

THE Canadian Medical Association has arranged for a Lister oration to be given once every three years. The first oration will be given at the annual meeting of the Association at Ottawa in 1924 by Dr. John Stewart, of Halifax, who is a former house-surgeon of Lister's.

THE Royal Institution has received from Mr. Robert Mond a gift of busts and medallions of Dr. Ludwig Mond, Cannizzaro, Liebig, Berzelius, and others, and many portraits and photographs.

At a recent meeting of the senate of the University of London, it was resolved that the physiological laboratory library should be kept together as part of the university library and be developed in connection therewith as a memorial to the late Professor A. D. Waller.

THE Clare Vaughan Infirmary at the Detroit Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Northville, was dedicated November 15 to the memory of Dr. Victor Clarence Vaughan, Jr., who died in service in France, June 4, 1919. Dr. Vaughan was the son of Professor Victor C. Vaughan, of the University of Michigan.

NEAR the new home of the New York Academy of Medicine, on Sixtieth Street an eleven story office building for the exclusive use of the medical profession will be erected at a cost of \$850,000.

THE American Public Health Association has announced that at its fifty-second annual meeting at Boston in October, two new sections were established. They are a Section on Health Education and Publicity and a Section on Public Health Nursing. The divisions in the association now are as follows: Public Health Administration, Laboratory, Vital Statistics, Food and Drugs, Sanitary Engineering, Industrial Hygiene, Child Hygiene, Health Education and Publicity, and Public Health Nursing.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association says that the national committees on international cooperation in intellectual work, which have now been appointed in seventeen countries of Europe, were invited to send delegates to the meeting of the International Committee on Intellectual Cooperation, organized by the League of Nations, which was held at Paris on November 28. These national committees will serve as correspondents and collaborators to the international committee in encouraging and facilitating intellectual cooperation among the nations. Since the last meeting of the League of Nations, national committees have been created or are in process of formation in Belgium, France, Latvia, Norway, the Netherlands and Switzerland. Similar committees were already in existence in Austria, Bulgaria, Esthonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, Roumania, Czechoslovakia, and in the kingdom of the Serbs, Croatsians and Slovenians.

EARLY in January Dr. Thomas Barbour, of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, accompanied by Dr. Edward Wigglesworth and Mr. W. S. Brooks, both of the Boston Museum of Natural History, will go to Cuba and Central America for an extended visit. The principal object of the trip is to start work on the organization of the biological station to be erected on Barro Colorado Island in Gatun Lake. This island is a beautiful area of virgin, tropical rain forest about six square miles in extent. Chiefly through the influence of Drs. Wheeler, Piper, Strong and Mr. James Zetek, of Ancon, Governor Morrow set aside the island, in perpetuity, as a forest reservation to be used in connection with a biological station. This station is to be managed by the executive committee of the Institute for Research in Tropical America, an organization initiated by the National Research Council. The institute is supported by the museums and colleges of America which are each asked to give a small annual grant towards maintenance. The initial funds to start building operations on the island are now being raised by the executive committee. Dr. Barbour hopes before he leaves Panama to have trails cut through the island jungle, to have a safe water supply established and some sort of living quarters erected so that the large number of naturalists who have expressed their desire to visit the island during the coming summer vacation will find reasonable accommodations for their work.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

MRS. ALFRED H. ANDERSON, widow of a pioneer lumberman of Seattle, has presented to the board of regents of the University of Washington \$250,000 to be expended for a building to be called the "Alfred H. Anderson Hall of the College of Forestry," in memory of her husband. The building will be constructed at once near the present Forest Products Laboratory.

THE Harvard School of Public Health formally opened its school building on Van Dyke Street, Boston, on November 21. The building which was formerly the Boston Infants' Hospital was purchased by the School of Public Health and entirely renovated.

WORK will start in the spring on the McKinley Hospital on the campus of the University of Illinois, Champaign. This \$150,000 building, a gift of Senator William B. McKinley, will be one of a group which will form the south quadrangle. It will be three stories high and have a capacity of sixty beds.

THE University of California College of Dentistry has established a Lecture Foundation on Preventive Dentistry, the initial endowment being \$10,000. The intention of the foundation is to present the most

recent knowledge relating to the prevention of diseases of the mouth and teeth. The prevalence and seriousness of these insidious disorders are widely recognized but not fully understood, and the faculty and alumni hold that the duty of preventing disease and promoting public health is fully as important as the relief and reparative treatment so universally needed. Dr. Arthur D. Black, dean of the Northwestern University Dental School, has been invited to give the first series of lectures. It is proposed to give the series in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

DR. MELVIN A. MARTIN, A.B. (Richmond), A.M. (Chicago), Ph.D. (Columbia), has become professor of psychology in Newcomb College, Tulane University, succeeding Dr. J. M. Fletcher.

ADDITIONS to the faculty of medicine at Dalhousie University, Halifax, N. S., as reported to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association are as follows: Clyde Holland and Margaret Chase have been appointed to full-time positions in the departments of anatomy and pathology, respectively; R. J. Bean, formerly on the staff of Western Reserve University, has been appointed associate professor of histology and embryology; Professor E. Gordon Young, associate professor of biochemistry at Western Ontario University, has been made head of the department of biochemistry; Professor J. N. Gowanloch has been appointed to succeed Professor J. A. Dawson in the department of biology. The recent affiliation of King's and Dalhousie has combined the teaching force of the two universities and Professor N. J. Symons, of King's, will become instructor in psychology to the medical classes, while Professor A. S. Walker, also of King's foundation, will lecture to the first year medical students on the "History of thought," a new subject.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

THE JAPANESE EARTHQUAKE¹

I AM writing to thank you for your kind letter of September 21 last and your card of the twenty-fifth expressing sympathy for the catastrophe that has befallen this country. I have the good fortune to assure you that I am perfectly right myself and that none of the Japanese parasitologists have been affected by the misfortune, except Dr. Miyajima, whose house was burnt down. The zoological building of this university, which is of brick, cracked badly and part of it is being taken down, but no serious damage has been done to its contents, and the personnel are all safe. The central library and the buildings used by

¹ Letter to Professor Henry B. Ward, University of Illinois.

the faculties of law, economics and letters, as well as those of physiological chemistry and pharmacology, have been lost by fire, which originated in the laboratory of physiological chemistry immediately after the earthquake. Very little of their contents have been saved, owing to the general disorder that ensued and the lack of the necessary water, although those who were at the spot fought bravely. The central library, which contained many works never to be obtained again, and in which were deposited several memorial collections, including the working library of the Sanscrit scholar Max Mueller, is a great loss for the university, and it will take years to have a similar one again.

At the time of the earthquake I was staying with my wife and family at a country place about fifty miles north of Tokyo, where the shock was bad enough, but not so bad as to damage the little house I was living in nor any in the neighborhood. People there told me they did not remember a similar shock for the past forty years. Towards the evening of that day, September 1, I could see at a far distance reflections of what I thought to be flame, and the same reflections were seen somewhat altered the next day, but I had no idea of what was going on in Tokyo. Then came the news that all Tokyo was in flame, that martial law was proclaimed, that nobody could get into the city owing to the disorder that prevailed there, etc., etc., and there was no means to send or receive information. The dreadful suspense we were compelled to be in was trying in the extreme. I, however, managed to get back to Tokyo with my family on the 6th, and to our great relief we found our own house and those we left in it all safe. My time has since been taken up entirely by meetings and conferences of various sorts in connection with the work of reconstruction for the university. Half of Tokyo is now a city of barracks and sheds, and the government have decided to build only temporary structures for themselves for ten years hence. I am, however, hoping to see Tokyo a better city than it used to be after some years.

The center of this destructive earthquake was in Sagami Sea, the home of so many interesting forms of life, and comes very close to filling a gap in the series of similar centers in the past, which form what has been called the "outer earthquake zone" of Japan, as you will see from the enclosed chart prepared before the late disaster. You may perhaps wonder why we do not abandon a country so often visited by earthquakes, but I think familiarity breeds contempt in this case, too. We are, however, taking lessons from our bitter experience and going to set up stronger structures for the university in the future.

I appreciate your kind consideration in connection with Mr. Morishita's paper. He has lately been in-