UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

BY the will of Mrs. Ann M. Swift the University of Chicago and Northwestern University received a total of $200,000, while the American University of Washington receives $25,000.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association states that the sum of $2,500,000 has been appropriated by the Dominican Order which controls the University of St. Thomas College of Medicine, Manila, for the erection of a new concrete building, in which will be housed all the colleges of the university, the laboratories, the dispensary, the libraries, the hall, the chapel and its offices, leaving the old building which the university now occupies in the Walled City. The site for this new building will be on the outskirts of Manila. Construction work will be started in a few months. A university hospital for the practice of the students of the college of medicine will be erected on the same site. Dr. José Luis de Castro is dean of the university.

DR. A. A. HAMERSCHLAG, who has been president of Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh, since it was established in 1903, has resigned, effective on July 1. Dr. Thomas Stockham Baker, secretary for the past three years, and formerly director of the Jacob Tome Institute at Port Deposit, Md., has been appointed acting president. Dr. Hamerschlag plans to enter business, with offices in Pittsburgh and New York, as adviser and consultant to business organizations.

DR. GEORGE W. CORNER, associate professor of anatomy at the Johns Hopkins Medical School, has been appointed head of the department of anatomy in the new school of medicine and dentistry now being organized at the University of Rochester, N. Y.

THE appointment is announced of Dr. Edwin Bramwell to the Moncrieff-Arnott chair of clinical medicine at the University of Edinburgh, in succession to the late Professor Francis D. Boyd. Dr. Edwin Bramwell is a son of Dr. Byron Bramwell, the distinguished Edinburgh physician, and has made his reputation chiefly in the study of diseases of the nervous system.

AT the University of Cambridge Mr. F. C. Bartlett, St. John's College, has been appointed reader in experimental psychology and director of the Psychological Laboratory.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

SOME SIMPLIFICATIONS OF MICROSCOPICAL TECHNIQUE

IN handling large classes in histology and allied biological subjects in which it is desirable to supplement loan series of slides by sections, given out for individual mounting, any means of shortening or economizing the work of preparation is usually welcome. During the past three or four years I have hit upon and practically tested out a number of such short cuts which have proven exceedingly valuable. Others have doubtless used the same or similar methods, but their worth may justify publication here.

Among these are first, the substitution of C. P. Acetone for the usual series of graded percentages of alcohols for the hydration and dehydration of sections when staining and mounting. Each student is provided with three slide bottles, labelled Nos. 1, 2, and 3, and containing C. P. Acetone in two and Absolute Acetone in the third. Through this series the mounted sections are passed to and from the stain, before clearing and mounting as usual. Acetone mixes readily with water and with alcohol, and the absolute acetone with xylene or other clearing agents. It is especially valuable in applying the various blood stains to sections, since it does not extract them, nor affect them in any appreciable manner. It may also be substituted for absolute alcohol as a solvent for celloidin when imbedding in the latter medium. Its high volatility and inflammable nature are dangers against which the student should be explicitly warned.

The second method is the staining of ribbons of sections without removing the paraffine in which the material was imbedded. The paraffine ribbons are cut into convenient lengths, floated upon warm distilled water in a suitable dish until flattened, cooled, and then transferred to the surface of the filtered stain in a flat dish, upon which they are left floating until stained. The correct time of staining can be readily determined by experiment.