

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

SIR ISAAC NEWTON'S BI-CENTENARY

THE History of Science Society, in collaboration with committees from The American Mathematical Society, Mathematical Association of America, American Astronomical Society and the American Physical Society, proposes to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the death of Sir Isaac Newton by an appropriate program at Columbia University, New York, November 25 and 26, 1927.

On this occasion it is planned to have addresses relating to the great contributions of Newton to the advancement of mathematics, astronomy and physics, and setting forth his interests in chemistry, chronology, theology and other branches of learning. It is also hoped that some reference will be made to Newton's early contribution to the advancement of science in the American Colonies—when Harvard and Yale Colleges were in their infancy. Each subject will be represented by at least two papers given by scholars of distinction.

It is proposed to have a large exhibition of Newtoniana, including the first edition of the Principia, and other related publications, also portraits, medals and autographed letters and documents, and such material as bears directly upon his life, achievements and contemporaries. Therefore it is hoped that those who have material of this nature will take pleasure in loaning it to the committee in charge of the exhibit; it is requested that those who can contribute will communicate as soon as possible with the secretary.

Similar commemorative programs have already been held on the anniversary date of Newton's death, namely, March 20, by various societies and universities of this country, and also in England. The History of Science Society will take the opportunity to honor Newton, at its regular annual meeting.

A full program of papers and speakers with other particulars will be published in *SCIENCE* during October.

The following individuals form the Program Committee:

For the History of Science Society—

Dr. David Eugene Smith (*chairman*), Columbia University.

Dr. Henry Crew, Northwestern University.

For the American Mathematical Society, and Mathematical Association of America—

Dr. B. C. Archibald, Brown University.

Dr. E. W. Brown, Yale University.

Dr. Florian Cajori, University of California.

For the American Astronomical Society—

Dr. E. W. Brown, Yale University.

For the American Physical Society—

Dr. Leigh Page.

FREDERICK E. BRASCH,

Secretary of the Committee

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE CENTENARY OF THE BIRTH OF LORD LISTER

THE centenary of the birth of Lord Lister, the pioneer in antiseptic surgery, occurs on April 5. The occasion is being widely celebrated in England. On April 4, the day before the reception in the great Hall of the British Medical Association of the official delegates to the Lister centenary, Sir St. Clair Thomson will give an address at the social evening of the Royal Society of Medicine on "The Centenary of Lister—Recollections by One of his House-surgeons."

The Lister memorial committee of the Canadian Medical Association aims to establish the fifth of April as Lister Day in medical schools, hospitals and health centers throughout the world.

A public meeting in celebration of Lord Lister's centenary is to be held in the McEwan Hall, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, July 20, at 8 p. m. The Right Honorable the Earl of Balfour has consented to take the chair, and short addresses will be delivered by Sir William Watson Cheyne, Bt., Professor Tuffier, of Paris; Professor Harvey Cushing, of Harvard University, and Dr. James Stewart, of Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The *British Medical Journal* states that throughout the week of the annual meeting of the British Medical Association a museum of Lister relics will be on view in the upper library of the old university. In this connection most generous assistance has been given by the director of the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum, London, and his staff, and the unique interest of the exhibits will largely be due to their cooperation.

A Lister memorial volume has been prepared, and with the consent of the council of the British Medical Association it will constitute the book of the meeting in so far as a copy will be presented to each member of the association who registers. The volume, edited by Dr. Logan Turner, contains a variety of contributions; a sketch of Lord Lister's life is given by his former house-surgeon, Sir George Beatson, of Glasgow. A series of short personal reminiscences has been written by Sir William Watson Cheyne, Dr. Rutherford Morison, Dr. Grasett, Dr. Baldwin, Dr. T. R. Ronaldson, the late Professor Francis Caird, Dr. Stewart (Halifax), Dr. Douglas (Cupar) and Mr. Hamilton Russell, of Melbourne. Two of Lister's scientific addresses and a series of letters of general interest are incorporated in the book. A number of