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SOME PROBLEMS OF MEDICAL INVESTIGATION AND MEDICAL EDUCATION¹

THE laying of a corner-stone is an occasion on which one's imagination as to the future is stimulated to activity and one's thoughts naturally turn toward consideration of the probable future activity of the building whose erection is to proceed. This structure, whose corner-stone we lay to-day, is to be a hospital for the clinical activities of a graduate school of medicine, and it is a memorial to perpetuate for all time a name—Albert Merritt Billings. Broadly speaking, herein lie the purposes of the structure to be erected on this corner-stone. The corner-stone itself, architecturally considered, is an entirely dispensable feature of a building and in no wise determines the character of the structure to be built in due season, following its laying. However, about a corner-stone center the ideas and sentiments which in future years will be the real expression of the purposes of the structure and constitute an undying memorial to the name honored by the donors of the building.

On such an occasion it may not be inappropriate to devote a little time to the consideration of some problems of medical investigation and medical education. It is recognized very generally to-day that all great hospitals have three functions, care of the sick, investigation of disease and education of all patients, nurses, physicians and surgeons, that pass its portals. Different institutions may stress in particular some one of these functions; no hospital, worthy of the name, may neglect entirely any of this triad. A hospital is an indispensable unit in a school of medicine, be that school intended primarily for investigation or to educate practitioners or teachers and investigators.

The hospital constitutes a fundamental difference between a graduate school of medicine and all other graduate schools, inasmuch as it introduces into the problem the care of sentient human beings in the guise of patients. It is an inescapable fact that the first concern of every hospital is the best possible care of its patients, whatever of the three great functions of a hospital is to be stressed by the particular

¹ Address delivered at the laying of the corner-stone of the Albert Merritt Billings Hospital of the University of Chicago, at Chicago, Illinois, on October 2, 1925.

WALKER PRIZES IN NATURAL HISTORY

By the provisions of the will of the late Dr. William Johnson Walker, two prizes are annually offered by the **Boston Society of Natural History** for the best memoirs written in the English language, on subjects proposed by a Committee appointed by the Council.

For the best memoir presented a prize of sixty dollars may be awarded; if, however, the memoir be one of marked merit, the amount may be increased to one hundred dollars, at the discretion of the Committee.

For the next best memoir a prize not exceeding fifty dollars may be awarded.

Prizes will not be awarded unless the memoirs presented are of adequate merit.

The competition for these prizes is not restricted, but is open to all. It is nevertheless the tradition of the Society that the founder of these prizes intended them more in the nature of encouragement to younger naturalists than as rewards for the work of mature investigators.

Attention is especially called to the following points:—

1. In all cases the memoirs are to be based on a considerable body of original and unpublished work, accompanied by a general review of the literature of the subject.
2. Anything in the memoir which shall furnish proof of the identity of the author shall be considered as debarring the essay from competition.
3. Although the awards will be based on their intrinsic merits, preference may be given to memoirs bearing evidence of having been prepared with special reference to competition for these prizes.
4. Each memoir must be accompanied by a sealed envelope enclosing the author's name and superscribed with a motto corresponding to one borne by the manuscript, and must be in the hands of the Secretary on or before March 1st of the year for which the prize is offered.
5. The Society assumes no responsibility for publication of manuscripts submitted, and publication should not be made before the Annual Meeting of the Society in May.

SUBJECT FOR 1926:

Any subject in the field of Ornithology

SUBJECT FOR 1927:

Any subject in the field of General Zoology.

FRANCIS HARPER, *Acting Secretary.*

BOSTON SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY, Boston, Mass., U. S. A. December, 1925

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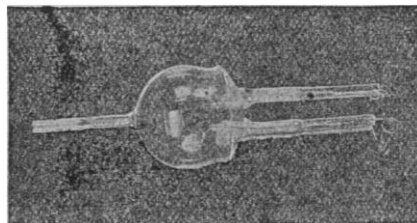
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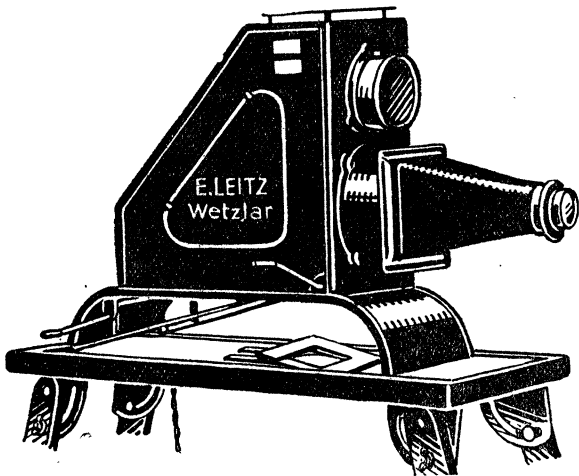
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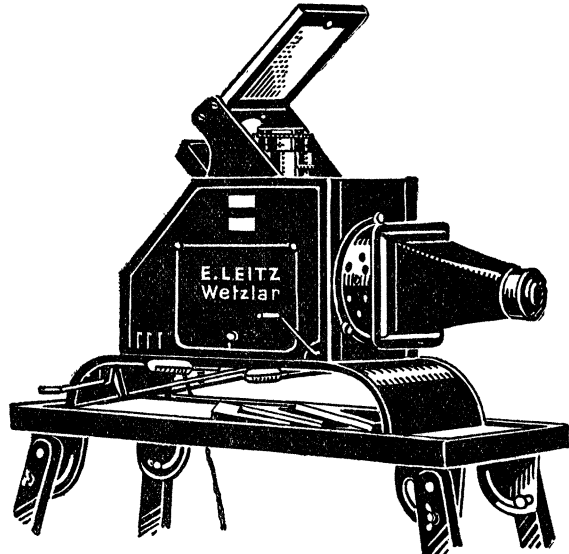


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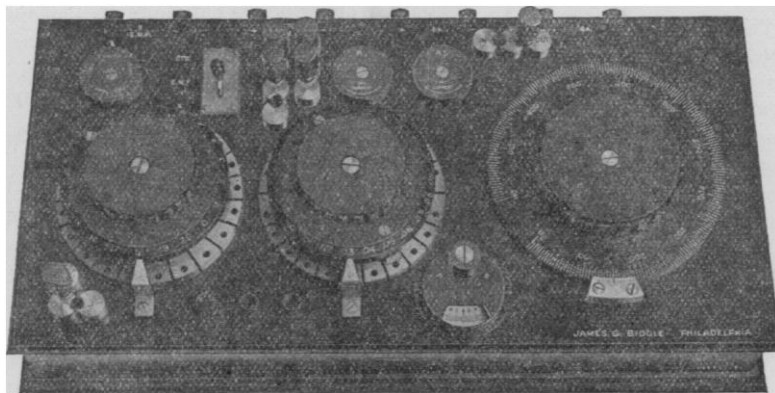
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