

lecting specimens and information in all these fields. It financed this work from its own private funds. In 1858 the collections had become of such importance to the public welfare that congress felt a responsibility for their upkeep and it charged the Smithsonian with the expenditure of an appropriation to that end. Later congress incorporated these collections into the U. S. National Museum, but the Smithsonian Institution carried the major share of the burden of caring for them from its private income till 1870.

Subsequently, from time to time, the government recognized that nine other outgrowths of Smithsonian researches had become public necessities and appropriated for their support also, but never has it made any grants for research directly to the Smithsonian. The institution finances its research work from its private income and by gifts for special investigations.

As to the administration of the Smithsonian Institution, that is in the hands of a permanent secretary, elected by the board of regents, in cooperation with the executive committee of the board. The board, composed of the chief justice, the vice-president, three senators, three representatives and six private citizens, all acting in a private capacity, exercises oversight. The government is the trustee or guardian of the institution. Thus, because of its organization and the private nature of its funds, the Smithsonian is divorced from political influence.

Although the institution has never before called upon the public to aid in its researches, it has frequently been the beneficiary of gifts from private individuals, including the Hodgkins endowment of \$200,000 for research and the Freer bequest of oriental and American art collections, of a gallery to house them, and a large income to increase them and diffuse knowledge of Asiatic art.

THE CHANDLER MEMORIAL MEETING

A MEMORIAL meeting to the late Professor Charles F. Chandler was held in Havemeyer Hall, Columbia University, on November 16. The meeting was held in Professor Chandler's old lecture room at Columbia, where he for more than half a century had served as teacher and administrator. Organizations participating were Columbia University, The Chemists' Club of New York City, The New York Section of the American Chemical Society and The American Section of the Society of Chemical Industry. Many distinguished men of science attended.

President Nicholas Murray Butler presided, saying "that the aim of the gathering should be the perpetuation of Professor Chandler's influence and example. We are here not to express the sorrow that was in our hearts when the long life of Professor Chandler came to an end, but rather to sound a note of triumph for his enduring leadership."

Professor Michael I. Pupin spoke on "Chandler: The teacher and the chemist," declaring that Chandler was the apostle of chemical science in the City of New York. "The marvelous success of the American

Chemical Society," asserted Professor Pupin, "was always a source of endless joy to Chandler's heart."

Dean George B. Pegram, of the Columbia Schools of Mines, Engineering and Chemistry, discussing "Chandler and the school of mines," said that "Chandler's deeds kept in memory will lead others his way."

Elihu Root spoke on "Chandler: The man and the public servant," characterizing him as one of the most effective crusaders of his time in behalf of the public good. Many evils, Mr. Root said, were successfully attacked by Chandler, who was the original leader of the great movement for tenement house reform and who first as chemist and later as president of the Metropolitan Board of Health laid the basis for the existing health system of New York City.

Adulterated milk, sales of kerosene without inflammability tests and slaughter houses operating contrary to municipal regulations were other nuisances combatted by Chandler, whose human qualities were praised by Mr. Root as scarcely less influential than the concentrated ability with which he prosecuted a prodigious activity covering an unusually long life.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

SIR ERNEST RUTHERFORD, Cavendish professor of physics at the University of Cambridge, has been nominated to succeed Sir Charles Sherrington as president of the Royal Society.

DR. JAMES F. NORRIS, president of the American Chemical Society, was honored by the Northeastern section of the society on the evening of November 13, when as a guest of the section he was tendered a banquet and reception at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and then, after delivering an address, was presented with an engrossed testimonial of appreciation for his services as president of the society.

COLGATE UNIVERSITY, in convocation on Alumni Day, November 13, conferred the degree of doctor of laws upon Albert Perry Brigham, who now retires from active teaching after thirty-three years as professor of geology.

DR. THEODORE LYMAN, Hollis professor of mathematics and natural philosophy at Harvard University, will retire on July 1 next. Professor Lyman will continue as director of the Jefferson Physical Laboratory.

PROFESSOR FORRIS J. MOORE has retired from the staff of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology after thirty-one years of service.

At the recent annual meeting of the National Malaria Committee, held at Dallas, Texas, Dr. L. O. Howard was elected honorary chairman of the committee, to succeed the late Dr. Henry Rose Carter.