

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, vitamins in biological and physiological chemistry; all have affected directly and intensely the industrial life of Chicago.

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.

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 investi-

gators 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;

He aroused in his students an enthusiasm for the application of scientific methods to clinical medicine;

He was a man on whose judgment the medical profession has learned to depend;

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;

To his associates, Dr. Hewlett gave unlimited interest in their problems, enthusiasm in their successes and an unwavering loyalty; be it, therefore,

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 importante à la géométrie infinitésimale" to Professor W. C. Graustein, of the department of mathematics of Harvard University, for his memoir

entitled "Méthodes invariantes dans la géométrie infinitésimale des surfaces."

DR. SIMON FLEXNER, director of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, was elected an honorary member of the Société de Pathologie Exotique of Paris at its session held on December 9, 1925.

DR. B. BROUWER, professor of neurology in the University of Amsterdam, has accepted an invitation to come to the Johns Hopkins University next April to deliver the annual lectures under the Herter lectureship fund.

DR. JOSEPH BLAYAC, professor of geology at the University of Montpellier, has been made a knight of the Legion d'Honneur.

SIR HUMPHRY ROLLESTON, president of the Royal College of Physicians, was awarded the honorary degree of doctor of laws by Birmingham University, December 8, on the occasion of the celebration of the centennial of the medical school.

DR. JAMES RICHIE has been elected president of the Royal Physical Society of Edinburgh.

DR. COUSOT, of Dinant, has been elected president of the Belgian Royal Academy of Medicine for 1926, with Professor Gallemaerts, of Brussels, and Professor Frédérick, of Liège, as vice-presidents.

DR. H. A. GLEASON, curator of the New York Botanical Garden, sailed for Porto Rico on January 14, where he is going to make a study of the plant life of the island. He will be assisted by Dr. Mel T. Cook, botanist at the insular experiment station at Rio Piedras, and later they will be joined by Dr. Nathaniel L. Britton, director-in-chief of the garden, and Mrs. Britton, honorary curator of mosses.

GEORGE H. H. TATE, of the American Museum of Natural History, and Harvey S. Ladew sailed on January 7 on an expedition for the museum through Bolivia, Peru and Argentina. They expect to spend six months in the little-explored mountainous region east of Cerro Real, collecting specimens of bird and animal life not now represented in the museum.

DR. SAMUEL J. RECORD, professor of forest products in Yale University, sailed on January 5 for Central America and Southern Mexico where he will make a study of trees and forest resources as a part of the tropical forestry program of the Yale School of Forestry.

PROFESSOR GORDON F. FERRIS, of the department of entomology at Stanford University, left last summer for Mazatlán, on the west coast of Mexico, to begin a year of travel in Mexico, Central and South America.

PROFESSOR ANDREW BOSS, chief of the division of agronomy and farm management of the Minnesota College of Agriculture, has gone to Washington as consulting specialist and will spend the next few months, on leave from the college, studying the work now being conducted in the division of farm management and costs of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

DR. V. V. NIKOLSKY, of the Moscow Tropical Institute, and Professor Kota Monzen, of the Imperial College of Agriculture and Forestry at Morioka, Japan, are visiting the United States.

DR. CHARLES V. CHAPIN, superintendent of health at Providence, R. I., and formerly professor of physiology at Brown University, will give the annual Sedgwick memorial lecture in Boston on February 12.

DR. STUART C. DODD, professor of psychology at Princeton University, will lecture before the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, on January 14, on "Applications and Mechanical Calculations of Correlation Coefficients." On January 20, Dr. C. E. K. Mees, director of the research laboratories of the Eastman Kodak Co., will lecture before the institute on "The Color Sensitivity of Photographic Materials."

DR. W. B. CANNON, professor of physiology at the Harvard Medical School, gave a lecture on "Some Recent Observations on Sympathetic-Adrenal Mechanisms" before the Harvard Medical Society on January 12.

PROFESSOR MADISON BENTLEY, of the University of Illinois, delivered three lectures, during the first week of January, at Clark University in the Powell psychology lecture course, on the subject of "The Psychologies called Structural."

PROFESSOR LOUIS KAHLLENBERG, of the department of chemistry of the University of Wisconsin, recently lectured before the section of the American Chemical Society at Purdue University on the subject: "The Separation of Crystalloids from one another by Dialysis, with Special Reference to Living Membranes." He also addressed the chemists at Indianapolis on January 8.

PROFESSOR A. E. DOUGLASS, of the University of Arizona, lectured at the University of Illinois on January 5 and 6 on "Big Trees and Climate of the Past" and "Recent Work on Mars."

J. A. FLEMING, of the department of terrestrial magnetism of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, retiring president of the Philosophical Society of Washington, gave an address before the society on "The Magnetic and Electric Survey of the Earth: Its

Physical and Cosmical Bearings and Development," on January 9.

ON December 16, Dr. George F. Kay, head of the department of geology of the State University of Iowa and state geologist of Iowa, delivered two lectures on "Pleistocene Geology" at the University of Toronto. On December 18, he spoke also to the members of the staff of instruction and graduate students of the department of geology at Columbia University, New York, on the subject "Recent Studies of the Pleistocene of Iowa."

PROFESSOR ALFRED O. GROSS, of Bowdoin College, gave an illustrated lecture before the Boston Society of Natural History on January 6 on "Glimpses of the Natural History of the Canal Zone, Panama."

DR. FREDERICK W. SEARS, of the New York State Department of Health, gave one of the De Lamar lectures at the School of Hygiene and Public Health, the Johns Hopkins University, on December 21 on "Some Problems in Rural Hygiene."

PROFESSOR WILLIAM B. SCOTT, professor of geology at Princeton University, read a paper on "The Isthmus of Panama as controlling the Animal Life of North and South America" before the American Philosophical Society of Philadelphia on January 8.

PROFESSOR MAX BORN, of the University of Göttingen, is giving a series of five lectures on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons in the Jefferson Physical Laboratory at Harvard University. The last lecture of the series will be given on January 19 on the subject of "Developments of the Quantum Theory."

THE Council of the University of Paris has appointed M. Delacroix, professor of psychology in the faculty of letters, to be the Zaharoff lecturer at Oxford University for the ensuing academic year.

W. G. A. ORMSBY GORE gave his presidential address before the annual meeting of the Geographical Association, London, on January 7. His subject was "The Economic Geography of the British Empire."

DR. HENRY CRAIN TINKHAM, dean and professor of clinical surgery and applied anatomy at the University of Vermont College of Medicine, died on December 6, 1925, aged sixty-nine years.

NATHANIEL T. BACON, chemist and technical expert for the Solvay Process Co., died on January 3 in his sixty-eighth year.

DR. GEORG KLINGENBERG, well-known German economist and engineer, head of the Charlottenburg Hochschule and director of the Allgemeine Elektrizitäts-Gesellschaft of Berlin, died on December 7.

A JOINT meeting of the American Physical Society

and the Optical Society of America will be held at McGill University, Montreal, on Friday and Saturday, February 26 and 27.

AT the Rochester meeting of the American Astronomical Society it was decided to meet with the American Association for the Advancement of Science at the end of the year. The meeting in September will be at the Maria Mitchell Observatory, Nantucket.

THE twenty-first annual meeting of the American Association of Museums will be held in New York City from May 17 to May 20. These dates have been fixed in proper relation to the meetings in Washington of the Association of Art Museum Directors, which will take place on May 10 and 11, and of the American Federation of Arts, May 12 to 14.

THE annual meeting of the American Engineering Council was held in Washington for three days beginning Wednesday, January 13. The executive committee and the administrative board convened on the opening day. The assembly of the council met January 14 and 15.

A COURSE of illustrated lectures has been prepared by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology under the auspices of the New England Association of Chemistry Teachers. The lectures will be held at the institute at 4.30 in the afternoon in accordance with the following schedule: January 6—"Atomic Structure," Professor W. C. Schumb; January 20—"X-Rays in Chemistry," Professor G. L. Clark; February 3—"Recent Developments in Radiation Chemistry," Dr. R. H. Gerke; February 17—"Valence," Professor Edward Mueller; March 3—"Colloid Chemistry," Professor D. A. MacInnes, continued on March 17; March 31—"Industrial Advances in Inorganic Chemistry," Professor J. W. Phelan; April 14—"New Uses of Carbon and Petroleum as Raw Material in the Chemical Industry," Professor J. F. Norris.

THE fourteenth annual meeting of the Oklahoma Academy of Science was held at the University of Oklahoma at Norman on November 27 and 28. This meeting was the first one held under the new plan inaugurated by the constitution adopted during the present year. About 150 were in attendance in the various sections. The address of the president, Homer L. Dodge, on "Research as a State Policy," was delivered at the annual dinner. Other addresses were made by Bradford E. Knapp, president of Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, and W. B. Bizzell, president of University of Oklahoma. There were ninety-five papers read before the scientific sessions of the four sections of the academy. Fifty-five new members were taken into the academy at the business

meeting and twelve were elected as fellows. Officers for 1926 are the following: President, J. H. Cloud, Stillwater; vice-president, Section A, L. B. Nice, Norman; vice-president, Section B, V. E. Monnett, Norman; vice-president, Section C, A. F. Reiter; vice-president, Section D, J. R. Campbell, Stillwater; secretary-treasurer, A. Richards, Norman; assistant secretary-treasurer, Herbert Patterson, Stillwater.

NEW light on the lost history and science of the ancient Mayas will be sought by an expedition which will leave New Orleans on January 9, led by Gregory Mason, explorer and writer, and Dr. Herbert J. Spinden, assistant curator of the Peabody Museum of Harvard University. At Belize, British Honduras, the party will leave the steamer to board a schooner for explorations along the east coast of the peninsula of Yucatan. At one anchorage after another the boat will be used as a base for investigations of the little known interior. Two other members of the party are Ludlow Griscom, assistant curator of birds at the American Museum of Natural History, and Ogden Trevor McClurg, of Chicago. Mr. McClurg, publisher and yachtsman, is familiar with Caribbean waters and has offered his services as navigator and hydrographer. The Mason-Spinden expedition will return to the United States in May.

A RUSSIAN expedition of exploration is to start shortly for the little known and remote desert island, Nicholas II Land, in the Arctic Ocean, recently rechristened Lenin Land. There are at least twenty-seven Russian scientific expeditions now exploring various parts of the Soviet's territory, working to add to our knowledge of geography, archeology, ethnology and other sciences.

DR. HUGO ECKNER has postponed his attempt to raise funds by popular subscription for building a super-Zeppelin for North Pole explorations, according to press dispatches. As a reason for the postponement Captain Eckner states that Germany's acute financial and economic situation does not warrant continuance of his efforts, which so far have raised only \$300,000 out of \$4,000,000 needed.

THE late Professor Edward S. Morse has bequeathed his library to the Imperial University of Tokio and his ethnological and zoological collections to the Peabody Museum, Salem. Bowdoin College will receive \$1,000 and the Essex Institute, Salem, \$5,000.

ANNOUNCEMENT has been made of the completion of an endowment fund of \$100,000 to insure the continued publication of the *Bulletin* and the monthly *Transactions* of the American Mathematical Society and a quarterly journal published by the society.

GEORGE H. WALKER, of Boston, Massachusetts, one

of the founders of the Walker Gordon Milk Company, has donated one thousand dollars to Iowa State College at Ames for the purpose of making a permanent investment, the annual returns from which are to be used as a prize for the student who shows the best knowledge and proficiency in the production of clean, pure milk.

A GIFT to Yale University from Charles Lathrop Pack, of Lakewood, N. J., of a demonstration forest for public education in forestry was announced by Yale University. The tract is located near Keene, N. H., and is adjacent to the forest land already owned by Yale, where experiments and research in the growth and production of white pine have been under way for several years. The new tract is directly on the trunk highway to the White Mountains. The prime purpose of the gift, according to Dean Graves, of the school of forestry in the university, is to carry on practical demonstrations of forestry which may serve as illustrations in educating people how forests may be scientifically handled. It will be a field museum with actual demonstrations of different methods of forestry that can readily be interpreted and understood by visitors.

ITHACA, N. Y., is going to turn 600 acres of unused land on the city watershed into a municipal forest. The planting of trees will begin next spring. Chairman William M. Driscoll, of the City Planning Commission, has placed an order for 10,000 white pine seedlings, 10,000 Scotch pine transplants and 1,000 black locust seedlings with the Conservation Commission for spring delivery as the first step in the planting of the forest.

A PHYSICO-CHEMICAL institute, to serve as central laboratories for Spanish scientific work, is assured by a gift of \$200,000 from the Rockefeller Foundation. The site of the building will be provided by the Spanish government. It probably will be near the Museum of Natural Sciences in Madrid. Spain at present is lacking in experimental laboratories and the few which do exist have very little modern equipment.

THROUGH the kindness of Dr. F. B. Sumner, the University of California has presented the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, with the stocks of four of Dr. Sumner's mutant strains of the deer-mouse, the mutants called albino, pallid, yellow and hairless, and also with small stocks of four Californian subspecies of the deer-mouse. Further study of the heredity of these forms is to be carried on at the museum of zoology by Dr. L. R. Dice. Dr. Sumner is continuing at La Jolla his studies of the wild races of Californian deer-mice, and is also working on a fifth mutant form.