

ern Protestant holy inquisition. It is of course unthinkable that these bodies will in any degree whatsoever meet the desires of the fundamentalists so that the latter will be forced to carry their fight into the legislature of next winter.

Well financed, the Committee of One Hundred has imported fifteen speakers under the direction of Mr. T. T. Martin, head of the Bible Crusaders of America, who will, in addition to local talent, prepare the counties for the June primaries where the next legislature is made. There seems to be little doubt that this theological raid on education in North Carolina will assume much more serious proportions than it did a year and a half ago when an anti-evolution bill met defeat. The Rev. Mr. Martin states that North Carolina is "pivotal" and that if it can be won the nation can be also.

An interesting corollary is a possible paradoxical situation created by the fact that the Baptist and Methodist institutions, Wake Forest and Duke, respectively, are standing firm for freedom of teaching. Thus in case the fundamentalists swamped the state institutions, it would become desirable, to prevent the "ruin of youth," to transfer the young men in the church schools to the "safe" state fundamentalist colleges.

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## QUOTATION

### LEADERS IN MEDICINE

THE science of medicine has suffered heavy loss by the deaths within the last few days of Sir William Leishman and Sir Frederick Mott. Both were pioneers in the truest sense of that word; in both a lively imagination was disciplined by unswerving fidelity to the truth; to both it was given to render signal service to their generation and to posterity. Leishman was a soldier, and it is not straining the use of language to say that he carried the ideals of his profession into his scientific studies. His work—with Wright—on the prevention of typhoid fever, thanks to which that immemorial scourge of armies was practically eliminated during the Great War, was in its essence a discipline of the natural powers of resistance to disease imposed before inevitable exposure to infection took place. The discipline of the parade-ground aims at a similar if a larger object. The patience and courage necessary to this work on typhoid fever were of the highest order. They were displayed again and again in Leishman's life, and never more conspicuously than in his studies of Kala-azar. This soldier, indeed, took no discharge in the war against disease.

In that respect his service closely resembled Mott's.

The distinguished pathologist of the London County Asylums died, literally, at his post, at a moment when he was pursuing in old age the aims which had fired his youthful enthusiasm. The guiding principle of Mott's life was the determination to discover, if possible, the real causes of insanity. He believed that "mental disease" possesses, in many instances at least, a physical basis, and he worked successfully to justify that faith. His labors, as is now evident, opened a new epoch in the study of lunacy. There are visible to-day powerful stirrings of the old stagnant waters of asylum life. Indeed the very word asylum has been abolished in favor of the more hopeful term "mental hospital." "Hotel-keeping and oratory," as the duties of medical superintendents of those institutions were once cynically defined, have given place to a new interest in research and a new determination to afford to the mentally afflicted all the benefits which are enjoyed by those who are sick in body. This enterprise is still in its earliest phase, but the course of its evolution is no longer in doubt. The debt which humanity owes to Mott is certain, therefore, to increase immeasurably as time goes on. He was a maker of modern medicine, an architect of that healthier and happier future in which he so passionately believed.—*London Times*.

## SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

*Life and Evolution; an Introduction to General Biology.* By S. J. HOLMES. iv + 449 pp., 227 figs. New York, Harcourt, Brace and Co. 1926.

HOLMES has added another to the considerable list of introductory text-books of general biology written by American professors in the last decade. It shows the same tendency that most of them do, to treat the subject more as a physiological and philosophical one than did similar treatises of twenty years ago, with scant attention to morphology and classification, which formed the backbone of biology prior to 1900. The tendency coincides with the direction of growth of the subject and it is natural that this should be emphasized in an up-to-date text-book. But a pedagogic question suggests itself as to whether the older aspects of the subject are not being too much neglected in our elementary biological teaching. Is there such a thing as a biogenetic law governing the acquisition of a knowledge of biology? Should the pupil progress in the order of the developmental stages of the subject? The professors who write the text-books have themselves been well grounded in anatomy, morphology and classification. Will their pupils attain the desired point of view without climbing up this ladder, or may the beginner be taken by the coat collar and