

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

GIFT FROM MR. HARKNESS OF AN EYE INSTITUTE TO THE PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL AT THE COLUMBIA MEDICAL CENTER

MR. EDWARD S. HARKNESS has given an Eye Institute to the Presbyterian Hospital of the Medical Center of Columbia University.

The institute will be under the direction of Dr. John M. Wheeler, professor of ophthalmology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons and head of the ophthalmological service at the Presbyterian Hospital. In an account given out by Dean Sage, of the hospital, it is stated that the new building will be twelve stories in height, and will be the first unit in the group of projected specialty hospitals which are to surround the great central garden court lying to the south of the main buildings of the Medical Center. It will provide facilities not only for treatment and hospital care of all classes of eye patients, but also for the teaching of medical students and the training of nurses in this special field, and for routine study and advanced scientific research in all matters relating to this branch of medicine and surgery.

The building will cover an area of 167 by 97 feet. It will be U-shaped in plan with two ward wings extending to the south and forming an entrance court 90 feet wide by 57 feet deep. There will be 114 patients' beds, allotted as follows: Men's wards, 30; women's wards, 18; children's wards, 11; semi-private rooms, 13; private rooms, 12. Residential accommodations will be provided for professional, administrative and nursing staffs to the number of fifty.

The main entrance is in the south court facing 165th Street opening into a spacious waiting hall. The medical reception, examination and emergency treatment rooms adjoin this hall on its easterly side. The administrative offices are on the westerly side and extend through to the private patients' hall, which is entered from Fort Washington Avenue. Private practice offices for staff physicians surround the private patients' hall.

The second floor contains the residential quarters for the staffs and the private offices of the director of the institute. Above this are the ward floors, and the floors devoted to semi-private and private patients' rooms. Provision has been made for beds at all rates, from free ward beds to the most costly private suites.

The operating rooms will be upon the highest main floor and will be surrounded by the usual accessory rooms for operating service. Grouped with the operating rooms in the upper stories will be a large lec-

ture hall, teaching and experimental laboratories, and the departmental library.

Full use will be made of the roofs for open air and sun treatment, relaxation and rest. The central portion of the building, rising above and giving access to the roofs, contains lounge and sun rooms and recreational facilities.

The building of the eye institute has been carefully planned throughout to embody the best and most effective arrangement and equipment in this branch of medicine. In appearance it follows in general the architecture of its predecessors in the Medical Center. Its practical plan was said to be reflected in a simple exterior treatment, which is frankly modern but in full accord with established principles of design. The material is brick with some sandstone trim, all similar in color to the original group. By reason of its location upon a lower site and its modest proportions it has been given a pronounced horizontal treatment in contrast to the adjacent buildings.

THE SIXTEENTH INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

THE Committee on Organization of the Sixteenth International Geological Congress has voted to postpone the meeting of the congress for a year, to the latter part of June, 1933. It was felt that the generally adverse economic conditions throughout the world made this postponement desirable.

The following topics for discussion have been tentatively adopted:

- Measurement of geologic time by any method.
- Batholiths and related intrusives.
- Zonal relations of metalliferous deposits.
- Major division of the Paleozoic system.
- Geomorphogenic processes in arid regions and their resulting forms and products.
- Fossil man and contemporary faunas.
- Orogenesis.

The routes of the excursions have been selected and work is well advanced on the preparation of the guide books. A series of excursions before the congress of from 5 to 12 days in length will cover the eastern and central states. These will as far as possible be arranged to appeal to specialists in various branches of geology. There will also be a number of short excursions in the vicinity of New York. During the sessions of the congress, which will last about a week, several short trips will be made to points of interest in the vicinity of Washington. The excursions after the congress will include two in the north-central states—one for glaciologists in Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin and the other for mining geologists in the