

ADDITIONS TO THE HERBARIUM OF THE U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM

THE National Museum, with more than 1,500,000 specimens of plants from all over the world, has recently acquired quantities of valuable specimens from South America, according to information recently given to a representative of the *U. S. Daily*.

Among these plants, it is expected, will be found many novelties. About 600 specimens have been brought to the museum by Mr. W. A. Archer, who has been collecting privately many varieties in the Choco region of northwestern Colombia.

Already supplied with a fine Asiatic collection and a good European collection, acquisitions from South America in the past year contributed by two explorers augment the specimens from this region. Many of these plants may prove to have scientific and economic value as the use to which the Indians put them medicinally suggests fertile fields for scientific analysis. However, the museum merely collects, identifies, classifies, and names the specimens, without at-

tempting to experiment with them for scientific possibilities.

The National Geographic Society recently presented a large number of plants collected by E. G. Holt in an expedition to the Upper Orinoco. For several months his expedition was attached to the Brazilian-Venezuelan Boundary Commission, and from this heretofore inaccessible border region the greater part of the collection was taken.

The last trip conducted by the Smithsonian resulted in collecting 9,200 plants. Mr. Archer has contributed about 3,000 to the museum, representing private expeditions by him into Colombia.

The South American collection is growing rapidly. Prior to 1920 there were only two or three collections from this area. Since, the expeditions have been conducted in cooperation with Harvard University and the New York Botanical Garden. Three expeditions have been made into Colombia, two to British Guiana, and two to Ecuador. These journeys were made by the museum as part of a cooperative plan of collecting.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Baly Medal of the Royal College of Physicians of London, conferred every alternate year on the person who shall be deemed to have most distinguished himself in the science of physiology during the two years immediately preceding, has been awarded to Professor W. B. Cannon, of the Harvard Medical School.

THE honorary degree of D.Litt. will be conferred in December by the University of Liverpool on Dr. James Rowland Angell, president of Yale University, formerly professor of psychology in the University of Chicago.

PROFESSOR KASIMIR FAJANS, professor of physical chemistry and head of the chemical laboratory at Munich, has been made an honorary member of the Royal Institution of Great Britain, a distinction which has been conferred on several other German scientific men including Professor Einstein, Professor Ostwald, the chemist, and Professor Laue, the physicist. Professor Fajans gave the George Fisher Baker lectures at Cornell University in 1930.

THE Silver Leibnitz Medal of the Prussian Academy of Sciences has been awarded to Dr. Karl Scheel, professor of thermodynamics at Berlin, and to Dr. Agnes Bluhm, of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for biology.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association reports that Dr. Edward O. Otis, of Exeter, New

Hampshire, formerly of Boston, was recently honored by more than a hundred physicians, nurses and health workers at a special meeting at the headquarters of the Boston Tuberculosis Association to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of his service in that field. Dr. Otis, who is an honorary president of the Massachusetts Tuberculosis League and a former president of the National Tuberculosis Association, was presented with a purse of gold on behalf of the league. Speakers on this occasion included Drs. Frederick T. Lord, George H. Bigelow, state commissioner of health, and John B. Hawes II. Dr. Otis, who is eighty-three years old, is also professor emeritus of pulmonary diseases and climatology at Tufts College Medical School.

DR. ALBERT H. MILLER, associate editor of the *Rhode Island Medical Journal*, Providence, was recently awarded the Fiske Fund Premium for his essay entitled "Anesthetics—Their Relative Values and Dangers." Established ninety-six years ago by the will of Dr. Caleb Fiske, one of the early presidents of the Rhode Island Medical Society, the fund provides for an award to the author of the best essay submitted each year and for the subsequent publication of the essay.

LORD BALFOUR, of Burleigh, has been elected president of the British Royal Sanitary Institute, in succession to the late Duke of Northumberland.

MR. GILBERT T. RUDE has been appointed chief of the Division of Marine Operation of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.

DR. KENNETH M. WATSON, formerly professor of chemical engineering at the University of Wisconsin, has joined the research and development staff of Universal Oil Products Co. Dr. Watson's headquarters will be at the Universal's Riverside Laboratories, Chicago.

THE Oregon State Board of Higher Education has appointed Dr. A. B. Cordley, who has served the state for thirty-six years, for the past twenty-three years as dean of the School of Agriculture of Oregon State College, dean emeritus of the school. During Dr. Cordley's service as entomologist and plant pathologist of the experiment station, according to the resolutions adopted by the board, he made three outstanding discoveries that have been the means of adding great productive wealth to Oregon, namely, (1) his discovery of the life-history of the codling moth under Oregon conditions, and of a successful method of control; (2) his discovery of the cause of apple-tree anthracnose and of a control method; (3) his invention and development of the method of stock solution of lime-sulfur spray for control of apple scab.

THE Maryland State Department of Health has selected Anne Arundel County as the site for an experimental health service which, according to the state health director, Dr. Robert H. Riley, may lead to the establishment of a model full-time health department. Dr. John H. Janney, Jr., of the Rockefeller Foundation, has been named director of the new unit. The cost of the experimental department will be \$20,000 annually, which is about twice the cost of the average county health department. It will be borne by an appropriation of \$5,000 by the county commissioners, \$7,000 advanced by the State, and the remaining \$8,000 contributed by the Rockefeller Foundation and the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene.

DR. WILLIAM W. JAMESON, professor of public health in the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, has been appointed dean of the school, succeeding the late Sir Andrew Balfour.

MR. E. C. TITCHMARSH, of Balliol College, Oxford, has been elected to the Savilian professorship of geometry, vacated by the resignation of Professor G. H. Hardy.

DR. A. F. JOSEPH has retired from the deputy directorship of the Imperial Bureau of Soil Science, a post which he has held since the inception of the bureau in May, 1929.

THE Ramsay Memorial Fellowship trustees, London, have made the following awards of fellowships for 1931-32: Mr. B. K. Blount, a fellowship of £300, tenable for two years, at the University of Oxford; Mr. Ragnar Ericson, civil engineer, a Swedish fellowship of £300, tenable for two years, at the Imperial College, London; Dr. George Karagunis, a Greek fellowship of £400, tenable for one year, at University College, London; Dr. J. Lens, a Netherlands fellowship of £300, tenable for two years, at University College, London; Dr. Y. Urushibara, a Japanese fellowship of £400, tenable for two years, at University College, London. The trustees have renewed the following fellowships: Mr. W. R. Angus, British fellow, University College, London; Dr. James Bell, Glasgow fellow, University College, London.

BY an order of the Committee of the British Privy Council, made after consultation with the Medical Research Council and with the president of the Royal Society, the Right Honorable Lord Dawson of Penn, president of the Royal College of Physicians, and extra-physician to the London Hospital, and Dr. Edward Mellanby, F.R.S., professor of pharmacology in the University of Sheffield, are appointed members of the Medical Research Council in succession to Professor T. R. Elliott, F.R.S., and Professor J. B. Leathes, F.R.S., who retire in rotation on September 30.

DR. NELSON W. TAYLOR, of the University of Minnesota, is conducting x-ray research during the summer at the Utah Engineering Experiment Station, Salt Lake City, in connection with the work on mineral physics which is being done there.

PROFESSOR R. B. THOMSON, of the department of botany of the University of Toronto, has resumed his work after a year's leave of absence spent mostly in the British West Indies.

DR. DARWIN O. LYON writes from Tripoli, expressing regret at sensational items that have appeared in the daily press concerning his work. Under the auspices of the Royal Meteorological Observatory of Libya, he is at present making experiments with sounding balloons and rockets in order to get data on the temperature, density and composition of the atmosphere at great heights.

LORD MOYNIHAN, president of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, sailed for South America on July 24, to take part in the forthcoming medical conference at Buenos Ayres.

LECTURES recently given before the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at La Jolla, California, include one by Dr. F. S. Brackett, chief of the new

division of radiation and organisms of the Smithsonian Institution, on "The Study of the Effect of Radiation on Plants" and one by W. P. Kelley, of the division of agricultural chemistry of the Citrus Experiment Station at Riverside, California, on "Base Exchange in Soils."

THE following appointments of lecturers for 1932 have been made by the Royal College of Physicians: Sir George Newman, Harveian orator; Dr. Dugald Baird, Bradshaw lecturer; Dr. Harriette Chick, Oliver-Sharpey lecturer, and Dr. L. P. Jacks, Lloyd-Roberts lecturer.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM DOBINSON HALLIBURTON, emeritus professor of physiology, King's College, London, who died on May 21, provides in his will, on the death of his wife, £10,000 to the University of London, King's College, for endowment, or towards the salary of a professor in the subject of physiology or the sciences relating thereto.

THE *British Medical Journal* reports that the Kerekhoff Institute for the study of affections of the heart, built from a donation of a million dollars by Mrs. Louise E. Kerekhoff, of Los Angeles, as a memorial to her husband, has been opened at Bad Nauheim. The building, in classic style, consists of two main cubicle structures with a connecting wing. It contains an auditorium seating six hundred persons and intended for congresses, and a smaller lecture room. A medical library and a museum with representations of methods of treating circulatory disturbances, physical diagnosis and therapy, balneological collections, etc., are at the disposal of investigators. The institute will conduct special continuation courses open also to foreign physicians. It is divided into five main departments: one for patients sent to Bad Nauheim under the German social insurance system; a statistical department devoted to research into the causes of cardiac diseases; a department for educating the public as to causes and treatment of such diseases; another for their study and treatment; and a department covering treatment by physical methods, especially baths. Professor Groedel is at the head of the institute, for the maintenance of which Mrs. Kerekhoff has provided a fund of one million marks.

ACCORDING to *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry* progress in the plans for the erection of a headquarters building for American pharmacy, near the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D. C., was reported at the seventy-ninth annual convention of the American Pharmaceutical Association held in Miami, Fla., the latter part of July. A total of \$501,904.82 has been collected from pharmacists and

the various branches of the drug trade, and over \$315,000.00 more has been pledged to the undertaking. Plans have been drawn and approved, and actual construction is being held up only until the Commission of Fine Arts of the Federal Government completes its own plans for the development of that part of the District of Columbia where the site of the proposed building is located. An effort will be made to endow the building to the extent of one million dollars. It is planned to provide a permanent repository for historical material bearing on the profession of pharmacy, to supply research facilities as well as a pharmaceutical library second to none in the country, and office facilities for the various activities of the American Pharmaceutical Association. It is believed that construction of the building will be completed by the close of 1932.

EXCAVATION for the new building of the Eye Institute of Columbia University, which it is estimated will cost \$1,100,000, has been started. It is expected that the building will be finished in about a year. The Eye Institute, which will be a part of the Columbia Medical Center, is to be an eight-story building at Fort Washington Avenue and 165th Street and is architecturally in harmony with the group occupying the area from 155th to 168th Streets and from Fort Washington Avenue to Broadway. The basement will be used for storage, service and x-ray rooms. The first floor will be used for administrative offices and for receiving patients. The next five floors will be devoted to bedrooms and wards. The operating and lecture rooms will be on the seventh floor and the laboratory will be on the eighth floor. Mr. James Gamble Rogers is the architect of the building.

The *British Medical Journal* reports that the American Medical Association of Vienna, which was founded in 1904, and is a society of English-speaking medical practitioners, publishes a useful "blue book" every two years. The new edition of this, which has recently appeared, contains a comprehensive list of the study courses available in Vienna throughout the year for those who have little or no knowledge of German. The society has arranged with prominent physicians and specialists of the University of Vienna to conduct special courses and provide private tuition as may be required, and on reasonable terms. About 4,000 medical practitioners have become registered members of the association since January, 1923; a quarter of these joined it last year, an indication of the rapid growth which is going on. Any medical practitioner arriving in Vienna as a total stranger, even though unacquainted with the German language, can, through its agency, obtain specialist instruction in any subject for periods of

any length. *Ars Medici*, the official monthly bulletin of the American Medical Association of Vienna, contains reviews and abstracts of the latest publications in foreign medical literature, special departments being devoted to German and Austrian medical research; a special section deals with the scientific and social activities in Vienna. Inquiries may be addressed to the secretary of the American Medical Association of Vienna at its headquarters, Alserstrasse 9, Vienna VIII.

THE London *Times* reports that at a general meeting of the British Society for the Preservation of the Fauna of the Empire, held on August 3 at the offices of the Zoological Society of London, with Mr. Speden Lewis presiding, the report of the executive committee was presented. It stated that since the last general meeting efforts had been begun to investigate conditions in Labrador, to ascertain whether one or more areas could be set aside as sanctuaries. The question of dispatching a mission of inquiry to West Africa had been proceeded with. The most suitable time for the dispatch of the mission would be about the end of November. For reasons of economy the Game Department of Nyasaland had been abolished. This was disappointing, for its constitution was in a great measure due to the representations of the society, and owing to the excellent warden appointed it had been a great success. Representations were being made in the proper quarter. They were also being made about the Indian rhinoceros, as information had been received that poaching in Assam had been intensified of late, and there was little doubt that unless it could be checked the vanishing point would soon be reached.

A RECENT survey by the Pennsylvania Forest Research Institute shows that the American chestnut, which seemed marked for destruction by a fungus blight which killed nearly every adult tree in the Eastern States some years ago, is recovering from the devastating attack of disease. New shoots from the roots of the trees that were killed by the fungus have been growing rapidly with every evidence of health and strength and the Pennsylvania Institute reports that a fairly good sized crop of chestnuts may be gathered this year from the young trees. The blight from which chestnut trees in the eastern United States have been suffering began in 1904, when it was first discovered in a park in Brooklyn. It rapidly spread until all the states from Maine to West Virginia were affected in varying degrees. In parts of the country practically all the native chestnut trees were destroyed.

AT the recent international jubilee meeting in London of the Society of Chemical Industry a plan was arranged for the cooperation between manufacturers of Great Britain, France and Germany. French and German scientists and industrialists visited the exhibition of British Chemical Plant, and it has been provisionally agreed that future exhibitions of this nature in the three countries shall be organized and advertised in close collaboration. Each country will take its turn triennially. France will hold her next exhibition in 1932, Germany will follow with "Achema" in 1933, and the exhibition will again be held in Great Britain in 1934. The representative organization in each country dealing with the manufacture of chemical plant will be responsible for organizing parties to visit the exhibitions held in the other countries.

DISCUSSION

THE SUMMER MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE IN 1933

THE Chicago Centennial is an international exposition under national auspices; but it is more than this; it is an intellectual occasion. Even if the exposition were devoted exclusively to economic and commercial exhibits it would be full of interest to all students of social science; for, after all, economics is really only the objective side of the great science of *how men live together*. The fact is, however, that the pure sciences have been given a fundamental position in the plan of the exposition, the principal theme of the undertaking being the dependence of industry upon the basic sciences.

Shortly after the American Association for the Advancement of Science decided to hold a summer

meeting at Chicago in 1933, the trustees of the exposition decided to cooperate by providing for the invitation of a considerable number of men of science from foreign countries as guests of the meeting. Accordingly the Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science was asked to suggest the names and proper distribution of these guests. At the Cleveland meeting, 1930, the following committee was charged with this duty: J. McK. Cattell (chairman), W. B. Cannon, H. Crew, B. E. Livingston, R. A. Millikan, T. H. Morgan, F. R. Moulton, W. A. Noyes. Meeting at the Cosmos Club in Washington, D. C., on April 27 and 28, the committee allotted a definite number of guests averaging about five to each of the fifteen sections of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Suggestions as to individual scholars, men of marked