

Mr. Holway for permanent preservation at the university. Those who have letters from Mr. Holway, or who are interested in his collections, are invited to write the undersigned.

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#### THE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

It is planned to open the new medical school of the University of Rochester in September, 1925, and the Strong Memorial Hospital, with its 240 beds, will open a few weeks in advance, and the nurses' home four months earlier, in order that its training school may complete the training of an adequate staff of undergraduate nurses before the hospital first opens its doors to the public.

Considering 1925 as the year for the completion of the building program of the school, it is estimated that there will be available, from accumulated interest and the Strong Memorial gift, approximately \$3,000,000 for building expenses, without encroaching upon the \$9,000,000 capital originally donated. This fund will be left intact, therefore, as an endowment to provide for the running expenses of both school and hospital. As far as is known, this is one of the few instances on record where a large educational institution will have been built without encroaching upon its original endowments. It is announced that those entrusted with the destinies of the Rochester institution have chosen deliberately to build modestly and simply and to place the future reputation of the school in its scholastic attainments rather than in its outer appearance.

A final addition to the medical school and hospital group, as at present planned, will be the new municipal hospital to contain 240 beds to be built by the city of Rochester at some time in the near future close by the Strong Memorial Hospital, and coordinated with it both physically and in its operation. Piling already has been driven for the foundations of this structure.

It will be remembered that the General Education Board and George Eastman, of the Eastman Kodak Company, provided the sum of \$9,000,000 for the foundation of a medical school for the University of Rochester. To this amount was added a donation of \$1,000,000 from the two daughters of the late Henry A. Strong for a hospital to be built in conjunction with the school in order to enable it to carry out its work under the most favorable conditions.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

J. S. DILLER recently retired from the United States Geological Survey, in which he has served for more

than forty years. In testimony of their esteem his associates on the survey tendered him a luncheon at the Cosmos Club on January 22, at which Colonel H. C. Rizer, chief clerk of the survey, presided. Dr. W. M. Davis, of Harvard University, a life-long friend of Mr. Diller, who was a guest at the luncheon, gave some reminiscences of their early experiences together in work on Appalachian structural geology. Appreciative remarks were made by Director George Otis Smith, Dr. F. W. Clarke and S. J. Kübel.

THE seventieth birthday of Dr. Roux, director of the Pasteur Institute, was celebrated on December 17, in the library of the Pasteur Institute. Dr. Roux was present. M. Vallery-Radot and Dr. Calmette spoke on Roux's life and work.

DR. PAUL VON GROTH, professor of mineralogy in the University of Munich, whose eightieth birthday was celebrated on June 23, will retire on April 1.

DR. JOHANNES FIBIGER, professor ordinarius in pathologic anatomy at the University of Copenhagen, has been awarded the first Sofie A. Nordhoff-Jung Cancer Research Prize. The commission on award consisted of Professors Borst, Doederlein, v. Romberg and Sauerbruch, all of the University of Munich.

FREDERICK M. BECKET, chief metallurgist of the Electro Metallurgical Company, and vice-president of the Union Carbide and Carbon Research Laboratories, Inc. (both subsidiaries of the Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation), was awarded the Perkin Medal of the Society of Chemical Industry, on January 11, for his achievements in the field of applied chemistry.

OFFICERS of the Washington Academy of Sciences for 1924 are: *President*: Arthur L. Day, Geophysical Laboratory, Carnegie Institution; *corresponding secretary*: Francis B. Silsbee, Bureau of Standards; *recording secretary*: W. D. Lambert, U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey; *treasurer*: R. L. Faris, U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.

NATHAN CLIFFORD GROVER, chief hydraulic engineer of the United States Geological Survey, Washington, D. C., has been elected president of the Washington Society of Engineers.

WILLIAM C. L. EGLIN, vice-president in charge of the engineering department of the Philadelphia Electric Company, was installed as president of the Franklin Institute of the State of Pennsylvania on January 16.

WILLIAM L. SAUNDERS, chairman of the Naval Consulting Board, was elected on February 2 president of the United Engineering Society, New York City. Mr. Saunders is deputy chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, chairman of the Ingersoll-

Rand Company and a director of other large corporations. George H. Pegram, chief engineer of the Interborough lines, was elected first vice-president of the society and J. H. Renders, vice-president of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, second vice-president. Alfred D. Flinn was chosen secretary, Joseph Struthers, treasurer, and Henry A. Lardner, assistant treasurer.

LOUIS A. OLNEY, professor of chemistry and dyeing at the Lowell Textile School, Lowell, Mass., was elected president of the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists at its annual meeting, held at Providence, R. I., December 8.

At a recent meeting of the board of directors of the American Petroleum Institute the following officers were elected: *President*, Thomas A. O'Donnell; *vice-presidents*, R. D. Benson, Henry L. Doherty and J. W. Van Dyke; *Treasurer*, Harry F. Sinclair; *Secretary and counsel*, R. L. Welch.

DR. H. W. GILLET has been appointed chief metallurgist of the Bureau of Standards, to succeed G. K. Burgess, who recently was promoted to the directorship. Dr. Gillett for a number of years has been engaged in work on alloys at the Ithaca section of the Bureau of Mines.

D. C. BARDWELL, a physical chemist on the staff of the Bureau of Mines, is being transferred from the Reno experiment station to the bureau's Washington office. He will continue his research work on rare metals.

W. H. WAGGAMAN has resigned as chemist of the Bureau of Soils to accept a position with the Victor Chemical Works, Chicago Heights, Ill., to take up phosphate and phosphoric acid investigations.

COLONEL J. H. FINNEY, of Washington; Professor Dugald C. Jackson, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; C. E. Skinner, of Pittsburgh, and F. B. Jewett and L. F. Morehouse, of New York, have been chosen to represent the American Institute of Electrical Engineers on the executive board of the American Engineering Council for the coming year.

A GRANT of \$400 from the Bache Fund of the National Academy of Arts and Sciences has been made to Professor Harold Hibbert, Yale University, for the purchase of apparatus to be used for the determination of ultra-violet absorption spectra of compounds of interest in connection with the "Constitution and properties of carbohydrates and polysaccharides." An additional grant of \$300 from the Cyrus M. Warren Fund has also been made for the purchase of apparatus and supplies in furtherance of this work.

THE Royal Society has made a grant of £100 from the Darwin fund to Dr. Margery Knight, of the Hartley Botanical Laboratories, for research on marine Algae at the Port Erin Marine Biological Station.

THE Carnegie Hero Fund trustees have awarded the honorary certificate and allowance of \$375 a year to Reginald Blacknall, roentgenographer at the London Hospital, England, for twenty years, who, as the result of roentgen-ray work, contracted carcinoma, necessitating the amputation of both hands.

DR. D. E. DERRY, professor of anatomy at the Government Medical School in Cairo and a well-known anthropologist, has been charged with the examination of the mummy of Tut-ankh-amen.

H. H. MCKINNEY, plant pathologist in the Office of Cereal Investigations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, will spend the winter months at the School of Hygiene and Public Health of the Johns Hopkins University, conducting special investigations in connection with parasitic protozoa and the filterable virus diseases.

DR. ALICE M. BORING has been granted three years' leave of absence from Wellesley College to take charge of the department of biology of the University of Peking, China.

PROFESSOR GILBERT N. LEWIS, dean of the College of Chemistry of the University of California, has returned from a half year's vacation spent largely in the university towns of England. He gave a course of three lectures at Oxford University and a similar one at the University of London, both devoted to the theories of structure of atoms and molecules that he has developed.

WILLIAM MANSFIELD CLARK delivered a presidential address entitled "Life without oxygen" before the Chemical Society of Washington on January 10.

DR. EVARTS A. GRAHAM, professor of surgery, Washington University, School of Medicine, will deliver the fifth Harvey Society Lecture at the New York Academy of Medicine, on Saturday evening, February 9. His subject will be "Alterations of intrapleural pressure and their significance."

DR. LUDWIK SILBERSTEIN, of the Research Laboratory of the Eastman Kodak Company, gave three lectures before the faculty and students of McGill University on January 31 and February 1 and 2. The title of the lectures was "Radius of world curvature derived from spectrum shifts of distant celestial objects." The main result given and explained in these lectures was a set of consistent values of the world radius derived from seven globular clusters and the two magellanic clouds with a mean of  $6.0 \times 10^{12}$

astronomical units, by means of a formula deduced by Dr. Silberstein from deSitter's relativistic cosmology.

THE University of Arizona announces a series of ten lectures on some phases of the chemistry of the simple sugars and the saccharinic acids by Dr. J. W. E. Glattfeld, of the University of Chicago. The lectures are being delivered during the present winter quarter which Dr. Glattfeld is spending in Tucson.

PROFESSOR STEPHEN S. VISHER, of Indiana University, lectured twice in January before the Geographic Society of Chicago on his recent trip to Pacific Islands and Australia.

DR. P. H. ROLFS delivered, on December 12, an address at the specially called meeting of the Sociedade Nacional de Agricultura, on the subject of "The Agricultural and Veterinary College of the State of Minas Geraes, and a System of Agricultural Colleges for Brazil."

THE Seaboard Medical Society is negotiating to purchase the birthplace of the late Dr. Walter Reed, which will be maintained as a memorial. The old house in Gloucester County, Virginia, is in a dilapidated condition at the present time. In the spring of 1921 the Walter Reed Medical Society was organized as a memorial to Dr. Reed.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Berlin Microbiological Society was held on December 11, 1923, in commemoration of the eightieth anniversary of Koch's birth.

DR. EDWARD EMRYS-ROBERTS, professor of pathology and bacteriology in the University of Wales, died on January 17 at the age of forty-five years.

THE Fifth Congress of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry will be held at Copenhagen from June 26 to July 1. American chemists who expect to attend the congress should send in their names to Dr. J. E. Zanetti, Chairman, Division of Chemistry and Chemical Technology, National Research Council, Washington, D. C.

THE fifty-seventh congress of the learned societies of Paris and the French Departments will be held at Dijon from April 22 to 26.

A MEETING of Swiss medical men was held at Berne in October, 1923, when the Swiss organizing committee was formed for an International Congress on Industrial Health. The first congress will be held at Geneva from July 18 to 20, and will deal with the following questions: Industrial lighting and eye-strain; impure air in factories; value of fatigue tests. The committee consists of Drs. von Gonzonbach, Silbereschmidt, Zangger, Rossi, Carrière and Cristiani

(chairman), and has headquarters at the Institut d'Hygiène, University of Geneva.

THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION has available a sum amounting to \$450 which will be expended after October 1, 1924, for the encouragement of research. Investigators desiring financial aid in their work will communicate before March 1 with H. V. Army, chairman, A. Ph. A. Research Committee, 115 West 68th St., New York, giving their past record and outlining the particular line of work for which the grant is desired.

THE following awards were made at the last meeting of the trustees of the Elizabeth Thompson Science Fund on November 27, 1923: To Hazeltine Stedman, Mt. Holyoke, \$200 toward the purchase of equipment for an investigation on the effects of ultra violet radiation upon pure proteins; to Professor H. Stolyhwo, Anthropological Institute, Warsaw, \$200 to aid in his studies of anthropologic types on Polish territory; to Dr. A. Anding, Gotha Observatory, Germany, \$300 toward the continuation of investigations on the motion of the sun through space; to Dr. Israel Kleiner, N. Y. Homoeopathic Medical College, \$100 for an investigation on the state of the sugar of the blood in normal diabetic human beings; to Dr. Wm. deB. MacNider, University of North Carolina, Medical Department, \$285 for studying the effect of protecting the kidney against the injury from uranium nitrate by administering to dogs sodium bicarbonate. The Elizabeth Thompson Science Fund is administered by G. H. Parker, *president*; E. B. Wilson, *secretary*; Charles S. Rackemann, *treasurer*, and G. H. Baxter and W. B. Cannon, *members of the board of trustees*. The trustees meet three times a year toward the end of February, of May and of November. Applications should be in the hands of the secretary well in advance of the date of the meeting.

NINETEEN of the former students of Professor Carl H. Eigenmann, professor of zoology and dean of the graduate school of Indiana University, gave a dinner in his honor at the Hotel Gibson in Cincinnati, Ohio, during the convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The students dated from more than thirty years ago to present classes. Those present were: Dr. Oscar Riddle and Dr. A. M. Banta, experimental zoologists from the Carnegie laboratory at Cold Spring Harbor; Dr. Chancey Juday, in charge of lake investigations, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin; Dr. Clarence Kennedy, entomologist, Ohio State University; Dr. Frank H. Pike, professor of physiology, College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City; Dr. Thomas J. Headlee, state entomologist, New Brunswick, New Jersey; Arthur W. Henn, curator of ichthyology, Carnegie

Museum, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Dr. Ira T. Wilson, professor of zoology, Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio; Dr. O. P. Dellinger, professor of zoology, State Normal School, Pittsburg, Kansas; Dr. D. C. Warren, geneticist, Kansas State Agricultural College; Dr. Frank P. Reagan, professor of zoology, University of California; Dr. William Ray Allen, professor of zoology, University of Kentucky; Will P. Morgan, professor of zoology, Indiana Central College, Indianapolis, and the following from Indiana University: Dr. William J. Moenkhaus, professor of physiology; Dr. Will Scott, and Dr. Fernandus Payne, professors of zoology, and Nathan E. Pearson, Lowell T. Coggeshall, H. R. Bolen. Dr. Payne acted as toastmaster and Drs. Headlee, Riddle, Pike, Juday, Kennedy, Reagan, Banta, Scott and Eigenmann responded.

A STUDY of the reputed healing and medicinal properties of the hot springs situated on a government reserve at Hot Springs, Arkansas, will be one of the researches in cooperation with the United States government which the medical division of the National Research Council will consider this fall, according to Dr. Clarence M. Jackson, who is director of the medical division this year. Dr. Jackson is chairman of the department of anatomy in the school of medicine of the University of Minnesota, which has granted him a year's leave of absence. The investigations at Hot Springs have been requested by Dr. Hubert Work, secretary of the interior, who last year was president of the American Medical Association. During his year in Washington, Dr. Jackson plans to complete a book on "The Effects of Inanition" on which he is at work.

### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

CONTRACTS have been awarded for the erection of the hall of chemistry for the University of West Virginia at Morgantown. It is estimated that the completed structure will cost about \$750,000. The building will be 305.7 by 79 feet, four stories, basement and attic, with an extension of one story and basement.

DR. ELLIOT CARR CUTLER, associate in surgery and chairman in the department of surgery in the Harvard Medical School, has accepted the professorship of surgery in the School of Medicine at Western Reserve University and the office of house surgeon of Lakeside Hospital.

DR. GEORGE STRONG DERBY, formerly assistant professor of ophthalmology in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, has been appointed Williams professor of ophthalmology in place of Dr. Alexander Quackenboss who became professor emeritus on December 1.

DR. HOWARD DE FOREST, formerly assistant professor of botany at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, has been promoted to a professorship of botany and to the chairmanship of the botany division of the department of biology.

DR. CHARLES SHATTUCK PALMER, National Research Council fellow in organic chemistry at Yale University, has accepted an appointment starting February first as assistant professor of organic chemistry at Northwestern University. He will have charge of the courses ordinarily given by Dr. W. Lee Lewis, who is on leave of absence from the university to serve as director of scientific research of the Institute of American Meat Packers.

DR. ARAO ITANO, assistant professor of microbiology at the Massachusetts Agricultural College, has tendered his resignation with the request that it take effect at the close of the current college year. He plans to return to Japan, where he is to have charge of the division of microbiology and chemistry at the Ohara Institute of Agricultural Research.

PROFESSOR ERNST MANGOLD, department head in the Physiological Institute in Freiberg, has been called to Berlin as director of the Veterinary Physiological Institute, to succeed the late Professor N. Zuntz.

DR. GANESH PRASAD, dean of the faculty of science in the Benares Hindu University, has been appointed Hardinge professor of higher mathematics in the University of Calcutta in succession to Professor C. E. Cullis.

### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE MIRA, THE STRANGE STAR

A NOTE by *Science Service* in *SCIENCE* (Supplement, Dec. 28, 1923) on the significance of the recent discovery of a close companion to *Omicron Ceti* opens with the statement, which if correct would be disquieting, that the discovery "is baffling astronomers and may necessitate a revision of present theories of the size and distribution of the stars." This statement is expanded later in the note in the form of a dilemma. Either the two stars are physically connected, in which case the companion must be extraordinarily faint for a star of its spectral class; or they are independent and at entirely different orders of distance from us, in which case the companion, assuming it to have the luminosity of the average star of its class, must be "in a region of space where we know of no other star of this kind."

These statements seem to be based on an imperfect appreciation of the facts. In the first place the dilemma does not exist, for the annual proper motion of *Mira*, approximately  $0''.23$  in  $186^\circ$ , is in itself sufficient evidence of the physical connection of the two