A purified insulin preparation gives with flavianic acid a compound of constant composition. This compound was converted into insulin flavianate-picrate, then into picrate, hydrochloride and finally pure insulin. The composition of all these five compounds, which can be recrystallized and are often obtained in a form of spherolytes, shows a chemical composition on analysis which agrees one with each other. It can be reasonably assumed, therefore, that the insulin obtained in this way represents a chemical entity. The most simple empirical formula for insulin obtained from dozens of analyses is $C_{69}H_{102}O_{22}N_{18}S$, and the molecular weight therefore is equal to 1,565. The structure of the compound will probably be one of a polypeptide composed of about fifteen aminoacids. It must be conceded, however, that dealing with such high molecular substances the analytical results agree almost as well with the formula $C_{74}H_{114}N_{20}O_{24}S$, with a molecular weight of about 1,700. It is of little importance at the present time to know which of the two formulas is right, as the synthesis of the substance appears to be far off. The convulsive dose for rabbits of pure insulin obtained in this way is about 0.08 mg and therefore the old clinical unit equals 0.026 mg. On heating pure insulin a crystalline sublimate appears which is now being investigated.

The practical benefit of the work presented here is greater uniformity of action of insulin compared with the usual insulin makes and the possibility of standardization of insulin by weighing the substance without the use of animals. The method has been also applied with success for preparation of insulin directly from pancreas without the use of alcohol. Results so far obtained yielded an insulin preparation with a clinical unit equal to 0.06 mg and it is very probable that pure insulin can be obtained in this way. The method is being applied to the isolation of other hormones of similar structure to insulin.

CASIMIR FUNK

STATE SCHOOL OF HYGIENE,
WARSAW, POLAND

MOUNT JORDAN

I NOTICE in the press that a peak in the King's Kern Divide in the High Sierras in Tulare County has been named Mount Jordan. Some thirty years ago a peak farther north, the second highest in the state, one of a series called the Palisades, was called Mount Jordan, by Professor Bolton Coit Brown, of Stanford University. This name went on the maps until Dr. John N. LeConte, in making a map of the region, discovered that the early Whitney Survey had called the mountain in a general way the North Palisade, not exactly as the name of a peak but as that of a mountain ridge. The Lieutenant Wheeler Survey which followed gave this particular crest of the mountain the name of North Palisade. The stream at the foot of the mountain flowing into the San Joaquin, I believe, is still called Jordan Creek.

Some years after, a number of us from Stanford climbed one of the high peaks of the King's Kern Divide and named it Stanford University Peak, or in short Mount Stanford. Adjoining this is a very rocky point early called Gregory's Monument, and a third peak of some 12,000 feet has remained unnamed. Dr. John N. LeConte and Mr. Francis P. Farquhar, a mountaineer prominent in the Sierra Club and chairman of the committee on names, have named this peak Mount Jordan, having the name put on the maps of the U. S. Geological Survey. Mr. Farquhar observes: "We feel that you will be particularly pleased at the selection of a peak in the region where you spent some time in 1899 and which was the inspiration for your admirable book on the Kings-Kern Divide."

I can stand it if the mountain can and I feel honored to be connected anywhere with one of the giants of the Sierras.

DAVID STARR JORDAN

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

THE PRICE OF HONOR

IT may be of interest to American scientific men to see the correspondence concerning an honor which it has been proposed to confer upon some of them.

Ph.D.

ACCADEMIA INTERNAZIONALE DI LETTERE E SCIENZE

Napoli	Italia
The Vice-President	5, Place Vendome
for the Americas	Paris, France
	28 Dec. 1925

My dear Colleague:

In view of your widely appreciated academic services I have taken the liberty of submitting your name for the distinction of membership in the Academy of Letters and Sciences at Naples, a body of eminent persons, originally started by forty-six "founder-academicians," almost all professors in the Royal University of Naples. Professor Dr. Pietro Amoroso, Duke of Rijéka, the President-General, advises me that your possible candidature will prove acceptable to the Academic Senate.

It may interest you to learn that Woodrow Wilson formally accepted honorary membership in the Academy. Thomas A. Edison, as well as Chancellor E. E. Brown of New York University, and President N. M. Butler of Columbia University, are among the distinguished American members.

Kindly inform me whether you will accept election, in which case your diploma and the academic medal will be posted to you directly from Naples, registered.