PLANS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

A CITIZENS' COMMITTEE on chemistry to assist the University of Chicago in the development of its department of chemistry has been announced by Charles H. MacDowell, president of the Armour Fertilizer Works and chairman of the committee. The committee will undertake to raise, in cooperation with the university, $3,235,000 for a new laboratory building and the endowment of instruction and research in chemistry. The new laboratory building for research and graduate work, costing $1,285,000, is the immediate objective.

The committee is made up of twenty-six of Chicago's prominent business men. Harry Gottlieb, secretary of S. W. Straus and Company, is vice-chairman, and Dr. H. I. Schlesinger, professor of chemistry at the University of Chicago, is secretary.

In commenting upon the enterprise, Mr. MacDowell said:

> Chemistry is preeminently the science of industry. It deals with the composition and decomposition of matter. In the twenty-year-period since 1905 chemistry, particularly in its application to the industries, has made greater strides than in any other period of time in the history of the world. This, too, is the period of Chicago's great industrial growth. In these two decades much that was previously obscure and mysterious has been made clearer and more understandable—the ultimate composition of matter, the structure of the atom, the cause and effect of radio-activity, the structure of metals and alloys, the colloidal state, catalysis, heat and pressure chemistry, which is making epochal progress in Germany, organic chemistry, the rôle of endocrine secretions, hormones, vitamines in biological and physiological chemistry; all have affected directly and intensely the industrial life of Chicago.
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> In the emphasis put upon graduate work and the development of highly trained investigators and professional experts, the University of Chicago represents in the Middle West, both in quality and purpose, what the graduate schools of the great eastern universities, such as Harvard, Yale, Columbia and Johns Hopkins, and the great universities of Europe, stand for. The department of chemistry at the University of Chicago has easily held its place among the leaders in this highest type of effort for many years, but it is now doubtful that it can do this longer if it continues to be impeded by enforced economies and the lack of financial support. The plans of the department for the next ten years, if adequate financial support is given it, are directed not only toward duplicating the recent advances of eastern institutions, but also toward research in chemistry surpassing in certain respects the present opportunities of the East.
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> A committee of the American Chemical Society, a few years ago, elaborated a plan for a ten-million-dollar Chemo-Medical Institute of Research, in which investigators in the fundamental sciences, chemistry and physics, would be working on the great problems of medicine jointly with medical research men. With the erection of the Albert Merritt Billings Hospital and other medical buildings at the university, and the installation of the new medical departments on a graduate and research basis, the university will have on its campus all the components necessary for such intensive cooperative work as presented by the proposed Chemo-Medical Institute, provided the department of chemistry is given the opportunity to carry out its plans to put itself on the same high plane as the medical departments will be. These plans involve the strengthening of the research staff by calling leaders in their fields to new professorships, and providing a new laboratory to be devoted exclusively to graduate and research work.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE DEATH OF DR. ALBION WALTER HEWLETT

THE medical faculty of Stanford University has passed the following resolutions in connection with the death of Dr. Albion Walter Hewlett, professor of internal medicine and executive head of the department of medicine:

> Dr. Albion Walter Hewlett, who died at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, on November 10, 1925, at the time of his death was professor of medicine and a member of the executive committee of the Stanford University School of Medicine;
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> He aroused in his students an enthusiasm for the application of scientific methods to clinical medicine;
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> He was a man on whose judgment the medical profession has learned to depend;
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> His research in the field of pathological physiology and his lucid presentation of this subject have placed him in the foremost rank of medical scientists;
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> To his associates, Dr. Hewlett gave unlimited interest in their problems, enthusiasm in their successes and an unwavering loyalty; be it, therefore,
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> RESOLVED, That in the death of Dr. Hewlett the Stanford University School of Medicine has lost an inspiring teacher, the medical profession has lost a resourceful leader, medical research has lost a tireless worker and we, his associates, have lost a beloved friend.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Nichols medal in chemistry for 1925 has been awarded by the New York Section of the American Chemical Society to Dr. Samuel Colville Lind, associate director of the U. S. Fixed Nitrogen Research Laboratory, Washington, for his work on "The Chemical Activation of Alpha Particles."

THE Royal Academy of Belgium has awarded the prize for its 1925 competition on the subject "Une contribution importantee à la géométrie infinitésimale" to Professor W. C. Graustein, of the department of mathematics of Harvard University, for his memoir