

MORPHOLOGY (including **ANATOMY**): Professor F. E. Fritsch, Danesmount, Tower Hill, Dorking, Surrey.

TAXONOMY and **NOMENCLATURE**: Dr. A. W. Hill, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

PLANT GEOGRAPHY and **ECOLOGY**: Professor A. G. Tansley, Department of Botany, The University, Oxford.

GENETICS and **CYTOLOGY**: Professor Sir John Farmer, Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, S.W. 7.

PLANT PHYSIOLOGY: Dr. F. F. Blackman, Botany School, Cambridge.

MYCOLOGY and **PLANT PATHOLOGY**: Dr. E. J. Butler, Imperial Bureau of Mycology, 17, Kew Green, Kew, Surrey.

As far as possible the program for each section will consist of papers given at the invitation of the sectional subcommittee; arrangements for general discussions will also probably be made by the sectional subcommittees.

THE GORGAS MEMORIAL INSTITUTE OF TROPICAL AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

DR. HERBERT CHARLES CLARK, director of laboratories and preventive medicine of the United Fruit Company, has been appointed director of the new Gorgas Memorial Laboratory of the Gorgas Memorial Institute of Tropical and Preventive Medicine, to be established on January 1 in Panama.

The institute has been established by act of congress as a governmental tribute to the public health and sanitation work conducted by the late General William C. Gorgas on the Isthmus of Panama, which made possible the construction of the Panama Canal. Dr. Clark, who spent several years under General Gorgas in the Canal Zone, will carry on research work to make possible a greater economic development of tropical America.

Congress last spring authorized a permanent appropriation of \$50,000 a year for the maintenance of the institute. Latin-American governments have been invited to contribute, but it has been stipulated by congress that the total of their contributions should not exceed 75 per cent. of the total contributed by the United States. The participating Latin-American governments are to be represented with the United States on the board of directors. President Coolidge is honorary president of the institute and Rear Admiral Cary T. Grayson is the president.

The republic of Panama has ceded a site for a permanent building for the laboratory, but temporary headquarters will be established in a building newly constructed by that government for a medical school.

Dr. Clark is reported to have made the following statement:

The Gorgas Memorial Laboratory will be an active international coordinating center for research work in

diseases which interfere with the economic development of the tropical countries in the Western Hemisphere. Its initial work will be the study of certain phases of malarial control that need development if big corporations from the temperate zone are to go into the tropics.

The greatest loss of labor in the coastal plains of tropical America is from malaria, which is the biggest economic factor among the diseases that belong down there. We expect to study the human carriers of malaria—people who, even after they have been treated and apparently cured, continue to carry the parasites in their seed stages.

We also intend to study the night habits of the mosquitos that feed upon human beings and which do the most in carrying malaria. We need to know more about how far they may go in their flight to lay their eggs.

We shall also work on two special problems in tropical diseases peculiar to Haiti and Colombia. We shall have visitors who will work on special problems, such as a study of various species of monkeys to see whether they carry any malarial or intestinal diseases affecting man.

THE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY AT COLD SPRING HARBOR

At the annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Long Island Biological Association, held December 4, several matters of general scientific interest were reported. A policy giving primary consideration to research, including its active pursuit throughout the year by means of a permanent staff, has been formally accepted. Steps have already been taken toward carrying the policy into effect with the appointment to the staff of Dr. Hugo Fricke, formerly director of the department of biophysics of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. The personnel of technicians and assistants has been increased, and equipment for research in biophysics, including work with X-rays and high frequencies, is being installed.

It is planned to receive scientists enjoying sabbatical or other leave from other institutions, who wish to carry on research at the Biological Laboratory at any season of the year. Such workers may apply to the laboratory for financial support during the period of residence, the aim being to aid them to take advantage of the opportunities of a leave of absence without too great financial burden. This plan will apply to American or European scientists wishing to spend part of the year in America, and part of the year in Europe, as well as to those wishing to spend the whole year at the laboratory. Dr. Felix Bernstein, director of the Institut für mathematische Statistik of the University of Göttingen, is the first to take advantage of this opportunity. His residence at the laboratory will begin in February, 1929.

The new policy plans a decrease in the number of students admitted to the biological laboratory at Cold Spring Harbor during the summer. Students in each