

DR. EDWARD L. CREEDEN, head of the Bureau of Preventable Diseases of the New York City Department of Health and a member of the department for twenty-five years, died on July 31. He was fifty-five years old.

PROFESSOR EMIL WARBURG, eminent physicist, formerly president of the Federal Physical-Technical Institute and a member of the Prussian Academy of Sciences, died on August 1. He was eighty-five years old.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### THE JUBILEE MEETING OF THE BRITISH SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

THE celebration of the jubilee of the Society of Chemical Industry, held in London during the second week in July, is described in the *London Times*. It included a reception at Guildhall by the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs; an address by the president, Sir Harry McGowan, at the Royal Academy of Music, and receptions by the Masters of the Girdlers' and the Salters' Companies. The presentation of the society's medal to Dr. Herbert Levinstein was made on July 15, and in the evening the annual dinner was held at which Prince George was the principal guest. The following day was devoted to the discussion of technical papers. There were visits to works and excursions in and near London.

The society was actually established in London, in the rooms of the Chemical Society early in April, 1881, with Professor (afterwards Sir Henry) Roscoe in the chair. Most of the forty-nine annual meetings have been held in various cities and towns in Great Britain, but three have been in New York and one in Montreal. Similarly, many active local sections have been formed, not only in England but also in Canada, Australia and the United States. The society, which received a Royal Charter in 1907, has now over 7,000 members.

As a small token of its admiration for work, the society presented a brief address to a few of the companies which had been most prominent in their support of technical and scientific education, and to a few whose work had been specially directed to those branches of education in which the chemical industry was specially interested. Plaques were also presented to many original members of the society and to a number of past presidents.

Throughout the week an exhibition of chemical plant, arranged by the British Chemical Plant Manufacturer's Association and the Chemical Engineering Group of the society, was open at the Central Hall, Westminster. The association was formed in 1920 to further the production and use of chemical plant made in this country. Over 50 British firms have cooperated to display the range and variety of chemical apparatus which their works can turn out. Where possible the actual plant was on view, sometimes in operation, but apparatus too large for ex-

hibition was illustrated by models or photographs. In some cases cinematograph films were used to show processes of manufacture.

To illustrate the application of chemical processes to manufacturing industries generally would, however, have required very much more space than was available, and therefore chemical plant in the narrower sense bulked most largely in the exhibition. There are many exhibits of acid-resisting stoneware, porcelain, fused quartz and protective linings of various kinds as well as of the resistant alloys of steel and aluminium which have been developed of recent years, of nickel, and even of silver, which at present prices is becoming a possible material for some purposes. The exhibits also included pumps, filters, centrifugal separators, drying machines, thermometers, and other measuring instruments, and the absorbent substance, silica gel, which contains such large numbers of minute pores that a cubic inch has been calculated to possess an internal surface of over an acre.

A separate section of the exhibition, organized by the Chemical Engineering Group of the Society of Chemical Industry with the assistance of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and the Research Associations of various industries was designed to illustrate the application of scientific research to industry. It included materials used in chemical engineering, such as metals, fabrics, rubber, leather and paints, chemical plant, especially that applicable to fuel, and methods of testing and standardizing apparatus and materials.

### THE BUCKSTON BROWNE SURGICAL RESEARCH FARM

THE foundation stone of the Buckston Browne Surgical Research Farm at Down, near Farnborough, Kent, was laid by Lord Moynihan, president of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, on July 8. The site is one of thirteen acres, adjoining Down House, Charles Darwin's old home, which, with its grounds of twenty-three acres, was presented by Mr. Buckston Browne to the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

According to the *British Medical Journal*, the stone which has been laid will form part of the porch of the large residential building, in the style of a Kentish farmhouse, which will house the research workers, as

well as those in charge of the laboratories and the animals. The building of the animal houses and the experimental laboratories has not yet begun. A brief service of dedication was held by the dean of Westminster, who, after Lord Moynihan had laid the stone in place, pronounced the words: "Here may knowledge be increased; study fostered; skill developed; to the prevention and relief of suffering, the service of our fellow men, and the good of the human race throughout the world."

Lord Moynihan made the principal address. He said in part:

The Council of the Royal College of Surgeons, which properly regards itself as the custodian of surgical advance in this country, has now recognized that for the further expansion of surgery there must be a correlation of the various results from methods of inquiry in three directions: (1) clinical research carried out also in the wards and in the operation theaters of hospitals; (2) biological and pathological research carried out in hospitals and in special institutions, and (3) research upon animals. In accordance with the council's will, laboratories have been built and old laboratories extended in our buildings in Lincoln's Inn Fields; there men have been set to work upon lines which they themselves desire, and there men have learned "the religion of research," and the high value of the experimental method in connection with the science and art of surgery. Now, owing to the great beneficence of a fellow of our college, we are here laying to-day the foundation stone of an institute for experimental research, which will add the one remaining event required for the proper development of surgery in this country.

At the conclusion of this address Mr. Buckston Browne spoke briefly, calling attention to the "very interesting fact that they had been able to bring the great genius of John Hunter, who did so much for the alleviation of the suffering of the human body, alongside that great genius Charles Darwin, the emancipator—as I like to think of him—of the human mind. These two great men are brought together to-day on this really sacred spot in Kent."

After tea had been taken, the company made their way along the sand walk—Darwin's "thinking path"—to Down House, the property which was presented in 1927 by Mr. Buckston Browne to the British Association as a memorial of Charles Darwin, where they visited Darwin's study, kept as it was during his lifetime, with the little paraffin lamp on the table, and the dog (now a trophy of the art of the taxidermist) in its basket on the hearth.

#### THE SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF GENETICS

THE sixth International Congress of Genetics will meet in Ithaca, New York, from August 24 to 31,

under the presidency of Dr. T. H. Morgan, director of the William G. Kerekhoff Laboratories of the Biological Sciences at the California Institute of Technology.

The New York entertainment committee, of which Dr. A. F. Blakeslee, of Cold Spring Harbor, is chairman, has completed a tentative program for the four days from August 20 to 23, intervening between the arrival of the *Pennland* and the departure of the delegates for Ithaca. The Eugenics Congress is in session in New York at this time and many of the delegates will desire to attend some of the sessions. During their four-day stay foreign members of both congresses will be entertained at Columbia University, through the cooperation of the university and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Rooms will be provided in the Columbia dormitories, and breakfast will be served at the Faculty House.

According to the tentative program the scientific laboratories of Columbia University will be visited on August 20, after which a luncheon will be given. This will be followed by a sight-seeing trip around the city. At 7:30 p. m. there will be a formal complimentary dinner. During the time spent in New York there will be an excursion to Cold Spring Harbor to visit the Carnegie Station for Experimental Evolution and other scientific laboratories at Cold Spring Harbor, visits to the New York Botanical Garden, the Boyce Thompson Institute, the Cornell Medical School, the Rockefeller Institute and the Medical Center of Columbia University. One evening will be devoted to the addresses and reception of the Eugenics Congress at the American Museum of Natural History.

On August 23 there will be a trip to Princeton, members of the congress being the guests of the Walker-Gordon Laboratories. For those not taking the Princeton trip an opportunity will be given to visit the American Museum of Natural History, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and other places of interest in the city, with guides for groups if desired. Dr. Stockard has offered to guide a group to his dog farm near Peekskill and Dr. Davenport a group to the State Institution for Feeble Minded at Letchworth Village. Luncheon will be at the American Museum of Natural History and in the evening a smoker or informal reception will be given.

Tentative arrangements have been completed at Ithaca for a comprehensive exhibit of genetic material. The Carnegie Corporation of New York has appropriated \$5,000 for the general expenses of the congress. A grant of \$2,000 has been made by the Carnegie Institution of Washington for the Genetics and Eugenics Congresses, the sum to be used pri-