I am only a loyal American, who, to the best of his ability, has tried to do his daily duty to his fellowmen, his dear country and his God. You have looked on my homely merits with more than kindly eyes, and have regarded my faults and my failings with more than friendly forgetfulness. I thank you again and again from the bottom of my heart.

This bust, the product of Mr. Murray's skill, I accept for myself and my descendants with special pleasure from you, Dr. Taylor, so long my able assistant, later my colleague and always my dear friend. It is the visible evidence of that precious, imponderable, yet all powerful force—the affection of many friends.

What shall I say through you, General Ireland, my distinguished pupil, to the writers of these many letters in three stately volumes. They are generous libations poured out on the altar of Friendship. "Timeo Danaos et dona ferentes" was a valid warning in ancient Troy, but *my* gift-bearing Greeks I welcome with fearless and profound gratitude.

It may be a happy augury that we meet to-day rather than yesterday, the actual anniversary of my birth. By a little stretching of the imagination to-day, I can describe myself as "well along"—a phrase with a truthful indefiniteness—"well along on the way to my 85th birthday," and what is imagination for if not to stand by us when we need help?

To-morrow, in spite of the terrible temptation you have held out to me to do otherwise, I promise you that I shall wear the same Stetson hat as heretofore. I hardly can call it the companion of my youth, but I do treasure it as an old acquaintance which still fits well.

My manner of life from my youth up has been known to you among whom I have lived for four score years and four. It is a source of sincere gratification to me that, in spite of all my faults and shortcomings, of which I am fully conscious, on the whole you seem to approve of it.

When one has reached the altitude of 84, it is natural that he should turn and scan the