

those things which brought him the greatest pleasure, thus becomes a shrine to which frequent pilgrimages will be made by all American chemists who cherish the memory of those who have been the chief builders of their science, as well as by the many who knew and loved the quiet, unassuming, generous comrade who was its ornament and its chief attraction.

Somewhere in that museum there should be displayed prominently the classic lines of Philip James Bailey, which seem to me to sum up so accurately and so beautifully the principles which guided the life of Edgar Fahs Smith:

We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts, not breaths;
In feelings, not in figures on a dial.
We should count time by heart-throbs. He most lives
Who thinks most—feels the noblest—acts the best.
Life's but a means unto an end—that end,
Beginning, mean, and end to all things—God.

Instead of placing a wreath upon my friend's tomb, I am bringing as my tribute something which I am sure will please his spirit far more, and I hand to you, therefore, Mr. Provost, this ancient official order, dated Paris, December 24, 1791, for the payment of salaries and other expenses of officers of the Gendarmerie Nationale, signed by the great Lavoisier himself, the father of modern chemistry, as Commissaire of the National Treasury. It was secured by me in Paris a few years ago, and I know of no more worthy resting place for it than in the Smith Museum of Chemical History.

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SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

A BRITISH NATIONAL RADIUM FUND

ON April 16 the British Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that the government had undertaken to contribute out of public money towards the purchase of radium, on a basis of £1 for every £1 otherwise subscribed, up to a limit of £100,000. *The British Medical Journal* reports that a public appeal for £150,000 (making £250,000 in all) to form a "National Radium Fund" has now been set on foot by leaders of the medical profession acting in concert with laymen prominently associated with the work of hospitals and cancer research. The purpose and scope of the fund were indicated in a letter published in the *Times* of April 29, over the signatures of Sir John Rose Bradford, Lord Moynihan, Lady Barrett, Sir E. Farquhar Buzzard, Lord Dawson of Penn, Dr. Robert A. Fleming, Lord Gorell, Sir Thomas Horder, Lord Knutsford, Mr. J. P. Lockhart-Mummery, Sir

Ewen J. Maclean, Dr. J. M. H. MacLeod, Mr. Alexander Miles, Lord Reading, Sir Humphry Rolleston, Sir Arthur Stanley, Lord Stanmore, Sir StClair Thomson and Sir John Bland-Sutton.

The money obtained in this way, together with that contributed by the government, is to be held by a body known as the National Radium Trustees, who will buy therewith and hold radium for use by an administrative body of experts known as the National Radium Commission. The trustees are being constituted by the government in accordance with one of the recommendations made by the Radium Subcommittee of the Committee of Civil Research, but with two additional medical members to be nominated from their own number by the Radium Commission. The composition of the latter body has been modified so as to ensure adequate representation upon it of those familiar with the use of radium in medical practice, and its membership has been increased from nine to eleven. The commission will thus consist of a chairman, appointed by the trustees; six members, appointed by the trustees from a list of names drawn up by the titular heads of the medical profession, and four members nominated, respectively, by the Minister of Health, the Secretary of State for Scotland, the Medical Research Council and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. The general effect of these changes in the administrative framework of the scheme put forward by the Radium Subcommittee is summed up in the letter published on April 29: "The radium will be bought and held by a body of trustees which has the confidence alike of His Majesty's government and the medical profession. It will be administered by a commission which will contain an effective majority of members representing the skilled and experienced workers on the staffs of the voluntary hospitals."

The national appeal for radium is being made conjointly with a special appeal by King Edward's Hospital Fund in aid of the hospitals in the metropolitan area as a thank-offering for the king's recovery, the nucleus of the latter project being 100,000 guineas offered by an anonymous benefactor. Lord Donoughmore is acting as treasurer of the combined appeals, and arrangements have been made by the King's Fund so that contributions earmarked for the purchase of radium for the needs of the whole country will be applied to that purpose through the National Radium Fund.

COOPERATION IN FISHERIES RESEARCH

THE oceanographic laboratory at the Peabody Museum of Yale University will undertake a research program in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries. According to this program, the Bingham