(5) Eliminated in high percentage by the kidney, largely as an inert conjugate, but unchanged in sufficient amount to impart definite bactericidal properties to the urine.

These theoretical requirements were known and clearly stated years before any substance possessing them was known. Hexylresorcinol is the only substance ever described which has been proved to meet them.

To these qualifications must be added the advantage of the feasibility of prolonged administration of hexylresorcinol by mouth in repeated doses and the clinical possibility of a continuous rather than an intermittent action in the urinary tract.

During the past year the results of this work have been applied clinically by myself and by a number of physicians in the larger medical centers through the administration of hexylresorcinol in the treatment of infections of the urinary tract. The results have been extremely satisfactory. Many cases of pyelitis and cystitis which have resisted for years all known forms of treatment have yielded promptly and completely without any other treatment than hexylresorcinol by mouth. On the other hand, no untoward effects of the drug have been observed in an experience now exceeding five hundred cases.

In summary, hexylresorcinol is by far the most powerful germicide ever described as possessing anything like its degree of non-toxicity to animals and to man. It has been developed and applied as an internal urinary antiseptic by a logical and orderly application of the chemical and biological characteristics of its lower homologues and exemplifies a method by which specific problems in internal antisepsis may be gradually narrowed down through the enhancement of desirable biological properties definitely attributable to chemical constitution.

VEADER LEONARD

THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY,
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

ENGLISH SUPPORT OF SCIENCE

THE report for 1924–25 of the British Committee of the Privy Council for Scientific and Industrial Research has just been published. It shows an active campaign in England, chiefly supported by the government, for the development of scientific research and the applications of science in English industrial work.

As is well known, the larger part of the funds provided the council by the government are used to assist industrial associations to develop useful scientific studies pertaining to their special interests. During the academic year 1924–25, however, 258 grants were made to research workers and students-in-training involving total expenditure estimated at £35,000, compared with £40,820 in 1923–24.

The expenditure on headquarters administration during the financial year 1924–25 was £35,920, and the total expenditure of the department was £539,-199. This sum was made up of £311,286 from the exchequer, £38,669 from the interest of the million fund, £100,118 from the capital of the fund, and £89,126 from fees for tests and special investigations for outside bodies, from contributions towards research funds for the Froude tank, alloys of iron and bridge stresses researches and from repayment by the service departments.

VERNON KELLOGG

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

PROGRAM OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PLANT SCIENCES

THE International Congress of Plant Sciences (Fourth International Botanical Congress) will be held in Ithaca, New York, from August 16 to 23, 1926. As has been announced[1] by the organizing committee (B. M. Duggar, *chairman;* H. C. Cowles, *secretary;* H. H. Whetzel, *local arrangements*) "the work of the congress shall be primarily with problems of fundamental research and teaching." Although the congress is not to provide an occasion for legislation on regulatory matters of international significance, the organizing committee has expressly provided that "adequate opportunity shall be accorded all sections for the discussion of regulatory recommendations of international significance."

Except for some sessions of the congress as a whole for addresses of general interest and for the transaction of certain business, the program of the congress will be conducted by sections, the organization of the programs for each section being in charge of a secretary, who will also be secretary of the section during the congress. The sections thus far authorized by the organizing committee, and the corresponding secretaries, are the following:

Agronomy—C. H. Myers, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

Bacteriology—J. M. Sherman, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

Cytology—L. W. Sharp, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

Morphology, Histology and Paleobotany—D. S. Johnson, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.

Ecology—H. L. Shantz, Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C.

[1] SCIENCE, LXI: 58–59. 1925.