

THE BATTELLE MEMORIAL INSTITUTE

ANNOUNCEMENT of the organization of the Battelle Memorial Institute at Columbus, Ohio, was recently made. The news edition of *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry* gives further particulars. Endowed with a large sum of money from the estate of John Gordon Battelle, his wife and his son, Gordon Battelle, the new institute at once assumes a strong position. A tract of about five acres, opposite the campus of the Ohio State University, has been secured and the construction of the first two buildings, costing about a half million dollars, will be undertaken in the spring. Gerald Wendt, now dean of the school of chemistry and physics at the Pennsylvania State College, has been selected as director, and the organization plans are now under way with the intention of beginning the operations of the institute by the fall of 1928.

The Battelle Memorial Institute has been organized as a corporation, not for profit, in order to perpetuate a trust arising from the joint wills of these three members of the Battelle family. A board of trustees was appointed in the will of Gordon Battelle, one member of which, ex-President Warren G. Harding, has since died. The present board of trustees consists of Joseph H. Frantz, of Columbus, Ohio; Bishop John W. Hamilton, of Washington, D. C., formerly president of the American University; Earl C. Derby, Harry M. Runkle and Gerald B. Fenton, of Columbus, Ohio, and J. Clare Miller, of Ashland, Ky.

Under the terms of the will the institute is to be located in Columbus. The tract now purchased lies on the banks of the Olentangy River and across King Avenue from the campus of the Ohio State University, with a frontage of 300 feet on King Avenue and extending about 1,000 feet southward toward Fifth Avenue. The administration building will face King Avenue and the laboratory buildings will extend southward on Tisdale Street.

While the main object of the institute will be industrial research under the fellowship system, very much as is now the practice at the Mellon Institute, the large income from the funds of the institute itself will be devoted to long-distance industrial research for the broad benefit of American industry and for scientific research. The will provided that any profit arising from the operation of the institute be devoted to charity or to the support of other scientific research.

After an extended inspection trip, in which the chief college and industrial research laboratories in the eastern portion of the United States were studied by the trustees and the director, Otto C. Daret, of Columbus, was designated as architect. The first building will stand as a memorial to the Battelle family and will comprise administrative offices, the library, a

large auditorium, a museum, machine shop, stock rooms and a number of laboratory suites. The second building, which will be erected at the same time and will adjoin the administration building, will have individual laboratories on the third floor, but the remaining space, including the basement, first and second floors, will be an engineering shop.

A FUND FOR THE STUDY OF COLDS AT THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

THE Chemical Foundation has made a gift of \$195,000 to the school of hygiene and public health of the Johns Hopkins University for the study of "the origin, nature and possible cure of the common cold."

The fund is to be known as "The John J. Abel Fund for Research on the Common Cold" in honor of the professor of pharmacology of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, and will provide \$25,000 in the first year, \$35,000 in the second and \$45,000 in the third, fourth and fifth years of the research work.

In his letter announcing the gift Francis P. Garvan, president of the Chemical Foundation, said:

In asking that the name of your great scientist be connected with this research I am mindful not only of his preeminent position and services in science, but more particularly of his outstanding reputation as the man who, perhaps more than any other living scientist to-day, exemplifies the beneficial application of the science of chemistry to medical problems, which is my abiding interest in such researches as this.

Commenting upon the projected research, Dr. Abel said in part:

The problem which has been set to our investigation by Mr. Garvan, of the Chemical Foundation, can only be studied by the cooperative efforts of the clinician, the epidemiologist, the bacteriologist, the pathologist, the pharmacologist, the biochemist and the physicist.

Fortunately this spirit of cooperation prevails in the various institutes of the Johns Hopkins University and I am confident that the problem will be attacked with energy, unremitting industry and in a generous spirit of mutual helpfulness by the several investigators into whose hands it will be given.

The research work is to be administered by the following faculty committee: Dr. Lewis H. Weed, dean of the School of Medicine, *chairman*; Dr. William H. Howell, director of the School of Hygiene and Public Health; Dr. Warfield T. Longcope, professor of medicine; Dr. Carroll G. Bull, professor of immunology; Dr. W. H. Frost, professor of epidemiology; Dr. Samuel J. Crowe, professor of laryngology and otology; Dr. Lawrence H. Baker, executive secretary of the medical faculty.