

Henry R. Towne, who died in 1925, left \$2,500,000 to found the museum and \$50,000 for preliminary study. This latter money is now being utilized. In addition the trustees have received nearly \$200,000 interest on the bequest.

Actual work on the enterprise began in 1908, when the Association for the Establishment and Maintenance in the City of New York of Museums of the Peaceful Arts was incorporated. The officers are: Dr. George F. Kunz, *president*; Elbert H. Gary and Frank D. Waterman, *vice-presidents*; Calvin W. Rice, *secretary*; Felix M. Warburg, *treasurer*. Honorary vice-presidents are: Thomas A. Edison, Sarah Cooper Hewitt and Melville E. Stone.

The Towne bequest will be available as soon as the museum association satisfies the heirs that the preliminary research and surveys of similar museums in England, France, Germany, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Austria and other countries have been completed.

Dr. John W. Lieb, vice-president of the New York Edison Company and one of the trustees of the association, is now in Europe on a survey of industrial museums. He will report to the trustees next month. Among the exhibits planned will be sections on electricity, steam, astronomy and navigation, safety appliances, aviation, mechanical arts, agriculture, mining, efficiency, historic records, health and hygiene, textiles, labor, ceramics and clays, architecture, scenic embellishments, gardening, roads and road-building materials, commerce and trade, printing and books, patent models and patents, transportation, pottery, gems and minerals, watchmaking, and hundreds of other lines of industrial endeavor, arts and crafts.

The museum will cover the entire history of man from the earliest time in his effort to subdue nature. The following exhibit offers have been received: A collection of carriages of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries from Miss Sarah Cooper Hewitt; an ancient potter's wheel from Ambrose Swasey, one of the trustees; a collection of ancient sundials and astrolabes, an ancient timepiece and a collection of watch movements from the Horological Institute of America.

THE PAN-PACIFIC BOTANIC GARDEN

It is planned to establish a Pan-Pacific Botanic Garden in Hawaii. The plans for such a garden are developing in three directions:

First, a collection of economic trees and plants from every Pacific land will be brought to Hawaii and planted at various suitable elevations on the different islands from sea level up to some twelve thousand feet above the ocean, according to the climatic habitat of the introduced plant. This part of the plan

is well under way with numerous offers of cooperation from men of means who own available areas at the needed elevations on the several islands of the Hawaiian group. These land owners have abundant manual labor to tend and cultivate the trees and plants committed to their care.

The second plan is, in addition to the first, to secure a suitable valley, where from the ocean to the mountain top introduced trees may be planted, cared for and studied. The Plant Constituent Council of the Pan-Pacific Research Institution is interested in this, as it would make materials for research available for the laboratory. It is proposed, if possible, to secure a well-watered valley in which there is a worth-while growth of indigenous trees, which would be added to from the other islands, the areas of the valley not covered with native forests being used for introduced trees and plants.

The third part of the plan contemplates a show garden in the city of Honolulu, to which from time to time the plants and trees of interest to the casual visitor may be exhibited. This garden will be used for propaganda work.

The following is the personnel in Honolulu of the Pan-Pacific Botanic Council of the institute. A larger advisory group will be added and an effort will be made to establish similar councils in each Pacific land, with kindred aims and an exchange of plants and knowledge:

Willis T. Pope, horticulturist, U. S. Agricultural Experiment Station, *chairman*.

C. S. Judd, director, Territorial Board of Agriculture and Forestry.

Professor F. C. Newcombe, botanist, president of the Hawaiian Academy of Science.

Forrest B. Brown, botanist, Bishop Museum.

E. M. Ehrhorn, director, Plant Quarantine Station.

Solomon Kekipi, Hawaiian botanist.

David Haugs, nurseryman, Territorial Board of Agriculture and Forestry.

W. O. Smith, Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association.

J. M. Westgate, director, U. S. Agricultural Experiment Station.

Dr. Wm. D. Baldwin, horticulturist, Maui.

Gerrit P. Wilder, botanist, Bishop Museum.

Wilbur J. McNeil, chemist and general scientist, Oahu College.

THE RETIREMENT OF UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS IN GERMANY

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Journal* of the American Medical Association writes: "As a result of the provision contained in the new federal constitution to the effect that government officials, clerks and employees must be pensioned at the age of 68, at the latest, many head professors of the medical faculties,

who had reached the age limit, have been retired. Professors who had not felt that they needed to be pensioned as yet have complained bitterly of their enforced retirement. It may be that many of these were perfectly able to carry on for some time longer, but, in general, when the age of 68 has been reached it is time for younger men to take the helm. In Germany, enforced retirement on attaining a certain age is all the more justified for two reasons: (1) During the war many professors aged more rapidly than normally, and (2) during the war fewer promotions were made, and there is consequently a larger number in the oncoming generation awaiting openings. One thing that makes the pensioning of head professors more endurable is the fact that it affects only the management of institutes, clinics and the like. Otherwise, pensioned professors are entitled to continue holding their lectures; they remain members of the faculty and receive also the entire salary and lecture fees that they collect from students. During recent years, the aforementioned retirement regulation has brought about many changes in the medical faculty at Berlin and elsewhere.

"At the University of Berlin the following head professors of the medical faculty have been retired: Rubner, the physiologist, and Hans Virchow, the anatomist. At the end of this semester, F. Kraus and Goldscheider (internal medicine clinics); F. Strassmann, legal medicine, and Williger, dentistry, will be pensioned. As the post left vacant by the death of Hofmann, physiologist, must be filled, and an occupant for the chair of pharmacology must be found, there are six professorships awaiting new incumbents. It is the general opinion that Kraus will probably be succeeded by his former pupil von Bergmann, of Frankfort-on-the-Main, the son of the famous surgeon, now deceased. As to the successor of Goldscheider, the outcome is not as yet certain. One prominent candidate is Professor Ueber, director of the Charlottenburg Municipal Hospital, who has made a name for himself in the field of diseases of metabolism—more particularly by his excellent text-book."

In addition to the men in the medical sciences listed in the *Journal*, the retirement is announced of Dr. Max Planck, professor of physics in the University of Berlin; of Dr. Eugen Korschelt, professor of zoology in the University of Marburg, and of Dr. Wilhelm Wedding, professor of electrotechnics at the Berlin Technical Institute.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

At the recent meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, the University of Oxford conferred the honorary degree of doctor of

science on the following men of science: Dr. Niels Bohr, professor of physics in the University of Copenhagen; Sir Frank Watson Dyson, astronomer royal; Dr. Arthur Stanley Eddington, Plumian professor of astronomy at the University of Cambridge; Sir Daniel Hall, chief scientific adviser to the British Ministry of Agriculture; Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn, director of the American Museum of Natural History; Dr. Vita Volterra, professor of mathematics at the University of Rome, and Professor Wilhelm Wien, professor of experimental physics at the University of Munich.

At the Oxford meeting, Dr. Henry F. Osborn gave one of the principal lectures on "The Methods and Results of the American Museum Expeditions in the Gobi Desert," and an address before the section of zoology on "The Problem of the Origin of Species as it appeared to Darwin in 1859 and as it appears to us To-day."

OTHER American men of science who expected to attend the Oxford meeting of the British Association are: Dr. George D. Birkhoff, professor of mathematics at Harvard University; Dr. Douglas H. Campbell, professor emeritus of botany of Stanford University; Dr. Frank Wigglesworth Clarke, chief chemist of the U. S. Geological Survey; Professor Edwin G. Conklin, professor of zoology at Princeton University; Dr. A. E. Kennelly, professor of electrical engineering at Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Dr. F. L. Stevens, professor of plant pathology at the University of North Carolina; Professor Henry B. Ward, professor of zoology in the University of Illinois; Dr. Vernon Kellogg, secretary of the National Research Council, and Dr. William McDougall, professor of psychology at Harvard University.

THE Eighth International Congress of Psychology meets at Groningen, Holland, from September 6 to 11. The American psychologists on the program include Professor Edwin G. Boring, Professor William McDougall and Professor Daniel Starch, of Harvard University; Professor James H. Leuba, of Bryn Mawr College; Professor Herbert S. Langfeld, of Princeton University, and Dr. L. J. O'Rourke, of the U. S. Civil Service Commission.

THE forty-ninth anniversary of the invention of the phonograph in 1877 by Thomas A. Edison was observed on August 12 by appropriate ceremonies at the Edison Laboratories in West Orange, N. J. Mr. Edison was greeted by more than a hundred members of the sales force of the Edison organization from all parts of the United States and Canada.

DR. SIMON FLEXNER, director of the Rockefeller