

said that a total of \$6,250,000 had been received to date. The sum needed is \$7,000,000.

In disclosing the status of the fund Mr. Sage revealed that a gift of \$100,000 had been made anonymously a short time ago. Earlier several other substantial donations had been turned over to the fund by anonymous givers. Among the larger subscriptions of recent receipt were a gift of \$5,000 from William D. Baldwin and one of \$5,000 from Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Kuser, of Bernardsville, N. J.

Mr. Sage announced that the two gifts of \$25,000 each made last spring by Miss Annie Burr Jennings and Mrs. Walter B. James had been made to establish two five-bed medical wards. The wards are to be memorials to "the distinguished services of Dr. Walter B. James to the Presbyterian Hospital and to medical science."

A committee has been formed drawn from the hospital Board of Managers and from friends of the institution to speed the raising of the \$750,000 still required. The committee was named at a luncheon at the Downtown Association and the plans call for the raising of the sum before the winter.

A year ago when the Medical Center, which will be one of the finest of its kind in the world, took form, the hospital had on hand about \$2,500,000 of the sum required. Columbia University, which joins in the establishment of the center, had its share ready. In a public appeal for help, which had as its goal \$4,500,000, the hospital last winter raised the sum of \$3,640,000.

The annual meeting of the Uptown Medical Center Association, Inc., was held on October 5, at the Washington Heights Chamber of Commerce, 1042 St. Nicholas Avenue. The association was formed by residents of the Heights section to collect \$400,000, with which to build a floor in the hospital unit of the center and also to cooperate in any way possible in the construction of the entire plant. So far the association has raised more than \$156,000.

The first unit of the center, a \$10,000,000 building, which will house the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University and also the hospital, is now under construction. Ground was broken this spring and the building is expected to be ready for occupancy in 1927. The university is contributing \$3,000,000 to erect its section of the building.

THE SHEDD AQUARIUM

A SPECIAL investigative mission for the Shedd Aquarium left Chicago on October 3 to study the construction, scientific and educational features and management of European aquariums with a view that the Shedd aquarium to be built in Chicago will be

an improvement over any existing institution of its kind.

The mission is comprised of Walter H. Chute, associate director of the Shedd Aquarium, and Leslie C. Stokes, engineer for Graham, Anderson, Probst & White, architects, who will draw the plans for the Chicago institution. They will be gone about two months. Immediately upon their return they will, in company with George F. Morse, director of the Shedd Aquarium, visit and make a similar study of American aquariums.

Mr. Chute and Mr. Stokes will, during their research, take into account both the mistakes and the desirable features of the leading aquariums of the world. Their findings and deductions will be incorporated in the plans to be drawn by Mr. E. R. Graham. European aquariums which will be visited include those at Naples, Monaco, Berlin, Antwerp, London, Leipzig, Dresden, Manchester, Plymouth, Blackpool and others.

At Naples special attention will be given to that aquarium's famous invertebrate collection. The Naples aquarium has been especially successful in keeping delicate species of marine life on exhibition. Methods used in handling them will be studied. The biological research laboratories of the Monaco institution will be especially studied there, and in Berlin the only artificial salt water system that has proved satisfactory will be investigated.

Both the Antwerp and London aquariums are new ones. The artificial lighting in the tanks at London is especially interesting and effective, as well as natural backgrounds used there and designed by Miss Proctor, curator of reptiles in the Zoological Gardens in Regents Park.

THE OPTICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

THE tenth annual meeting of the Optical Society of America will be held at Cornell University from October 29 to 31. In addition to a number of contributed papers and committee reports on such subjects as radiation, spectrometry, photography, physical optics, geometrical optics and physiological optics, there are two invited papers, one by Professor Simon H. Gage, of Cornell University, on "The microscope: Its development and some recent improvements," and the other by Professor E. M. Chamot, of Cornell University, on "Chemical microscopy: Its aims and possibilities."

There are two other important items on the program: Dr. H. E. Ives, of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, Inc., president of the society, will deliver his retiring presidential address on "Some photographic problems encountered in the transmission of pictures by wire"; and Professor Dayton C. Miller, of the