

the foundation for the establishment of a clinic for the study, treatment and prevention of diseases of the heart and circulatory system. In particular it is the donor's desire that an agency for treatment of patients at the clinic should become operative at once and that the clinic staff should immediately direct its efforts toward the ultimate prevention of such diseases.

The sum of \$250,000 more is to be added to the resources of the clinic as needed, and the donor has further informed the university that he hopes to present, in due time, at least \$500,000 more to the foundation for the development of education in the liberal arts.

In his letter to the trustees setting forth the plan to establish the foundation, Mr. Robinette said in part:

The provision as to the clinic for the study, treatment and prevention of diseases of the heart and circulatory system is made because I am convinced that through this means a very great contribution can be made to the betterment of human welfare. Therefore it is my desire that the clinic should devote special attention to the study and treatment of diseases of the heart and circulation whose cure and relief will mean so much to all. When some other disease or group of diseases displaces heart and circulatory diseases from the position of first importance, I wish the clinic to concentrate upon the study and treatment of such other disease or diseases.

I do this so that the work of the clinic may never be restricted to a field of treatment and study in which there may no longer exist a predominating menace, and so that the clinic may always devote itself to the attack upon that disease which at the time is the greatest obstacle to the continued activity of people of middle age and beyond, and especially those who are the leaders of our national life.

The University of Pennsylvania has also received an anonymous gift of \$100,000 to carry on a study of the leucaemias and lymphomata in the Henry Phipps Institute for the Study, Prevention and Cure of Tuberculosis, one of the medical departments of the university. The study will be made in the institute under the direction of Dr. Eugene L. Opie, director of the institute's laboratory and director of the department of pathology of the University of Pennsylvania's School of Medicine.

#### GRANTS FROM THE DANIEL GUGGENHEIM FUND FOR THE PROMOTION OF AERONAUTICS

At a recent meeting in Port Washington, New York, the board of trustees of the Daniel Guggenheim fund for the promotion of aeronautics authorized an appropriation of \$290,000 to the University of Washington for the purpose of constructing an Aeronautics building. The appropriation was made at the

request of Dr. M. Lyle Spencer, president of the university, and was granted in view of the work already accomplished at the university in establishing an aeronautical engineering course and in recognition of its outstanding importance as an engineering institution in the Northwest. It was announced that the board of regents of the University of Washington would request the legislature of the state of Washington to provide funds for the proper equipment and instructional staff of the building.

The fund also authorized an appropriation of \$15,000 for the Harvard University graduate school of business administration for the purpose of establishing a research fund over a period of three years for the study of the economic and industrial effects and possibilities of commercial aviation.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology received \$34,000 to organize a three-year course in meteorology in that institution "in view of the need for meteorological instruction to keep pace with the development of commercial aviation."

In addition several smaller appropriations covering a wide variety of objects have been made. These included \$25,000 to finance the weather reporting services on the Los Angeles-San Francisco airway; \$2,500 for research in the development of a sensitive altimeter on the acoustic principle in the laboratory of the Technical University of Delft, Holland; the financing of the services of the aerologist for the Byrd Antarctic expedition, and \$500 to the college of engineering, New York University, to underwrite a course of aeronautical meteorology to be given at the university during the second half of the current school year.

It has also been announced that the fund will transfer its emphasis from assisting commercial aviation and stimulating public interest in its development to the consideration of the scientific problems involved in the mechanical structure of the airplane and the study of environmental conditions necessary for safe operation, particularly meteorology and the problem of fog-flying.

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#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

At the recent meeting of the International Astronomical Union held in Leyden, Holland, Sir Frank Dyson, British Astronomer Royal, was elected president for the next meeting, which it was decided to hold in the United States in September, 1932. This date was chosen in order that visiting astronomers might be in the United States at the time of the total eclipse of the sun, which will be visible in New England and eastern Canada on the afternoon of August 31, 1932.