

DR. CHARLES H. HERTY, adviser to the Chemical Foundation, delivered the second Aldred lecture on "A Chemist's Formula for Industrial Success," on January 9, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

LANSING B. BLOOM, curator of the State Museum of New Mexico, gave an illustrated lecture on "The Indian and the Spaniard in the Southwest" in the Civil Engineering Building of the Johns Hopkins University on January 6.

DR. GEORGE SUMNER HUNTINGTON, until recently professor of anatomy at Columbia University, died on January 5, at the age of sixty-five years.

DR. ARNOLD EDWARD ORTMANN, curator of invertebrate zoology at the Carnegie Museum and professor of physical geography at the University of Pittsburgh, died on January 3, aged sixty-three years.

DR. HENRY G. MAY, head of the department of bacteriology at Rhode Island State College, died on December 23, aged forty years.

DR. EDWIN GARVEY KIRK, head of the department of pathology and surgical pathology at the Chicago Post Graduate Medical School, has died at the age of forty-six years.

SIR FRANCIS FOX, eminent British engineer, died on January 7, at the age of eighty-two years.

FOR the meeting of the British Association which is to be held in Leeds from August 31 to September 7 this year, under the presidency of Sir Arthur Keith, the following sectional presidents have been appointed: Section A (mathematics and physical sciences), Professor E. T. Whittaker; section B (chemistry), Dr. N. V. Sidgwick; section C (geology), Dr. Herbert H. Thomas; section D (zoology), Dr. G. P. Bidder; section E (geography), Dr. R. N. Rudmose Brown; section F (economics), Professor D. H. Macgregor; section G (engineering), Sir J. B. Henderson; section H (anthropology), Professor F. G. Parsons; section I (physiology), Dr. C. G. Douglas; section J (psychology), Dr. W. Brown; section K (botany), Professor F. E. Fritsch; section L (education), The Duchess of Atholl, M.P.; section M (agriculture), Mr. C. G. T. Morison.

THE international committee for arranging the next Conference on Genetics has decided, unanimously, to accept the invitation of the German Society for the Study of Genetics and will hold the next conference in Berlin in 1927, from September 11 to September 18. The conference will be international in character. German, English and French will be the spoken languages. At the first session of the conference permission to use other languages will be considered and decided upon. It is proposed that each of the six morn-

ing sessions shall be opened by an address from some leading authority, giving a comprehensive account of the present condition and future outlook of his special branch of research. The choice of lecturer and subject are, at present, still under consideration. The sessions will serve further for communications and papers on important research and experiment. It will be necessary to limit the delivery of these papers to 20 or 30 minutes. Membership in the conference may be obtained by ticket, price 15 RM. The transactions of the conference will be printed and offered to members for 30 RM. For the last day an excursion to Potsdam, closing with a banquet, has been planned. This excursion and banquet are included in the price of the membership ticket. After the conclusion of the conference there will be longer excursions to Halle and to some of the plant-breeding centers. A program and a list of the papers to be presented before the conference will be issued later.

THE faculty of medicine of the University of Paris announces a special international course in public health to be given at the Sorbonne with the cooperation of the health committee of the League of Nations. Lectures will be given in French "on the major present day problems of hygiene and preventive medicine, taking account of the work carried on and the results achieved in various countries," and will include field trips and practical exercises. Among the lecturers are Drs. Bernard, Calmette, Besredka, Levaditi and Ramon, of Paris; Professor Madsen, of Copenhagen; Drs. Nuttall, James and Greenwood, of England; Dr. Stamper, director of health of Yugoslavia; Dr. Saiki, of Japan; Professor Funk, of Warsaw; Dr. Foramitti, of Austria; Drs. Bordet and Glibert, of Belgium; Drs. Rajchman and Carozzi, of Geneva; Professor Selskar Gunn, of the Rockefeller Foundation; Dr. René Sand, of the League of Red Cross Societies, and Professor C.-E. A. Winslow, of Yale University. Professor Winslow sails for Paris on January 29 and will return about March 1.

## UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

CHANCELLOR CHARLES ALEXANDER RICHMOND, of Union University, has announced a gift of \$100,000 to the Albany Medical College. The gift was made as a memorial to Dr. Cyrus Strong Merrill by his daughter, Mrs. James Monroe Lown, endowing the professorship of pathology in the medical college.

SWARTHMORE COLLEGE has received an additional gift of \$100,000 from Morris L. Clothier, of Philadelphia. This is the third gift to the college by members of the Clothier family within the last month, totaling \$210,000.

YALE UNIVERSITY, Dartmouth College and Stanford University will each receive \$50,000 from the estate left by the late Charles F. Brooker, chairman of the directorate of the American Brass Company.

ACCORDING to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association, a committee of physicians, under the chairmanship of Dr. John Punton, has made a study of the advisability of establishing a medical school as a department of the new Lincoln and Lee University in Kansas City. The committee has recommended that a grade A medical school be established and the cooperation of local physicians in raising the funds will be sought. The alumni of the old University Medical College have volunteered to raise \$150,000.

A DIVISION of municipal and industrial research has been established at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. This division was made possible through a gift of \$100,000 made by J. E. Aldred, president of Aldred and Company, of New York City. The work will be in charge of Professor William A. Bassett.

DR. SAMUEL AVERY, chancellor of the University of Nebraska since 1908, has handed in his resignation on account of poor health.

SAMUEL T. DANA, for three years director of the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station with headquarters at the Massachusetts Agricultural College, has been made provisional dean of the new school of forestry at the University of Michigan.

ARTHUR C. MCINTYRE, government research specialist in forestry, has joined the forestry department of the Pennsylvania State College to study research problems in reforestation.

MAURICE B. VISSCHER, assistant professor of physiology at the University of Minnesota, has been appointed associate professor of physiology at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine.

PROFESSOR MARIO BEZZI, the well-known authority on the Diptera of the world, has been appointed professor of zoology and director of the zoological museum in the Royal University of Turin, Italy. He succeeds the late Professor Ermanno Giglio-Tos.

## DISCUSSION

### EARLY DAYS OF ANTI-VIVISECTION

#### I. MISS COBBE

"The Nine Circles of the Hell of the Innocent described from the Reports of the Presiding Spirits."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The two outstanding figures in the early history of anti-vivisection are, in England, Miss Cobbe, and in the United States, Mrs. White.

THIS book of 163 pages with the foregoing title was published in London in 1892. The title page also reads "compiled by [Mrs.] G. M. Rhodes with Preface by Frances Power Cobbe."

In it there were described various alleged cruelties classified in nine sections. Hence the sulphurous title, after Dante—and a long way after. Miss Cobbe in the preface (page viii) says, "Nothing has been inserted save verbatim extracts with reference in most cases from the actual reports of the vivisectors themselves, as published in their own books and in the scientific journals, or abridgements of the same."

On reading it, Mr. (later Sir Victor) Horsley found twenty cases including some of his own in which all mention of anesthetics was omitted, in spite of the fact that in every one of these twenty cases it was distinctly stated in the original papers that the animal or animals had been anesthetized.

On October 25, 1892, Mr. Horsley made these facts public in a letter to the *London Times*. In consequence of the exposure of these absolutely false statements the book was withdrawn. A "Second Revised Edition" with an introduction and reply by Dr. Edward Berdoo, F.R.C.S., was issued in the following year.

In the reply Dr. Berdoo takes up each of these twenty cases, quoting first the "objection" and then the "answer." These answers in a number of cases said that the statement of the administration of anesthesia had been "overlooked." In other cases he stated that the data were taken "second hand" from other sources than the original papers. He asserted that the compiler [Mrs. Rhodes] had no access to Mr. Horsley's original papers.

To accuse these various scientists of not having administered an anesthetic when the fact that an anesthetic had been used in every case and was clearly stated in the original papers, was a most serious charge of cruelty. Surely such a charge should never be made unless verified. Mrs. Rhodes could easily have consulted the original papers, for she had free access to the libraries of the British Museum and of the several medical libraries at her elbow in London.

Not all the blame should be put on the shoulders of Mrs. Rhodes. As Horsley points out in his letter to the *Times*, Miss Cobbe in two letters signed personally and published in the *London Zoophilist* of November 1, 1890, and March 1, 1892, likewise omits all mention of anesthesia by Dr. Bradford, and by Ballance and Shattuck, though in the original papers the administration of anesthesia was distinctly shown. Moreover, in the second edition, page 143, Miss Cobbe "assumes all responsibility for this book."

In the same issue of the *Times* appears a letter from