

A buffet supper was served for specially invited guests.

Shanklin Laboratory is the fourth of four recent building additions to the University, including Olin Memorial Library, Hall Laboratory of Chemistry, and the Harriman dormitory. The new structure, built of Harvard brick and Imperial Danby marble, presents a striking effect on the hill east of Hall Laboratory along Wesleyan Place. The building is 124 feet long and fifty-five feet wide, containing four floors. A greenhouse which is also used as a vivarium is attached to the south end. Outdoor pools for fish and aquatic vegetation are in an open air court surrounding the greenhouse.

A lecture room seating 160 men is on the east side of the ground floor, and adjacent to this a preparation room in which charts, lantern slides and other illustrative materials will be stored. An herbarium room, drafting room, aquarium room and a research room are included in the ground floor. The research room is equipped with apparatus for maintaining constant temperature. Special rain-water storage has been arranged so that tanks and the greenhouse may use pure water, for it is found that city water is injurious to certain kinds of aquatic life.

Accommodations for fifty-six men in general biology classes are included on the second floor in two laboratories. A comparative anatomy laboratory will care for advanced courses of invertebrate and vertebrate zoology. A departmental museum and rooms for teachers and students are included. Histology and embryology rooms are on the third floor, and a suite for bacteriology. A sterilization and media room, an incubator room and refrigerating room adjoin. Besides recitation rooms and a library there is a chemical laboratory for nutrition work. In a well-ventilated area under the roof are two animal rooms, one for small animals such as mice and guinea-pigs and the other for larger animals.

THE NEW YORK MEDICAL CENTER

THE new Medical Center at Broadway and 168th Street, said to be the largest and most modern in the world, was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies on October 12.

After an invocation by the Reverend Dr. Raymond C. Knox, chaplain of Columbia University, General William Barclay Parsons, chairman of the Joint Administrative Board of the Medical Center and of the trustees of Columbia University, explained how the idea of the joint enterprise on the part of the university and the Presbyterian Hospital originated eighteen years ago.

According to the report in the *New York Times*, he said:

Endless details remained to be solved and, hardest of all, great sums of money to be raised. For the latter we are indebted to many friends, the Carnegie Corporation, the General Education Board, the Rockefeller Foundation and countless others, who made gifts, both large and small, that these buildings might be erected, but the outstanding gift that made the plan possible was that of this site of more than twenty acres by Edward S. Harkness and his mother. To each and every friend I take this public opportunity of again expressing our heartfelt appreciation. . . .

The fruits of eighteen years of labor stand before you. No claim is made that the work is finished, because to the man of science progress has no end, no horizon. The allied institutions offer this first effort as an initial contribution to the relief of suffering humanity in all forms and for all time. As further needs develop a hearty welcome is extended to other institutions to join the group, so that this center shall increasingly represent the high ideals and broad achievement worthy of this city, this state and nation.

General Parsons then named the recipients of honorary degrees as Edward Stephen Harkness, doctor of laws; Dean Sage, president of the Presbyterian Hospital, doctor of laws; James Gamble Rogers, architect of the Medical Center, doctor of science in architecture, and Otto Marc Eidlitz, contractor and builder, doctor of science in construction, and the degrees were conferred by Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, president of the university. The dedicatory address was then made by Dr. Samuel W. Lambert, dean emeritus of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University and president of the New York Academy of Medicine.

The twelve units composing the Medical Center are the Presbyterian Hospital, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, the Sloane Hospital for Women, the New York State Psychiatric Institute and Hospital, the Babies' Hospital, the Squier Urological Clinic, Presbyterian Hospital School of Nursing, the Neurological Institute and Hospital, the Stephen V. Harkness Patient Pavilion, the School of Dental and Oral Surgery, the Vanderbilt Clinic and the De Lamar Institute of Public Health.

Ground for the erection of the Medical Center was first broken nearly four years ago. Since that time the towering buildings have been erected at a cost of about \$25,000,000. Further construction, already contemplated, will bring the ultimate cost of the center to \$40,000,000.

THE MICHELSON MEETING OF THE OPTICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

THE thirteenth annual meeting of the Optical Society of America, to be held in Washington, from October 31 to November 3, under the joint auspices of the

society and the Bureau of Standards, celebrates the semi-centennial of the publication of the first communication on the "Velocity of Light," by Professor A. A. Michelson, "distinguished service" professor of physics in the University of Chicago.

A cordial invitation to attend is extended to all persons interested in optics. The program is distinguished by notable groups of papers on physical optics and biological optics. Among the events scheduled are:

Invited paper by Professor Michelson and his collaborators, Messrs. Pease and Pearson, on "Results of Repetition of the Michelson-Morley Experiment."

Presentation of the Frederick Ives Medal to the society by Dr. Herbert E. Ives.

Motion pictures of the planets made by Professor W. H. Wright at Lick Observatory.

Demonstration of technicolor motion pictures.

The following invited papers will also be presented:

Arthur H. Compton: "X-rays as a Branch of Optics."

C. J. Davison: "The Scattering of Electrons by Crystals."

Paul R. Heyl: "The History and Present Status of the Physicist's Idea of Light."

Henry Laurens: "The Physiological Effects of Radiation."

John M. Arthur: "Some Effects of Radiation on Plants."

W. J. Crozier: "The Phototropic Behavior of Animals."

F. M. Schertz: "Application of Transmittancy Measurements to Biochemistry."

Selig Hecht: "The Nature of the Sensitivity of Animals to Light." (At a joint meeting of the Philosophical Society of Washington and the Biological Society of Washington to which members of the Optical Society are invited, Saturday, 8:15 P. M.)

Leonard T. Troland: "Optics as Seen by a Psychologist."

The sessions of the Optical Society for the presentation of papers are limited to three days, November 1, 2, 3; but it is suggested that those who desire full opportunity to visit the exhibition, inspect the laboratories of the Bureau of Standards, and visit the other institutions of interest to them, without missing sessions of the society, will do well to plan their sojourn in Washington from October 31 to November 5, inclusive. It has been arranged to have the Optical Exhibition open at 9:00 A. M., Wednesday, October 31; and the Bureau of Standards particularly invites visitors to inspect the optical equipment in its laboratories on both Wednesday, October 31, and Monday, November 5.

The Optical Exhibition will be comprehensive and will include not only instruments of current interest but also a historical exhibit on the microscope and

an exhibit of books and portraits, and optical instruments *in situ* at the Bureau of Standards. Wardman Park Hotel, situated near the Bureau, will be the headquarters for the meeting.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. FRANKLIN H. MARTIN, of Chicago, has been elected president of the American College of Surgeons, which he organized in 1913.

DR. ZAY JEFFRIES, of Cleveland, consulting metallurgist of the Aluminum Company of America, was nominated at the recent Philadelphia meeting for the presidency of the American Society for Steel Treating.

DR. O. DE VRIES, director of the Rubber Experiment Station at Buitenzorg, Java, has been appointed president of the fourth Pacific Science Congress to be held at Batavia from May 16 to 25, 1929. He succeeds Dr. A. A. L. Rutgers, director of the Department of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce of the Dutch East Indies, who has resigned to accept an appointment as governor of Surinam.

DR. WILLIAM H. WELCH, professor of the history of medicine at the Johns Hopkins Medical School, has returned to the United States after a visit of sixteen months abroad.

DR. H. T. CLARKE, who recently resigned from the department of synthetic chemistry of the research laboratory of the Eastman Kodak Company to accept the position as head of the department of chemistry of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, was given a farewell dinner at the Rochester Club by officers and past officers of the American Chemical Society.

DR. PARK LEWIS, of Buffalo, first vice-president of the Society for the Prevention of Blindness, has been given the Leslie Dana medal awarded annually for the most outstanding achievement in the prevention of blindness and the conservation of vision in America. The presentation took place at the meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology in St. Louis on October 18.

FRANKLIN AND MARSHALL COLLEGE, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, has conferred the honorary degree of D.Sc. upon Dr. Wm. A. Kepner, professor of biology in the University of Virginia.

PROFESSOR FRANK B. MORRISON, director of the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva, N. Y., has been appointed head of the department of animal husbandry in the College of Agriculture, Cornell University, to succeed Professor Henry