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-

lications of the Smithsonian Institution and in various technical journals for many years. Besides over 100 minor papers on zoological subjects, he was the author of a number of large works, including "The Birds of Wisconsin" (1903); "Mammals of the Philippine Islands" (1911); "Mammals of the Alpine Club Expedition to Mount Robson" (1913); "East African Mammals in the U. S. National Museum" (Vol. 1, 1918; Vol. 2, 1919; Vol. 3, 1923). This last is probably Mr. Hollister's greatest contribution to science, being a complete technical account of the great collection made in East Africa by Theodore Roosevelt, Paul Rainey and other collectors.

During Mr. Hollister's term of office as superintendent, the National Zoological Park underwent a steady growth and development. Many improvements to the grounds and animal quarters were carried out and he made every effort to provide for the enjoyment and convenience of the public. During the last few years, the collection of animals in the park has been greater in numbers and in scientific value than ever before, and the number of visitors to the park has increased steadily until it reached during the past year a total of 2,400,000. It was largely through Mr. Hollister's efforts that Congress was persuaded a few years ago to provide funds for the purchase of a frontage of 625 feet at the Connecticut Avenue entrance to the park, thus insuring for the future a dignified and appropriate approach.

Mr. Hollister was a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a member of the American Ornithologists' Union, the Biological Society of Washington (president, 1921), Washington Academy of Sciences, American Society of Mammalogists (editor of the *Journal of Mammalogy*), honorary member of the Sociedad de Estudios Biologicos, Mexico, and a member of the Cosmos Club.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mabel P. Hollister, and by his mother, two brothers and a sister.

X

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

JACQUES LOEB[1]

BY the death of Dr. Jacques Loeb the world has lost one of the great men of his generation; biology has lost one of the finest intellects that has ever been devoted to this branch of science; this laboratory has lost one of its most eminent members. He stood out among his fellows as an investigator, as a teacher and as a cultivated gentleman broadly interested in all aspects of nature and all the activities of men.

As an investigator he was tireless in energy, ingenious in experimentation and exceptionally gifted in insight. He lost little time on false leads, but rather blazed his trail straight into new territory and attained his objective by simple and crucial experiments.

He brought to his work a broad knowledge of related sciences. In the latest advances of chemistry and physics he was always informed, and his researches showed the breadth of his reading and the solid character of his scholarship. He had a poet's imagination held in check by practical and mathematical faculties of high order. Consequently his hypotheses were at once brilliant and founded on the best physico-chemical data available. He was ready to change his theories as new facts were discovered. He believed that explanations of phenomena must be expressible ultimately in mathematical terms. He profoundly influenced general physiology not only by his theories and experimental results but also, quite as much, by the emphasis he laid upon the quantitative method.

Professor Loeb came to Woods Hole first in 1892. The epoch-making discovery of artifical parthenogenesis was made at this laboratory. The antagonistic action of ions was demonstrated here. Many other researches which have influenced biological thought were carried on here and may be noted in the long list of papers and books which constitute his best monument. He founded the course in general physiology at Woods Hole in 1893 and directed it for several years. He was a trustee from 1897 to his death. From 1910 he directed the branch laboratory of the Rockefeller Institute in cooperation with the Marine Biological Laboratory.

As a teacher he was enthusiastic and inspiring. His lectures were in advance of the times and full of suggestions for research. With his graduate students he was helpful and friendly and at the same time critical and stimulating. Those who were his students know how enormously they profited by his inspiring personality.

As a man his interests were well-nigh universal. He found time to make himself familiar with a large literature. He enjoyed music and all the arts. He was interested in economics, sociology and government. His "Mechanistic Conception of Life" is an important contribution to philosophy and psychology.

He was a kindly man. He was a lovable man. He hated war and all sham. He had an incisive sense of humor and loved a harmless joke. He was the center of any company and he had many friends.

This is the man we have lost. Woods Hole is not the same without him, but the inspiration of his work remains in our midst.

To his family we extend our sympathy and on the pages of our records we inscribe this memorial.

[1] Minute adopted by the Trustees and Corporation of the Marine Biological Laboratory.