

In 1927, heeding at last the signs of waning endurance, Dr. Dean resigned from the curatorship of armor and was made a trustee of the Metropolitan Museum. But his ever creative spirit continued to renew itself. He designed, built and with his own hands decorated a high and noble Gothic hall connected with his residence at Riverdale, N. Y. In this he had begun to install his private collection of armor when the cord of life was snapped. The visitor who stands within this silent hall will be enabled to feel with him the somber but potent magic of old armor, that for so many years had sent him wandering over the earth.

In conclusion we may safely affirm that Bashford Dean was always visualizing ideals in science and in art, but that he was never content merely to enjoy them himself, but labored with consecrated zeal to build them with imperishable art for the benefit of his friends. And his friends were all those with whom he came in contact.

WILLIAM K. GREGORY

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

YELLOW FEVER IN AFRICA

DR. AUGUSTE PETTIT, professor at the Institut Pasteur de Paris, who with Dr. Stephanopoulos was sent to Senegal, French West Africa, last winter to study the epidemic of yellow fever, has recently communicated his observations to the Academy of Medicine. The first part of his report, as summarized in the *Journal* of the American Medical Association, is devoted to the memory of the eminent scientists who succumbed there to the disease: Stokes, Young and Noguchi. The death of Noguchi is all the more regrettable because of the fact that the researches that he undertook have been abandoned, while all the monkeys inoculated by him have been allowed to die. They were valued at half a million francs. Furthermore, the government of French West Africa has issued an order prohibiting the inoculation of the monkeys of the colony for fear that they may become adapted to the virus, and that, on escaping, which is a frequent event, they may serve to spread the infection. Dr. Pettit made use of a species of monkey of the genus *Macacus*, brought from India, and carried on his researches at the Institut Pasteur, using a virus from Senegal that was furnished him by Professor Sellards, of Harvard University. His first conclusion is that the agent of yellow fever is not a spirochete, as Noguchi believed, but an invisible filtrable virus. That was the opinion advanced also by the Marchoux mission in 1903. This virus can be

inoculated into monkeys, and the sick monkeys are cured by injecting into them the serum of a human being who has recovered from yellow fever. Dr. Pettit succeeded in preparing an attenuated virus that serves as an effective vaccine for the protection of monkeys. He has prepared 600 vials of this serum, which is a genuine protective and curative agent. It remains to be discovered whether the serum of these vaccinated monkeys will serve, in turn, as a vaccine for man. That is the problem with which Dr. Pettit is engaged at present, and in view of the results already secured, he feels that it is probable. His researches have been hindered through lack of monkeys, owing to an advance in price since they have been used in Europe for testicular grafts, and the funds at the disposal of the mission are now inadequate.

THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF RADIOLOGY

THE British Institute of Radiology opened its 1928-1929 session with an exhibition of apparatus and a presidential address at the Central Hall, Westminster, on November 17.

The London *Times* reports that the exhibition, which is expected to become an annual event, illustrates the rapid strides being made every year in the manufacture of equipment, improvements following each other with such rapidity as to render many forms of X-ray appliances obsolete within a very short period. The bulk of the exhibits are British, and the most notable feature of their latest improvements is the protection now afforded to the X-ray operator, whose risk of injury, it is claimed, has been much reduced. Another device, by using more power with the tube at a greater distance from the film, enables a more accurate shadow picture to be taken. Of new ideas for enabling the doctor to handle a patient with greater facility there are many, including a combined operating and X-ray table, which has recently been introduced into one or two special hospitals.

Dr. G. W. C. Kaye, in his presidential address, said the amalgamation of the institute and the Röntgen Society two years ago had left some minor difficulties to be surmounted, but with patience, good-will and tolerance the institute would presently find itself able to speak with an undivided voice on all things affecting its work and objects. To commemorate the work of its two great founders, Archibald Reid and Robert Knox, the council had named the lecture hall of the institute the Reid-Knox Hall. The membership, now 800, was steadily growing, and he hoped it would reach 1,000 before his term of office closed. The institute's examination attracted an ever-increasing number of candidates, and the "M. S. R." was steadily becoming recognized as the hall-mark of the competent radiographer.