

might keep in touch with professors and students. Dr. John Beattie, a graduate in honors of the University of Belfast, was appointed from a number of candidates as the first anatomical fellow and was attached to University College as well as to the Gardens. During his tenure, which began with 1926, he has published a number of papers on vertebrate anatomy, and has now been appointed assistant professor of human anatomy in the University of Toronto.

The Aquarium Research Fellowship was instituted the end of 1924 to give an opportunity for such investigations into the conditions of aquatic life as could be conducted in the aquarium, where a laboratory and research tanks had been provided. It was decided that the first fellow should devote himself specially to the chemical and physical conditions in the aquarium plant, so as to lay a firm foundation for biological inquiries. The first fellow, Dr. F. P. Stowell, was a graduate in honors in chemistry of the University of Liverpool and began his work in the Gardens in 1925. He also has published a number of papers of great value not only to the management of the aquarium, but as additions to scientific knowledge. His tenure of the fellowship would have ceased at the end of this year, but he has received an appointment as research chemist to a large manufactory and left at the beginning of this month to assume his new work. It is intended that his successor in the fellowship should take up a biological line of investigation.

#### THE VOLTA MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP

THE Italy America Society announces that a fund of \$25,000, the income from which will be applied each year to post-graduate work in an American university of an electrical engineer from Italy, has been established by individuals, associations and corporations in this country who are interested in electrical development. The fund has been raised to mark the one hundredth anniversary of the death of Alessandro Volta, inaugurator of a new era in electricity.

Volta's anniversary has been marked this year with a special program in connection with the International Exhibition at Lake Como, Italy, where announcement of the formation of the memorial fund in the United States was received with much enthusiasm. The student who will come to the United States will be selected competitively by the Associazione Elettrotecnica Italiana, which corresponds to the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. In the United States the administration of the fellowship is in the hands of the Italy America Society.

Maurice A. Oudin, vice-president of the International General Electric Company and chairman of the

memorial committee, has outlined the purposes of the fellowship as follows:

The year 1927 marks the one hundredth anniversary of the death of Alessandro Volta, and we, a committee representing some of those interests which owe a debt to the discoveries of Volta, have established this annual fellowship to enable an Italian electrical engineer, a graduate from one of the leading polytechnic schools of Italy, to spend one year in the United States in study and research. With the advice and suggestions of competent persons, the fellow will devote one scholastic year to attending one of our schools of engineering, and will be given an opportunity to visit our principal plants. He will return to Italy enriched by his American experience and better able to be useful in the electrical development of the country which gave birth to Volta.

#### COMMITTEE ON THE COST OF MEDICAL CARE

A BULLETIN has been issued by the Conference on Economic Factors affecting the Organization of Medicine giving information regarding the purposes of its new committee—the committee on the cost of medical care which was organized last May in Washington.

The committee, which is to serve five years, has been assigned the following functions by the parent organization.

(1) To conduct an analysis of the problem of medical organization, particularly of its economic factors.

(2) To plan a series of researches on the basis of the proposed analysis, utilizing, as the committee may see fit, the outline of studies prepared by the Committee of Five appointed at a preliminary conference held in Washington April 1, 1926. These studies are to be assigned to various interested agencies and individuals, and they will be subsidized only when they can not be properly undertaken without financial aid.

(3) To conduct a limited number of studies when it becomes evident that they can not be handled adequately by any existing agency.

(4) To arouse the interest of professional groups and the public in the facts regarding medical service as they become available, particularly in the results of the committee's studies. The committee will promote discussion by medical, public health and economic agencies, arrange or encourage addresses before organizations of the "consuming public" and conduct various kinds of conferences. The publication of articles in professional and popular journals will be provided, and reports on the committee's researches be issued.

An executive committee of the committee on the cost of medical care has been appointed with power to increase its number to seven or nine members, the chairman being Professor C.-E. A. Winslow. J. Shelton Horsley.

An annual budget of \$40,000 has been adopted.