

11, 12 and 13, in Lane Hall at the Stanford University Medical School in San Francisco.

The Lane Medical Lectures were founded in 1896 by the late Dr. Levi Cooper Lane. They consist of a free course of lectures on medical subjects by men distinguished at home or abroad for their work in either medicine or surgery, and are intended for medical students and the medical profession at large.

The lecture on November 13 will be on "The University of Bologna in the history of medicine." Dr. Putti, who will give the lecture series, is professor of orthopedic surgery at the University of Bologna and director of the Rizzoli Institute of Bologna, Italy.

The previous lectures have been given by Dr. Simon Flexner, director of the laboratories at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, who in 1917 discussed the "Physical basis and present status of specific serum and drug therapy"; Alonzo Englebert Taylor, professor of physiological chemistry at the University of Pennsylvania, who in 1919 spoke on "The feeding of the nations at war." In 1921 the late L. Emmett Holt, of Columbia University, discussed "Growth and nutrition," and last year Dr. Ludwig Aschoff, professor of pathology, University of Freiburg, Germany, delivered the lecture series on "Selected topics in pathology."

#### SELECTION OF THE CHIEF OF CHEMISTRY DIVISION OF U. S. BUREAU OF STANDARDS

THE United States Civil Service Commission states that the position of chief of the chemistry division of the Bureau of Standards of the Department of Commerce is vacant, and that, in view of the importance of the position in the whole field of chemical research, and to insure the appointment of a thoroughly qualified man for the work, an unusual method of competition will be followed to fill the vacancy. Instead of the usual form of civil service examination, the qualifications of candidates will be passed upon by a special board of examiners composed of Dr. George K. Burgess, director of the Bureau of Standards; Dr. F. G. Cottrell, director of the Fixed Nitrogen Research Laboratory of the Department of Agriculture; Dr. W. A. Noyes, dean of chemistry of the University of Illinois; Dr. W. R. Whitney, chief of the research laboratory of the General Electric Company, and Mr. Frederick W. Brown, examiner of the United States Civil Service Commission. For the purposes of this examination all these men will be examiners of the Civil Service Commission.

The examination will consist solely of a consideration of qualifications by this special board. The minimum qualifications for consideration are a doctor's

degree in chemistry from a college or university of recognized standing, and at least ten years' experience in the direction and performance of chemical research of a character to show the required degree of chemical knowledge and ability, executive capacity of the highest order, thorough familiarity with chemical literature and scientific maturity.

The duties of the position are to act as the scientific and administrative head of the chemistry division of the Bureau of Standards; to determine and execute the policies of the bureau relating to work in chemistry; to be responsible for the maintenance and operation of the division; to direct or to perform research in the field of chemistry, and to prepare reports and data for publication. These duties involve high administrative responsibility, contact with the chemical industry and with the technical experts in the field of chemistry and particularly the ability to plan, direct and coordinate research, investigation and testing of the most advanced character. The opportunities for research and development are practically unlimited, and the laboratory equipment and other facilities are unexcelled.

The entrance salary for this position is \$5,200 a year. Promotion may be made without change in assignment up to \$6,000 a year. The present director of the Bureau of Standards was advanced through promotion from the \$6,000 grade.

Qualified persons who wish to be considered for this vacancy should apply to the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C., for form 2118, which must be executed and returned, with a list of the applicant's technical publications and reprints of such of these publications as are available, to the office of the Civil Service Commission at Washington not later than Saturday, December 5.

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#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. CHARLES D. WALCOTT, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, received the honorary degree of doctor of laws at the annual convocation exercises of the University of the State of New York on October 16. On this occasion Dr. Walcott gave an address on Joseph Henry, which is printed in this issue of SCIENCE.

DR. J. B. WHITEHEAD, professor of electrical engineering and dean of the faculty of engineering of the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, has been awarded the triennial prize, for the year 1925, of the Fondation George Montefiore of Liège, Belgium, for the best original work contributing to scientific advancement in the technical applications of electricity. The prize is awarded for his series of papers entitled "Gaseous ionization in built-up insulation." The