

for immediate action, that is bound to increase rapidly as the pinch becomes harder, there will be a very inadequate comprehension of the need for a vast amount of painstaking research before sound progress can be assured; and there will be but inadequate support for the basic scientific work that is essential. One of the most urgent requirements in solving our forestry problem is a national policy, or program, of forest research, conceived not for the needs of the moment but for the needs of the future, well supported and sustained without interruption.

The National Academy of Sciences aided effectively 30 years ago in placing before the country the main lines of action which were essential at that time. I believe that the academy could now perform a national service of equal value if it could resurvey the forest problem of the United States as it presents itself to-day; and particularly if, as an impartial and authoritative scientific body, it could direct its survey primarily toward the scientific background, or foundation, that is so essential to an effective solution of this problem. It would be a splendid undertaking if the academy could review the present status of forest research in the United States, point out the essential phases in its future development, and in some measure at least, outline what our national program of forest research should be to cover adequately the needs of the situation. It would also be a splendid thing if the academy could bring to this program, as a sustained national undertaking enlisting all the agencies available, the support of its recognized leadership in the scientific progress of the country. It is hard for me to conceive of any more useful function in the furtherance of national welfare and in line with its own traditions that this organization might assume.

W. B. GREELEY

U. S. FOREST SERVICE

LUTHER EMMETT HOLT

L. EMMETT HOLT was born at Webster, N. Y., on March 4, 1855. He prepared for college at the Webster and Marion Academies, and entered Rochester University at sixteen years of age, graduating with honor in the class of 1875. He taught for a year in the Riverside Institute at Wellsville, N. Y., then began the study of medicine at the Buffalo Medical College, continuing his course and in 1880 securing his degree at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York. After serving his internship in Bellevue Hospital he began the practice of medicine in New York City, choosing the diseases of children as a promising field.

Dr. Holt began the practice of medicine in those wonderful years when physics and chemistry and biology were entering a new period of enlightenment,

and medicine, under the new conceptions of infection and its incitants, was pressing forward into fresh fields of study and achieving thrilling conquests of disease.

He early realized the importance of pathology and out of the opportunities offered by his services at the Northwestern Dispensary, the New York Infant Asylum, the Foundling and the Nursery and Child's Hospitals, he won, first hand, much of the knowledge and experience making possible the creation of his masterly treatise on the diseases of infancy and childhood, which so greatly contributed to the establishment of pediatrics in this country on a firm foundation, and won for him a high place in the science and the art of medicine.

At the Babies' Hospital, which he was so largely instrumental in developing, he was for many years physician-in-chief. Here a long series of studies on infant nutrition was carried forward under his direction and many contributions of value in many subjects relating to pediatrics witnessed the high standing and the exceptional efficiency of this remarkable institution.

After eleven years of service in the faculty of the Polyclinic Hospital, in 1901 Dr. Holt became professor of the diseases of children at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, succeeding Abraham Jacobi. This chair he held for twenty years, securing, through his remarkable knowledge, his capacity for marshaling in simple phrase the gist of complex conditions and processes, his enthusiasm, his unfaltering devotion to his work and aims, the admiration and loyalty of his many students and his place among the great teachers of his time.

Dr. Holt was a member of the original board of directors which in 1901 organized the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research and served as its secretary until his death in 1924.

As secretary of the board of scientific directors and of its executive committee Dr. Holt cherished a keen interest in the progress and affairs of the institute and brought to its service his large experience as a practitioner of medicine and his devotion to the advancement of science. His leadership and his high attainments in the field of pediatrics have been of great value in the councils of the institute in such of its researches as relate to the various diseases and handicaps of child life. The maintenance of child health to which in so large a measure Dr. Holt devoted his later years kept him in touch with those aspects of child hygiene in which the institute maintains a continuing interest.

In the hells, if such there were, of his busy life as practitioner and consultant, Dr. Holt found time and opportunity for many forms of public service. He was concerned in the affairs of the New York

Academy of Medicine; he was a member of the advisory board of the department of health of the city of New York; he was upon the advisory council of the Milbank Memorial Fund; he was one-time editor of the *Journal of the Diseases of Children*; he was twice president of the American Pediatric Society; he was trustee of the University of Rochester.

As the author of a small book on the care and feeding of children, Dr. Holt brought comfort, as well as enlightenment and wise counsel, to a host of young mothers in the land. In the later years of his life, he was a leading spirit in the health crusades of the American Child Health Association which has brought the tenets and ministrations of Hygeia in comprehensive and entertaining fashion into the minds and lives of a multitude of delighted and appreciating youngsters.

In addition to his books, which ran through several editions, Dr. Holt published many records of his researches and observations. He was the recipient of many academic honors and testimonials of appreciation and esteem. He was a clear thinker, a wise and helpful counsellor. He was inspired with eager enthusiasm for his various interests. His memory was keen, his energy unflagging, his devotion to his calling boundless.

During the last three months of 1923, at the invitation of the China Medical Board of the Rockefeller Foundation, Dr. Holt was visiting professor of pediatrics at the Union Medical College in Peking; eager and successful as usual in his teaching, and making many friends. Here his failing heart laid down its task on the fourteenth of January, 1924. Then the world lost a leader in medicine, a friend of science, a prodigious worker, a good citizen, a benefactor of his fellow-men.

T. MITCHELL PRUDEN

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE THE SPRING MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE executive committee of the council of the American Association held its regular spring meeting at Washington on Sunday, April 27. There were three sessions, one in the forenoon, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. The following members were present: J. McK. Cattell, H. L. Fairchild, L. O. Howard, W. J. Humphreys, B. E. Livingston, D. T. MacDougal, G. A. Miller, H. B. Ward. Absent were Simon Flexner and W. A. Noyes. President Cattell was elected to act as chairman. The following items of business were transacted:

(1) The minutes of interim transactions by mail were approved.

(2) The interpretation of the constitution with regard to eligibility to fellowship was referred to a special committee on fellowship, to be appointed by the chair, with power when unanimous. The chair appointed Drs. Livingston, Howard and Humphreys to constitute this committee. It will prepare a series of statements to be used as a guide in determining the eligibility of members to fellowship and these statements are to be sent to the section committees.

(3) Dr. L. H. Baekeland, of Yonkers, N. Y., honorary professor of chemical engineering, Columbia University, president of the American Chemical Society, was elected vice-president for Section C (Chemistry), for the current year.

(4) It was voted that the American Association for the Advancement of Science is favorable to full cooperation with the following organizations and with their official affiliation with the American Association for the Advancement of Science, whenever they may so vote:

- The American Electrochemical Society.
- The American Ceramic Society.
- The Paleontological Society of America.
- The Mineralogical Society of America.
- The American Society of Animal Production.
- The American Public Health Association.
- The American Philosophical Association.
- The American Economic Association.
- The American Sociological Society.
- The American Statistical Association.
- The American Civic Association.
- The American Historical Association.
- The American Philological Association.
- The Modern Language Association.

Many of these organizations are now officially associated with the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and several of them have already intimated their desire to be affiliated. It is the aim of the association to include among the officially affiliated organizations all the main national societies that have to do with the research aspects of the advancement of science and education. The affiliated organizations take part in the control of association affairs through their representatives in the association council, who are also *ex-officio* members of the corresponding section committees. In recent years the association has become in great measure an affiliation of scientific organizations, and one of its chief aims is to aid these organizations and furnish a ready means for their cooperation toward the advancement of every field of science and that of science in general. The affiliated organizations have no financial responsibility toward the general association. They are invited to hold meetings with the rest of the associa-