other distinguished fellows of the Royal College of Physicians; Sir H. K. Anderson, M.D., master of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge (of which Harvey was a member); Sir Charles Sherrington, M.D., president of the Royal Society; Sir Archibald Garrod, M.D., Regius professor of medicine at Oxford; Sir D'Arcy Power; and Dr. A. D. Brenchley, Master of the Society of Apothecaries. The chairman is Lord Stanmore, treasurer of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, to which Harvey was physician. Donations from members of the medical profession may be sent to Dr. Sidney Phillips, joint honorary secretary of the fund, at the Royal College of Physicians, Pall Mall, S.W.1."

UNDER the general supervision of Dr. William Gates, director of the department of Middle American Research of Tulane University, the first Tulane expedition, led by Franz Blom (lately with the Carnegie Institution) is on a five months' tour above the Tehuantepec line, visiting many little known or unvisited Maya sites, through Tabasco, Chiapas, Guatemala and out through Peten and Belize. Last November the state of Tabasco invited the New Orleans Association of Commerce to send as its guests a commission to look into the needs and possibilities of that state. The commission represents the Association of Commerce, Tulane and Louisiana State Universities and various local interests, and includes Congressman O'Connor and a member representing the joint banks. The Tabasco state government has requested Tulane University to organize an agronomic plant survey for two years. This will be undertaken by Mr. Earl S. Haskell and A. C. Hartenbower, men who are familiar with conditions in South America, the Philippines, Guam and Mexico, and by Drs. Walter Evans and Spillman, of the Department of Agriculture. Dr. Gates writes that this and work initiated in Honduras are the beginning of a far-reaching program of tropical plant research.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

GROUND has been broken at the University of Pennsylvania for an anatomical laboratory to cost $1,300,000.

THE University of Cincinnati has received $400,000 from a group of donors for the erection of a new hospital.

DR. JOHN M. THOMAS, president of Pennsylvania State College since 1921, has been elected president of Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N. J. Dr. Thomas succeeds President William H. S. Demarest, who resigned July 1, 1924.

DR. PARKE R. KOLBE has resigned as president of the Municipal University of Akron to accept the presidency of the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn. He succeeds President Frederick Atkinson, who becomes president emeritus.

DR. DEAN LEWIS, of the Rush Medical School, has been appointed head of the department of surgery at the Johns Hopkins University Medical School and surgeon-in-chief to the hospital.

DR. ALBERT W. GILES, associate professor of geology at the University of Virginia and acting state geologist, has been advanced to a professorship in geology.

DONALD H. MCLAUGHLIN, chief geologist of the Cerro del Pasco Mining Corporation in Peru, has been named professor of mining engineering at Harvard University.

NEW appointments at George Washington University, Washington, D. C., for the academic year 1925–1926 include the following: Colin Mackenzie Mackall, Ph.D. (Johns Hopkins), of St. Johns College, to be professor of chemistry; James R. Randolph, of the U. S. Bureau of Standards, to be assistant professor of mechanical engineering; Franklin L. Hunt, Ph.D. (Mass. Inst. Tech.), of the Bureau of Standards, to be lecturer in physics; Benjamin Douglas Van Evera, of Iowa State University, to be instructor in chemistry; John Philip Mason, of Princeton University, to be instructor in chemistry; William F. Roeser, of the Bureau of Standards, to be instructor in electrical engineering, and Carl J. Frederick, of Nebraska Wesleyan University, to be instructor in physics.

DR. EDWARD A. STRECKER, of the Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, has been appointed professor of nervous and mental diseases at Jefferson Medical College to succeed Dr. Francis X. Dercum, who resigned last April, and Dr. William M. Sweet, professor of ophthalmology at the graduate school of the University of Pennsylvania, has been elected to the chair of ophthalmology to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Dr. Howard F. Hansell.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

A NEW BACTERIAL DISEASE OF TOMATO FRUITS

A DISEASE of tomatoes which caused big losses to the growers occurred last June in Texas, and in August and September in Nebraska. The disease is first noticed in green full-grown tomatoes, but it is hard to detect at this stage unless close attention is given to the stems. When the fruits are green they show a little brown spot or a dark ring around and under the stem. As the fruit is shipped green,

the packers may overlook this condition very easily. When the tomatoes reach their destination they have become a pink color, the disease has advanced and shows more plainly, for the stem end has then become a dark brown. The inspector notices this and, although there is not much external evidence of disease, he breaks the fruit open and finds a hard brown center. The rot is usually down the center and may extend from stem end to blossom end but sometimes it takes an oblique course and includes a portion of the seeds, darkening them also. There is no slime or ooze.

Bacteria occur in great numbers in the tissues. The same organism was isolated from both the Texas and Nebraska material and the disease was reproduced in green and ripening fruits in the greenhouse, using pure cultures. The dark stem end and hard brown heart formed in the inoculated fruits exactly as in the field. Successful inoculations were obtained last summer by means of needle punctures and this spring good infections have been produced by smearing cultures on the stem and blossom end without puncturing.

Infection occurs mostly at the stem portion where the tough cuticle of the fruit ends, leaving a place where the bacteria can work into the more permeable tissue beneath the caylx. Secondary infection and soft rot may occur with the entrance of fungi and other bacteria. These conditions, however, were found to be rare in the material received. So far as known no infection of the leaves or stem occurs and inoculations on these parts up to this time have been unsuccessful.

The organism causing this disease is a yellow, polar-flagellate species, the biology of which is now under consideration.

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HUMAN CONSTITUTION IN RELATION TO DISEASE

IT is unfortunate that Dr. Draper in his interesting report of his study of human constitution in relation to disease[1] should give, even in a report of progress, a sample of dangerously inadequate statistics. The average anthropometric measurements of persons suffering from contrasted diseases which he cites do indeed "differ widely"; but any one who has worked with statistics must realize that such differences in averages may none the less be totally lacking in significance. We might accept Dr. Draper's statement that the proper measures of reliability and variability had been computed and found satisfactory in accord with accepted standards. But surely it is time that scientists cease the practice of presenting bare averages as if these by themselves were adequate to establish anything at all, even a presumption. I do not suppose Dr. Draper guilty of such statistical ignorance; but when he mentions the fact of distinct overlapping of types, yet fails to give any indication of the extent of overlapping, he clearly gives a wholly misleading impression of the proper way to handle such data.

One other point: Dr. Draper is clearly aware, when treating morphologic and physiologic traits, of the difficulty of finding baseline characters for the assignment of types. But as is unfortunately too common, his caution somewhat deserts him in considering the "psychic panel." Here he seems assured, at least, that there is a definitely marked "feministic trend in their psychic pattern." Psychologists would be glad to know just what this feministic trend is and, particularly, the evidence that it is idiotypic.

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[1] Draper, George. "The Relationship of Human Constitution to Disease," SCIENCE, LXI: 525–528, May 22, 1925.

LITERATURE ON EARTHWORMS

SEVERAL years ago the writer beginning research "on his own" asked for information as to literature on the earthworms (*Oligochaetes*) from the National Research Council and was told by one of its members to get the cards on that group from the Concilium Bibliographicum. The writer ordered these cards with the hope of getting a fairly complete bibliography of papers published during the years covered by the cards. The incompleteness of the references is surprising. For instance, in the years '07–'22 inclusive, titles of 47 articles on Indian forms alone are missing. Of the forty-seven thirty-three were by one man. These appeared in the following journals:

Annals and Magazine of Natural History	2
Proceedings of the Zoological Society	2
Quarterly Journal of the Microscopical Society	1
Transactions of the Royal Society, Edinburgh	7
Memoirs of the Asiatic Society, Bengal	1
Memoirs of the Indian Museum, Calcutta	5
Records of the Indian Museum, Calcutta	14
Spolia Zeylanica	1

It should be noted that the majority of the missing titles contain either the word "Earthworm" or "Oligochaeta."

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