

has been received for the last five years from the Carnegie and Rockefeller foundations, which contract has expired. The public-spirited citizens of the community and "official Augusta" contributed a similar amount to that given by the foundations, and these funds were used chiefly to inaugurate full-time departments in medicine, surgery and obstetrics.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

A GIFT to the Yale library of \$100,000 in memory of Albert DeSilver, '10, has been announced. The fund has been given to carry out the wish which Mrs. John Bradley Lord, of Greenwich, Conn., expressed shortly before her death in February, 1926, that a fund be established at Yale in memory of her son, Albert DeSilver. The income is to be used for the purchase and care of books and periodicals in the field of chemistry.

AN anonymous gift of £10,000 has been received by the University of Wales for the encouragement of research.

DR. A. WARREN STEARNS has been appointed dean of the medical school of Tufts College. He succeeds Dr. Stephen Rushmore, who has resigned to enter private practice.

DR. PAUL WHITELY, of the University of Chicago, has been appointed associate professor of psychology at Colgate University. Dr. Donald A. Laird, director of the laboratory of psychology, has been promoted to be professor of psychology and chairman of the department.

DR. EARLE B. MILLER, of the University of Wisconsin, has been appointed professor of mathematics and physics at Illinois College, Jacksonville.

DR. E. H. KETTLE, professor of pathology and bacteriology in the Welsh National School of Medicine, has accepted a professorship of pathology in the University of London. Dr. Bronislaw Malinowski, reader in the university, has been appointed to the university chair of anthropology, and Dr. W. H. Linnell has been appointed to a readership in pharmaceutical chemistry.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

A NEW AGRICULTURAL PROFESSION

ABOUT twenty years ago the consulting agriculturist giving advice to farm owners for a consideration was almost unknown in the United States, although at that time Mr. George T. Powell, the well-known fruit grower, was one of the first pioneers in this profession. Then came various other "agricultural ex-

perts," "farm advisers," "consulting agriculturists" and "farm doctors," as they styled themselves—all more or less (principally less) competent—and most of them not staying in business very long. Soon after began the development of extension work and the county agricultural agent system paid for by federal, state and local funds. This system not only has been of great service to American agriculture but has had the effect of stimulating the farmer's desire for more information and advice especially adapted to his own particular farm conditions.

Overwhelmed as extension workers and county agents have been with constantly increasing demands for special service, it has been well-nigh impossible for them to devote any large proportion of their time to any one individual or company without offending other farm owners who felt that they were entitled to an equal amount of service. Yet it is evident that, if a farmer needs technical assistance, he must not only be given preliminary plans but also be assisted to work them out to a successful conclusion in full detail. Only one who has actually done it realizes the amount of time and work entailed in preparing a complete farm operating plan, including rotations, seed, fertilizer and spraying schedules, production and cost estimates and an operating budget. But when it comes to taking over the management of one or more farms only the professional agricultural consultant is free to devote himself to such work.

In following the development of the profession of consulting agricultural engineer, it is interesting to note the trend of state and federal agricultural agencies toward "service at cost." Thus county agent work itself has been partially supported by fees paid by the farmers themselves. Extension specialists making special inspections for farmers now have their traveling expenses paid by those whom they serve. An increasing number of agricultural bulletins is being sold instead of distributed free. Cow-testing associations formed by the agricultural colleges employ their own testers. And more recently in Illinois a group of farmers organized by the Agricultural College has hired its own salaried farm cost accountant to keep its members' books. So it is natural that the federal and state extension divisions should see in the consulting agricultural engineer a means of augmenting their own efforts with a saving of their time and appropriations. Where calls for special service are received some of these government agencies are now referring such inquiries to competent agricultural consultants. And as the demand for such professional services increases, it is believed that the agricultural colleges will help to meet it by offering special courses to train men for the profession of consulting agricultural engineer.