

GIFTS FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY AND BELLEVUE HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE

GIFTS amounting to \$122,000 for medical research for the current year and a campaign now in progress for \$250,000 for special endowment have been announced by Dean Samuel A. Brown, of New York University and Bellevue Hospital Medical College. Included in the list are the activities of the Harriman Research Fund, which at the present time are devoted to research in pneumonia under the direction of Dr. William H. Park, professor of bacteriology and hygiene in the medical college and director of the Bureau of Laboratories, New York City Department of Health. The Harriman Research Fund, established by Mrs. Mary W. Harriman, has recently been allied with the university. Dr. William G. Lyle, Dr. Park and Dr. William J. Maloney are trustees of the laboratory, which is under the direction of Dr. K. George Falk. The staff of this laboratory, under Dr. Park's supervision, will devote its entire time to the perfecting and standardizing of the method of refining the serum for the prevention of pneumonia.

Other gifts announced are: the Lucius N. Littauer Fund of \$25,000 for research in the cause and cure of pneumonia; an Anonymous Fund of \$50,000, of which \$38,000 is devoted to the study of rheumatism and heart disease, and \$12,000 to pneumonia; \$10,000 annually from Richard T. Crane, Jr., of Chicago, for research in hay fever, asthma and related diseases; \$13,000 annually for three years from the Jeremiah Milbank Foundation for the study of infantile paralysis, and \$6,000 from the Commonwealth Fund.

The campaign for \$250,000 is being carried on by Mrs. A. F. Tiffany, with the help of friends, in an effort to endow the Cardiac Clinic established by Dr. John Wyckoff, associate professor of medicine and secretary of the University and Bellevue Hospital Medical College faculty. Mrs. Tiffany in past years has raised \$5,000 annually for this clinic.

Extensive research into the cause of rheumatism is also being carried on in the university medical school laboratories. Under the active direction of Dr. Bret Ratner, researches are progressing into the causes of hay fever, asthma and other allergic diseases. Dr. Covell and Dr. Weyer are directing the study of infantile paralysis, made possible by the gift from the Jeremiah Milbank Foundation.

PHYSICAL LABORATORIES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

GROUND has been broken at the University of Chicago for the new Bernard A. Eckhart Laboratory of Physics, Mathematics and Astronomy. The new structure will complete the Hutchinson Quadrangle,

adjoining the present Ryerson Laboratory on the east.

Made possible by a contribution of B. A. Eckhart, Chicago lumberman for whom it has been named, the laboratory will cost \$604,000 and will provide facilities for work now cramped in Ryerson Hall. First floor and basement will house research work in physics, except for a large lecture room seating 239. The departments of mathematics and astronomy, which have never been adequately housed, will use the second, third and fourth floors. There will be 9 classrooms, 39 offices for faculty and students, 38 research rooms for physics and a large reading room which will accommodate 88 persons and 50,000 books. There will also be a common room with kitchenette facilities and an exhibition room. It is planned to remodel Ryerson Hall for expansion of teaching and research projects in physics. Designed by Charles Z. Klauder, Eckhart Laboratory will conform to the Gothic tradition of the university buildings. It should be completed by the end of this year.

Buildings under way now at the University of Chicago or to be started during the year will cost over \$9,000,000. In addition to Eckhart Laboratory they are: Sunny Gymnasium, the Social Sciences Building, two quadrangles of dormitories, two additional units for the university clinics, the Chicago Lying-in Hospital, the Power Plant and the Oriental Institute.

THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INCANDESCENT LIGHT AND MR. EDISON

PLANS for the world-wide celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the invention of the incandescent electric light beginning on May 31 and ending October 21 in an international tribute to the inventor of the lamp, Thomas A. Edison, were announced by Mr. Paul G. Cravath, member of the general committee sponsoring the celebration, at a luncheon of the Bankers' Club of New York City.

President Hoover, in consenting to be chairman of the general committee for the celebration, which will be known as Light's Golden Jubilee, wrote: "I have your kind letter of March 30 requesting that I accept the honorary chairmanship of the sponsorship committee of the Edison Pioneers. I shall be delighted to act in any capacity that will mean a genuine tribute to Mr. Edison's services."

The celebration will be opened by a series of light festivals beginning at Atlantic City on May 31 to signalize Mr. Edison's contributions to the advancement and comfort of humanity, and will end in a great "festival of light," which will be observed in virtually every city in the United States on October 21, and in many foreign cities. A feature of the last night of the celebration will be general electric illuminations throughout the country.

Among the events in honor of Mr. Edison which will take place on October 21 will be a dinner given to the inventor by Henry Ford at Dearborn, Michigan, which will be attended by eight hundred leaders of American industry. On the same day, the completely restored Menlo Park Laboratories, where Edison perfected the electric light, will be dedicated at Dearborn. The laboratories, which have been restored by Henry Ford, will contain not only a record of the life and inventions of Edison, but a collection of his original tools and retorts. Eight carloads of discarded tools and primitive incandescent lamps which Mr. Edison threw into a pond many years ago have been sent to Dearborn under Mr. Ford's direction and will be exhibited in the museum.

A third feature of the day will be the dedication of the Edison Institute of Technology, founded by Ford with a gift of \$5,000,000. The institute building is an exact replica of Independence Hall.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. A. A. MICHELSON, of the University of Chicago, left on May 8 for Pasadena, California, where he will continue his measurements of the velocity of light, using a vacuum chamber a mile in length.

DR. WILLIAM H. WELCH, now professor of the history of medicine and director of the new medical library at the Johns Hopkins University, was guest of honor at a dinner celebrating his seventy-ninth birthday on April 8.

At the recent Charter Day exercises, the University of California conferred the degree of LL.D. on Dr. L. O. Howard and on Dr. Roseoe Pound, dean of the Harvard Law School. In presenting the degree to Dr. Howard, President Campbell said: "Energetic and able student of insects in their relations to the welfare of mankind; unsurpassed benefactor of the farmers of the United States and therefore a perpetual creditor of all his countrymen; esteemed and beloved leader in the councils of American science."

DR. ELMER A. SPERRY, engineer and inventor, has been elected "a member with distinction" in Tau Beta Pi, the engineering society. This honor has been conferred only once before. The initiation, followed by a dinner, took place on April 18 at the Hotel Astor, New York.

PROFESSOR MICHAEL I. PUPIN, of Columbia University, was the honor guest at a dinner given at Tucson on April 5 by the Arizona chapter of Sigma Xi. Dr. T. F. Buehrer, professor of chemistry in the university and president of the Arizona chapter, presided. Following the dinner Professor Pupin gave an address on "Ionization."

ONE hundred and fifteen members of the staff of the Mayo Clinic attended a dinner in Rochester on April 25 in honor of Dr. Russell M. Wilder, who will leave the clinic soon to become head of the department of medicine at the University of Chicago.

A COMMITTEE composed of Professors Borst, Doederlein, Romberg and Sauerbruck has awarded the Sofia A. Vordhoff-Jung prize for work on the etiology of cancer to Professor Katsusaburo Yamagiwa, of the University of Tokio.

PROFESSOR PIETER ZEEMAN, of the University of Amsterdam, has been elected an honorary fellow of the Physical Society of London.

DR. MAX RUBNER, of the University of Berlin, has been elected an honorary member of the Physiological Society of London.

DR. HUGO OBERMAIER, professor at the University of Madrid, has been elected an honorary member of the Anthropological Society in Vienna.

M. CHARLES ACHARD, professor of clinical medicine in the University of Paris, has been elected a member of the section of medicine of the Paris Academy of Sciences to succeed the late M. F. Widal.

Nature reports that at the annual general meeting of the Ray Society held on March 21, the following officers were reelected: *President*, Professor W. C. M'Intosh; *treasurer*, Sir Sidney F. Harmer; *secretary*, Dr. W. T. Calman. Dr. R. W. T. Gunther was elected a vice-president, and Mr. R. Adkin and Mr. R. Gurney were elected new members of the council.

COMMANDER RAYMOND S. PATTON, hydrographic and geodetic engineer, has been appointed director of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey to succeed E. Lester Jones, who died on April 9. Mr. Patton joined the survey in 1904 and spent twelve years' field service in Alaska, the Philippine Islands and along the coasts of the United States, where he commanded one of the survey ships. In 1917, he was transferred to the Navy Department, where he served until April, 1919. Since that time he has been chief of the division of charts in the Washington office of the survey.

DR. BASIL E. GILBERT, acting director of the Rhode Island Experiment Station since February, 1928, has been appointed director.

DR. C. L. HOLMES, head of the college department of agricultural economics at Iowa State College and of the agricultural economics section of the experiment station, has resigned to become principal agricultural economist in charge of the division of farm management and costs of the bureau of agricultural economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.