

DR. TOWNER R. LEIGH has been appointed director of the new school of pharmacy, for which money was pledged by the Florida State Pharmaceutical Association. It was opened at the University of Florida on September 10 by the state board of control.

DR. CLARENCE M. HYLAND, recently connected with Creighton University College of Medicine, has been appointed professor of pathology in the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York.

IN the University of Texas Department of Medicine, Galveston, Dr. H. O. Knight, formerly associate professor, has been promoted to full professor of anatomy; Dr. George E. Bethel, to be adjunct professor of anatomy, and Drs. G. W. N. Eggers, C. R. Enloe and E. M. Jordan instructors in anatomy.

JOHN L. EBAUGH, Jr., for the past two years instructor in chemistry at Tulane University, New Orleans, has been appointed instructor in chemistry at the Drexel Institute, Philadelphia.

DR. GEORGE EDWIN JOHNSON, professor of biology in the University of Porto Rico from 1917 to 1921, has been called to the chair of biology in the University of Mississippi.

DR. J. F. KESSEL, who has been during the past year university fellow in zoology at the University of California, sailed on August 21 for China, to take up his work as instructor in biology in the pre-medical school of Peking Union Medical College.

## DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

### MEDICINE AND RELATED ARTS IN CHEMICAL LABORATORIES

THE attack on the medical profession in your issue of August 3, pages 79 and 80, based upon its supposed plan for insuring efficiency in clinical laboratory service, is unwarranted and destined to do harm. No such plan as that outlined by your correspondent, nor any other plan, has been adopted by the American Medical Association or by any of its scientific sections. Published records of the association (*Journal A. M. A.*, July 7, 1923, page 35, and July 14, 1923, page 120), which were available to your correspondent, clearly show the extent to which the association has gone in this matter. Arrangements were authorized by the House of Delegates in June, 1923, at the request of the American Chemical Society, under which the association will cooperate with the American Chemical Society and other technical organizations in mapping out jointly a policy with reference to the control of clinical laboratories. The issue of a defiance and a threat by your correspondent, at this time and in such a way as to give them seemingly

the support of the American Chemical Society, is hardly likely to contribute toward that cooperation which the officers of the American Medical Association and of the American Chemical Society have been at considerable pains to establish.

The Section on Pathology and Physiology of the Scientific Assembly of the American Medical Association, at its St. Louis meeting, 1922, upon the proceedings of which your correspondent seems largely to base his attack, did no more than create a committee to determine the practicability of standardizing clinical laboratories (*Journal A. M. A.*, June 10, 1922, page 1810). The report of that committee, submitted at the San Francisco meeting in June, 1923, was unanimously adopted by the section and approved by the House of Delegates (*Journal A. M. A.*, July 14, 1923, page 121), and stands as the action of the association. It provides merely for an investigation of clinical laboratories with a view to having some adequate supervision over them established. The papers and the discussion at the St. Louis meeting (*Journal A. M. A.*, September 9, 1922, pages 861-867), to which your correspondent refers in support of his contentions and from which he quotes, represent in themselves merely the views of individual members of the association, not the views of the association or of the section. Even so, however, your readers will find little in them to support your correspondent's views concerning the attitude of the medical profession toward the activities in clinical laboratories of scientific men trained in fields other than medicine, and much to indicate medical appreciation of the work of such men. It is hoped that your readers will accept the invitation of your correspondent to read the papers and discussion referred to.

The medical profession has no need to be reminded of the extent to which the success of a physician and the safety of his patient depend on sciences and arts other than medicine. The American Medical Association itself long ago established its Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry and maintains at its headquarters a thoroughly equipped chemical laboratory under the direction of highly trained chemists. It is, in fact, the very dependence of medicine on certain related sciences and arts that renders it imperative that something be done to make certain that chemists, physicists, bacteriologists and others undertaking medical and quasi-medical work are fully qualified. It would be unfortunate, indeed, if indiscreet utterances on the part of any one should hinder the movement to that end.

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*Executive Secretary*

BUREAU OF LEGAL MEDICINE AND  
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