

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.

Of this amount a grant of \$10,000 (announced at the time of the conference, May 17) has been made by the Twentieth Century Fund, subject to conditions which it is hoped may be met. Since the conference, a grant of \$15,000 has been received from the Milbank Memorial Fund.

TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR HENRY FAIRFIELD OSBORN

PROFESSOR HENRY FAIRFIELD OSBORN, president of the American Museum of Natural History and research professor of zoology in Columbia University, was the guest of honor at a reception in the Hall of Birds at the museum on September 29. The celebration was in honor of Dr. Osborn's seventieth birthday, which occurred on August 8.

As Professor Osborn was not to be in New York on that day, a subcommittee waited upon him at Garrison on July 28 to make the presentation of a Queen Anne cup and birthday greetings. The cup was inscribed: "To Henry Fairfield Osborn, master builder, upon the occasion of his seventieth birthday, August 8, 1927, from his friends." The greetings were signed by more than five hundred of Professor Osborn's colleagues and friends from all over the world, the signatures being inscribed on individual cards of vellum which were then assembled and mounted in an illuminated book.

A total of \$8,040.71 was raised for the gifts. About \$5,000 remained after their purchase, and this sum will be used for a Henry Fairfield Osborn seventieth birthday research fund in paleontology.

The following is the text of the congratulatory address:

On your seventieth birthday your colleagues and friends join to salute you, to congratulate you and to express their delight in finding you radiant in health and spirit, joyously carrying on your life work.

We desire to thank you most heartily for your leadership in many fields. Drawing around you in the American Museum of Natural History a staff of explorers and coworkers who are animated by your spirit and who gladly enroll under your banner, you have penetrated to the uttermost parts of the earth and have brought its natural history treasures to the museum. To your unceasing labors, as curator of paleontology and as president, we owe the series of unique exhibition halls at the museum, where countless visitors pass before an impressive panorama of extinct life. Thanks to your sympathetic understanding, the school-children of New York and their teachers enjoy all the educational and emancipative opportunities of the Museum's School Service. And in the near future the museum will also display still other imposing evidences of your constructive genius when the Roosevelt Memorial Hall and the Akeley African Hall take their places in the assemblage of buildings devoted to science and education.

We desire also to express our admiration of the creative, tireless spirit which, during a life crowded with administrative work, has produced a series of publications, covering many hundreds of titles and ranging from brief articles in *Natural History* to the great monographs on the titanotheres and the proboscideans, now in press.

We congratulate you upon the many distinguished honors that the highest scientific tribunals of the world have awarded to you in recognition of your services to science. We join the great company of your readers in acknowledging our indebtedness for such classic works as "From the Greeks to Darwin," "The Origin and Evolution of Life," "The Age of Mammals" and "Men of the Old Stone Age."

Princeton University will not forget your services when in 1877 as co-leader with your life-long friend Professor W. B. Scott, you led the first Princeton expedition to the fossil fields of Wyoming; or when, after your return from your graduate studies at Cambridge University, you brought the Huxleyan gospel of comparative anatomy to your pupils.

Columbia University has reason to remember the great part you played in planning and guiding the Department of Zoology in its formative period; nor will your old students, either of Princeton or of Columbia, ever forget what new worlds you opened to them and showed them how to enter.

The New York Zoological Society owes to you thirty-one years of brilliant service as chairman of the executive committee and later as its president.

From many parts of the world, therefore, your friends unite to testify their appreciation of your services as a leader in biological science, in education and in the highest ideals of citizenship.

We congratulate you again upon this unique record of service. We delight in the admirable spirit of fairness, generosity, friendliness and comradeship which you have shown, not only to your colleagues but to the least of your assistants. And we rejoice with your devoted wife and your sons, daughters and many grandchildren, that this seventieth birthday finds you with forces unimpaired, still planning, still building, under the inspiration of a dauntless optimism.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

SVANTE ARRHENIUS, director of the Nobel Institute for Physical Chemistry at Stockholm, distinguished for his contributions to physical chemistry, died on October 2, aged sixty-eight years.

DR. WILHELM EINTHOVEN, professor of physiology at the University of Leyden, known for his work in cardiac physiology and for the invention of the string galvanometer, died on September 28, aged sixty-seven years. Dr. Einthoven was awarded the Nobel prize in medicine in 1924.

ON the occasion of the opening of the new Henry Herbert Wills physics laboratory at the University of