

- (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 antiseptics may be gradually narrowed down through the enhancement of desirable biological properties definitely attributable to chemical constitution.

VEADER LEONARD

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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 £39,126 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 announced¹ 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.

Forestry—R. S. Hosmer, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

Genetics—C. E. Allen, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.

Horticulture—A. J. Heinicke, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

Physiology—O. F. Curtis, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

Pathology—Donald Reddick, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

Pharmacognosy and Pharmaceutical Botany—H. W. Youngken, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, Boston, Mass.

Taxonomy—The name of secretary will be announced later.

Mycology—H. M. Fitzpatrick, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

The secretaries of the sections have been appointed by the national societies or sections of societies with corresponding interests. In many instances the societies or sections of societies have selected as secretary a resident of Ithaca to facilitate cooperation in the matter of local arrangements, etc. Shaping the programs of the sections is in every case a matter of consultation of the secretaries with their respective colleagues. General program arrangements are in the hands of a program committee (J. R. Schramm, *chairman*; L. W. Sharp, *secretary*; secretaries of the sections, cooperating).

Participation in the formal programs will be by invitation. Every effort will be made to secure, on an objective scientific basis without reference to geographical location, the outstanding active leaders in fundamental research and teaching in the respective fields.

In addition to the formal programs there will be time available in each section for round tables, scheduled either in advance or upon decision of the individual sections after the congress convenes. Gatherings of this type will afford opportunity for a wider participation of plant biologists in the sectional activities. Also, ample facilities are being arranged for non-commercial exhibits, providing another effective medium for individual participation in the scientific activities of the congress.

The plans for the congress further provide for excursions, collecting trips, inspection tours to local and nearby experimental work in progress, etc.

Communications regarding the congress should be addressed as follows:

(1) Concerning round tables and other strictly sectional matters—to the appropriate sectional secretary.

(2) Concerning exhibits and general program matters—to the undersigned.

(3) Concerning excursions, collecting trips, inspection tours, local arrangements, transportation, etc.—H. H. Whetzel, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

(4) Concerning the congress in general—B. M. Duggar, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, Mo.

L. W. SHARP,

Secretary Program Committee

STONE HALL, CORNELL UNIVERSITY,

ITHACA, N. Y.

GEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE IN WESTERN TEXAS

DURING the week of October 19 to 24 a field conference was held in western Texas for the purpose of working out various problems of the upper Permian red beds. The main object of the conference was to correlate certain members of the Double Mountain formation of Texas with known ledges in Kansas and Oklahoma. Those attending the conference were E. H. Sellards, director of the Bureau of Economic Geology of Texas; Chas. N. Gould, director of the Oklahoma Geological Survey; J. W. Beede, an authority on the American Permian, and the following geologists, the greater number of whom are connected with oil companies:

C. L. Cooper, R. L. Clifton, C. W. Tomlinson, W. A. Riney, J. V. Howell, L. E. Trout, F. K. Foster, Wallace E. Thompson, M. M. Garrett, T. Davis, R. T. McNalley, U. B. Hughes, J. P. Bowen, John A. Kay, Archie R. Kautz, Louis Franklin, W. M. Nolte, C. W. Clark, D. J. Wolff, T. F. Newman, A. V. Jones, P. A. Meyers, F. E. Russell, Lester Luecke.

The results of the observations may be summarized as follows:

The general stratigraphic units of the upper Permian red beds are continuous in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. The gypsum-bearing formations are more pronounced in Texas than in states to the north.

The Double Mountain formation of Texas includes the following formations in Oklahoma (oldest beds named first): Duncan, Chickasha, Blaine, Dog Creek, Whitehorse, Day Creek, Cloud Chief and Quartermaster.

One formation, the Blaine, and probably others also, may be traced continuously from southern Kansas across Oklahoma as far as the vicinity of San Angelo on the Concho River, west central Texas. The outcrop of the Blaine in the three states approximates 600 miles.

THE LANE MEDICAL LECTURES AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY

THE twentieth course of Lane Medical Lectures will be delivered by Dr. Vittorio Putti, November 9, 10,