

## CONDITIONAL GRANTS

Another problem to which intensive study could profitably be given is the conditional grant. It has its obvious advantages. A relatively small sum so offered will sometimes serve as a primer to produce an explosion of generosity from other sources. On the other hand, when the conditions have to do with certain specified methods of carrying out the project, we enter on debatable ground. The ideas behind the stipulations may in themselves be admirable, but should they not, if made at all, be suggestions rather than stipulations? It may also be questioned whether in some instances a conditional offer does not put too powerful a weapon in the hands of persons perhaps not fully qualified to exercise the responsibility of using it. It would not be difficult to cite instances in which local communities, or alumni, or religious bodies, have been dragooned by the use of this weapon into making contributions beyond their means and beyond the real needs of the institution in question.

## RESEARCH

The opportunities open to the corporation in the field of research have been the subject of particular study for several years, but this is a topic which is not—and never will be—exhausted. During the present year, for example, it has been pointed out to the corporation that there are really two stages in most research processes, and that they are not necessarily best carried out by the same individual or the same agency. Breaking the trail is one matter, and broadening that trail into a road is another. The latter process is largely a matter of presentation and dissemination, but none the less it contains, or at any rate it should contain, an important element in research. A study of this whole question may prove to be of especial interest to the corporation.

FREDERICK P. KEPPEL

## WILLIAM HENRY EMERSON

WILLIAM HENRY EMERSON was born at Tunnel Hill, Georgia, in June, 1860. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1880. Was Midshipman from 1880 to 1882 and Ensign 1882 to 1884. He then resigned from the navy to pursue special studies at the Johns Hopkins University, from which institution he received the degree of Ph.D. in 1886, having specialized in chemistry. In the same year he accepted the appointment to the professorship of chemistry at the South Carolina Military Academy, Charleston, S. C., which position he resigned in 1888 to become professor of chemistry at the Georgia School of Technology, just then in process of organization. Here he remained until the day of his death,

November 13, 1924, a period of thirty-six years. During this time he saw the institution grow from the experimental stage into one of the leading engineering and technical schools of the country. To him especially is due credit for the maintenance of high standards of scholarship, which have characterized the work of Georgia Tech. By temperament and training he was especially equipped to do research work on problems in his chosen field, and longed to do so, but with characteristic spirit he sacrificed opportunity which those who knew him believe would have placed his name high in scientific achievement, in order to carry on the heavy duties devolving upon the head of a department of a growing institution, and the additional great responsibility of the deanship, which he assumed in 1910.

Dean Emerson was awarded the degree of Sc.D. by the University of Georgia in 1912. He was a member of the American Chemical Society, Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, Phi Kappa Phi (honor society), Georgia Academy of Sciences and Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity.

He published papers covering investigations he had made in the oxidation of mesitylene, the composition of cotton seed oil and also upon the marbles, coal and corundum of Georgia.

Dean Emerson married in 1887, and is survived by two sons and his widow.

J. L. D.

## NED HOLLISTER

NED HOLLISTER, superintendent of the National Zoological Park since October 1, 1916, and one of the foremost mammalogists of the world, died on November 3, following an operation.

Mr. Hollister was born at Delavan, Wisconsin, on November 26, 1876, where he received his education and began the study of zoology. From 1902 to 1909 he conducted zoological field work for the U. S. Geological Survey in Texas, New Mexico, Alaska, British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, California, Utah, Nevada, Louisiana and Arizona. In 1910 he began his connection with the Smithsonian Institution, being appointed assistant curator of mammals in the U. S. National Museum, which position he held until 1916 when he was selected for the responsible position of superintendent of the National Zoological Park, Smithsonian Institution.

In 1911 Mr. Hollister was a member of the Canadian Alpine Club Expedition to explore the Mt. Robson region of British Columbia and Alberta, and in 1912 he represented the Smithsonian Institution on the Smithsonian-Harvard Expedition to the Altai Mountains, Siberia and Mongolia. The results of Mr. Hollister's scientific work have appeared in the pub-