THE BANQUET

The banquet, which was the concluding social event of the congress, was held on Friday evening, August 17, in the large hall of Willard Straight. The hall had been cleared of its lounging furniture, and tables with places for three hundred and fifty had been installed instead. Every place was taken and a few who waited too long before purchasing tickets were accommodated by some of the local people giving up their places.

Dr. Howard, in the capacity of toastmaster, called upon representatives from thirty-one countries, each of whom arose and spoke a few words in his native tongue. At least fifteen languages were spoken in the responses by the different members. In this respect the banquet was unique.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion it may said with a reasonable degree of modesty that the congress was the most notable meeting of entomologists ever held in this country. It was truly an international gathering of the workers in the field of entomology and the spirit of good fellowship among the investigators in this science has been promoted and increased to a marked degree. The effects of the human contacts made during the week, of the intellectual stimulus produced by the exchange of ideas and of the renewed realization that investigators of other countries possess the same human sympathies, desires, wholesome ambitions and sincere devotion to truth as oneself, live on in the mind of every one of us and will continue to exert a widening influence toward a broader respect, tolerance and charity for each other's personality, work and aims.

Whenever the jingoes of this country talk of war hereafter, we shall remember the men we met and recalling that they were undoubtedly representative of their countrymen we shall be loath to be led into a quarrel with their country. Unquestionably every such international meeting of men from different countries, whereby they come to know each other as human beings, tends away from war and toward peace.

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STRATEGICAL PERIODS FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF RESEARCH STUDENTS

THE wise choice of a life work will insist on attention being paid to the personal joy of living which the vocation is expected to give. It is doubtful if any one is doing his best while trying to fill a profession in which he is unhappy. The day's work must bring a sense of joy in having contributed a little toward the ongoing of civilization. It is from this point of view that students may be enthusiastically advised to consider the fields of creative scholarship. The joy which comes from creative power was recognized very early in the history of man, for we read from a very ancient book that the Creator of all the universe contemplated his work and pronounced it good.

The advancement of knowledge requires that a fresh quota of research students should volunteer for service each year and in ever-increasing numbers. To make these students real service men they must enter the work with a sense of the joy in it all. Research students are the shock troops against ignorance. How may individuals be stimulated to join enthusiastically the ranks of those who advance knowledge?

It has been observed that out of a group of over sixty students who took up postgraduate work in physics, not over four of them had financial backing to go ahead with their graduate work. They had to depend upon assistantships in the universities where they wished to work for their Ph.D. That these assistantships have served admirably in promoting advanced work needs no argument.

However, many of these boys finished their college career in debt. It takes courage to plan graduate work with an old debt and possibly new ones staring one in the face. Couple with this assisting in a laboratory where large groups of non-inspiring students have to be dealt with and it must be evident to all that the conditions and environment for enthusing men to desire a life of creative scholarship are far from ideal.

If funds were available to finance a group of fellowships for this class of men, as has been done by the National Research Council for the men who have just taken their doctorate, I believe help in fostering research work would be applied at the most strategical period in the career of a young researcher. At present there are not enough graduate assistantships to take care of all those who desire to do graduate work. These additional fellowships would add greatly to the opportunities for advanced work which the assistantships now partially supply.

It would be most stimulating if every department in a college could offer to the best student majoring in that department a fellowship, of say $600, to be used in some research center. This would make the first year in the graduate school much easier and give the recipient an opportunity for orienting himself for the following years.

The greater the number of students sent on for graduate work, the greater will be the number of better prepared and inspiring teachers to return to the colleges and universities to stimulate more research students. It will contribute both to our number of better teachers and to that increasing number of men who plan for research work in either pure or applied fields.

There is another group of students which deserves especial attention, *viz.*, those who, on completion of their college work, find themselves not quite prepared for graduate study. They are excellent students but, unwisely, have gone to a college whose curriculum is meager and inadequate. In this same class is the good student in the good college who finds his field of work late in his college course. This does not offer time to get the background essential for later specialization. For both of these groups, often financially embarrassed, there should be some sort of a continuation school. An attempt is made in a few departments of Amherst College to meet this difficulty by appointing such men as half-time laboratory assistants. These assistantships pay a definite stipend plus tuition. By taking two or three courses along with the assisting it becomes possible to patch the deficiency of preparation for graduate work.

These strategical periods in which help might be rendered fall within or immediately after the college days when students decide, for the most part, what they are going to do for a life work. Many wish to go on for a scholastic career but can't face the financial difficulties. They drift into business and thus are lost to the educational profession. Surely that occasion when men are debating what they should do for a profession is the strategical one in which to offer some financial relief. It is a period fraught with the greatest possibilities for developing the spirit of research in our country.

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SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LYONS

THE idea of the important reorganization of the Faculté de médecine de Lyon originated, according to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association, with Mr. Vincent, president of the Rockefeller Foundation. The city of Lyons was building a model hospital in the suburbs of Lyons, at Grange Blanche, which consisted of numerous separate pavilions, each of which comprised, in addition to wards for patients, a laboratory and a room for class instruction. Mr. Vincent, visiting the building in process of construction, was struck with its unusually fine location and suggested that the faculté de médecine itself be located in the center of the group of hospitals. The dean of the faculty, Professor Jean Lepine, replied that that would require more funds than the city of Lyons could furnish. Mr. Vincent thereupon offered to supply 41,000,000 francs from the funds of the Rockefeller Foundation for the realization of the project, on condition that the remaining 15,000,000 francs be furnished by the government or the city of Lyons. M. Poincaré approved at once an appropriation of 12,000,000 francs and the city of Lyons voted the remaining 3,000,000 francs. The Rockefeller Foundation had previously given 800,000 francs to the Oeuvre franco-américaine de l'enfance and to the Hôpital d'enfants, which are directed by Madame Edmond Gillét. When completed, the new faculté de médecine, with the hospitals grouped about it, will occupy a considerable area. It will be equipped in the most modern manner, with numerous laboratories, lecture halls, elevators, a machinery hall and the like. This concentration will greatly facilitate the work of the students, who have heretofore been obliged to work in several hospitals scattered about the city, often great distances apart. They will have, furthermore, the advantage of being in continuous contact with their instructors. Since the new buildings will be situated some distance from the center of the city, dormitories for the students will be created near the faculté de médecine, constituting a small cité universitaire after the manner of the one now being constructed in Paris. The only objection seems to be that some professors will find trouble in looking after their clientèle.

INVESTIGATION OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

A PARTY of sixteen scientific men is reported in the New York *Times* to have recently arrived in Australia from Great Britain to study the problems of the Great Barrier Reef. For more than 1,200 miles along the eastern coast of tropical Australia, at an average distance from the shore of fifty miles, polyps have built a limestone rampart, to which they add every year thousands of tons of lime extracted from solution in the sea-water. How they do it is understood but imperfectly, and will form one of the most important of the investigations. Many other chemical and biological problems will engage their attention.

Dr. C. M. Yonge, leader of the expedition, has spent much time in research at the Plymouth Biological Station. The study of the biochemical changes accompanying the absorption and deposition of the limy substances of coral will be largely his work.