

When the three new units still needed in order to complete the hospital have been provided, there will be about 440 ward beds for those who can not pay the full cost of hospital care and about 160 beds for patients who can meet this cost.

THERAPEUTIC TRIALS COMMITTEE OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

ACCORDING to the *London Times*, the British Medical Research Council announce that they have appointed a Therapeutic Trials Committee, as follows, to advise and assist them in arranging for properly controlled clinical tests of new products that seem likely, on experimental grounds, to have value in the treatment of disease:

Professor T. R. Elliott, physician to University College Hospital, London, *chairman*.

Sir E. Farquhar Buzzard, regius professor of physics, University of Oxford.

Dr. H. H. Dale, director, National Institute for Medical Research.

The Right Honorable Lord Dawson of Penn, president, Royal College of Physicians, London.

Professor A. W. M. Ellis, physician to the London Hospital.

Professor F. R. Fraser, physician to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London.

Sir John Parsons, ophthalmic surgeon to University College Hospital, London.

J. A. Ryle, physician to Guy's Hospital, London.

Sir John W. Thomson-Walker, consultant urologist to King's College Hospital, London.

Wilfred Trotter, surgeon to University College Hospital, London.

Professor D. P. D. Wilkie, surgeon to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

F. H. K. Green, *secretary*.

Conditions have been the subject of discussion and agreement between the Medical Research Council and the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers, under which the Therapeutic Trials Committee will be prepared to consider applications by commercial firms for the examination of new products, submitted with the available experimental evidence of their value, and will arrange appropriate clinical trials in suitable cases. The committee will work in close touch also with the existing Chemotherapy Committee, who are engaged for the Medical Research Council in promoting researches aimed at the discovery and production of new remedies.

The Therapeutic Trials Committee will invite suitable experts in particular branches of medicine or surgery to undertake the clinical tests of preparations accepted for trial. The reports upon the results will be published under the authority of the committee.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. ROBERT A. MILLIKAN, of the California Institute of Technology, has been made Knight of the Legion of Honor by the French Government.

PROFESSOR RUFUS H. PETTIT, head of the department of entomology at Michigan State College, received the honorary degree of doctor of science at the commencement exercises at the college, in recognition of his high attainments as an investigator and teacher and of "his thirty-four years of loyal and efficient service."

DR. M. LUCKIESH and Frank K. Moss, of the Nela Research Laboratory of the General Electric Company, Cleveland, have been awarded the gold medal of the Distinguished Service Foundations of Optometry.

It is announced in the *British Medical Journal* that a fund is being inaugurated in order that the friends, colleagues and pupils of Colonel Thomas Sinclair, emeritus professor of surgery in Queen's University, Belfast, may have an opportunity to express their appreciation of his invaluable services to the Belfast Medical School. Professor Sinclair occupied the

chair of surgery from 1886 to 1923. The testimonial will probably take the form of a portrait to be painted and presented to the university.

PROFESSOR ARIENS KAPPERS, director of the Central Institute for Brain Research, Amsterdam, recently received the honorary degree of doctor of science from the University of Dublin. Professor Kappers delivered three lectures on diseases of the brain while in Dublin.

DR. BERNHARD FISCHER, professor of pathology at Frankfurt, has been elected an honorary member of the Royal Institute of Public Health, London.

DR. VICTOR MORITZ GOLDSCHMIDT, of Göttingen, has been elected a corresponding member of the Geological Society at Stockholm and a foreign member of the Geological Society of London.

M. JACOB, professor of geology at the Sorbonne, has been elected a member of the French Academy of Sciences.

COLONEL CHAS. F. CRAIG, director of the department of preventive medicine and clinical pathology at

the Army Medical School, has been appointed professor of tropical medicine and director of the department at Tulane University Medical School.

PROMOTIONS to full professor at New York University are as follows: Professors Elmer G. Hooper, hydraulics; C. Theodore Schwarze, civil engineering; Newman L. Hoopingarner, business psychology, and Ira Kaplan, clinical professor of surgery. Promotions to associate professor are: Dr. W. H. Crew, physics; Professors Otto Halpern, physics, and David Porter, industrial engineering. Promotions to assistant professor are: Professors C. T. Chase, physics, and Donald Flanders, mathematics. New appointments are as follows: T. A. Jackson, visiting assistant professor of psychology, and A. C. G. Mitchell, assistant professor of physics. At Washington Square College promotions to assistant professor were Professors Harry A. Charipper, biology, and Francis Holden, psychology. T. C. Schneirla has been appointed assistant professor of psychology.

DR. JOSEPH L. JOHNSON, of Philadelphia, has been appointed head of the department of physiology in the School of Medicine of Howard University.

DR. J. J. DURRETT, chief of Drug Control, Federal Food and Drug Administration, has tendered his resignation. Dr. Durrett will be succeeded by Dr. Frederick J. Cullen, chief medical officer of the administration.

DR. JOHN D. BLACK, professor of economics at Harvard University, has been appointed chief economist of the Federal Farm Board. He will devote only part of his time to this work and will continue as usual at Harvard University. Dr. Black succeeds Dr. Joseph S. Davis, who has been on leave of absence from Stanford University and who will return there as a director of the Food Research Institute. The Farm Board also has announced the appointment of Dr. M. J. B. Ezekiel and G. C. Haas as assistants to Dr. Black.

DR. A. K. PARPART, who received his doctor's degree from the University of Pennsylvania this spring, has accepted an appointment as instructor in the department of physiology at Princeton University.

PROFESSOR JAMES GARFIELD HALPIN, head of the poultry department at the Wisconsin College of Agriculture, was elected president of the National Poultry Science Association at its annual meeting recently held at the University of Kentucky. Other officers chosen for the coming year are: Dr. Fred Hutt, of the University of Minnesota, *first vice-president*; Professor Duncan H. Reid, of the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College, *second vice-president*, and W. A. Maw, Macdonald College, Canada, *secretary*.

The 1932 meeting will be held at Massachusetts State College.

A MICROSCOPE was presented to Professor Ludwig Aschoff, of Freiburg in Breisgau, Germany, who has worked primarily in the field of pathology and anatomy, by the Optical Works of E. Leitz, in Wetzlar, Germany, after having completed their 300,000th microscope. The dedication of this microscope follows a custom of the firm of E. Leitz to present every 50,000th microscope to an outstanding scientific man or institute. The names of the institutions and scientific men who have received the 50,000th microscopes are as follows: German Tuberculosis Sanitarium in Davos, Switzerland; Dr. Robert Koch, of Berlin; Dr. Paul Ehrlich, of Frankfurt; Dr. Martin Heidesheim, of Tübingen; the Institute for Tropical Hygiene in Hamburg, and Dr. Ludwig Aschoff, of Freiburg in Briesgau.

MR. ERNEST H. VOLWILER has been elected president of the Chicago Chemists Club. Other officers were elected as follows: Bruce K. Broun, *first vice-president*; Walter J. Bently, *second vice-president*; Louis Ehrenfeld, *treasurer*, and Charles D. Lowry, Jr., *secretary*.

DR. WILBUR K. BUTTS, assistant professor of biology at James Millikin University, will replace Dr. Wyman R. Green as head of the department of biology at the University of Chattanooga. Dr. Green will direct the department of biology of Drew University.

MR. HUGH M. WOLFIN has been appointed supervising engineer of the Intermountain Experiment Station of the U. S. Bureau of Mines at Salt Lake City, Utah.

MR. F. N. MOWDAWALLA has been appointed professor of electrical technology in the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. Mr. Mowdawalla has succeeded Professor J. K. Catterson-Smith.

MR. SAMUEL LEES has been appointed to the Chance chair of mechanical engineering at the University of Birmingham, England, in succession to Professor F. W. Burstall.

DR. THOMAS FOTHERINGHAM MACRAE has been appointed to a research studentship in biochemistry at the Lister Institute.

DR. J. McKEEN CATTELL, editor of SCIENCE, sailed for England on August 26 in order to attend as the delegate of the American Association for the Advancement of Science the centenary meeting of the British Association.

DR. DOUGLAS JOHNSON, professor of physiography

at Columbia University, has sailed for Paris on the North German Lloyd liner *Berlin*, as a delegate to the International Geographic Congress.

DR. H. J. GERSTENBERGER, professor of pediatrics in the School of Medicine of Western Reserve University, Cleveland, has gone to Europe to address the German Pediatric Society meeting in Dresden in September.

DR. CHARLES H. HERTY, adviser to the Chemical Foundation of New York, has been appointed to direct a pine pulp mill, where he will experiment on the manufacture of newsprint, to be established in Georgia in January, 1932, with the cooperation of the newly created Department of Forestry and Geological Development of Georgia. The Chemical Foundation has donated \$50,000 to match the \$20,000 appropriation made recently by the Georgia Legislature for the mill. For several years Dr. Herty has experimented in making paper from pine.

DR. LUDWIG WEICKMANN, director of the Geophysical Institute of Leipzig, will conduct experiments in the temperature of trade winds in the *Graf Zeppelin* with a miniature airship trailed from the dirigible on a cable. The *Graf Zeppelin* will fly over France, Spain and the Canary Islands.

ACCORDING to the London *Times*, Professor Auguste Piccard has decided to make a second ascent by balloon before presenting the report on his recent ascent into the stratosphere to the Belgian Fonds National de Recherche Scientifique. In this second ascent he will not go higher than 4,000 or 5,000 meters (13,000 to 16,000 feet). His object will be to verify certain observations that he made in the stratosphere.

THE geology car from Princeton University, which, under the direction of Professor Richard Montgomery Field, has carried twenty-seven professors and students through Jasper Park to Vancouver, B. C., and finally to Red Lodge, Montana, for study of rock formations, returned to Princeton on August 26. Dr. Kenneth H. Condit and Mr. Erling Dorf, of the university faculty, were members of the party.

THE Madrid Surgical Society has been formed by Dr. J. Goyanes and a committee of leading Spanish surgeons to encourage surgical research throughout the country and to raise the status of the profession. The new society proposes to encourage the formation of similar bodies in the provinces, and so prepare the way for a National Association of Spanish Surgeons.

WE learn from *Nature* that a large meeting of biologists, including leading representatives of genetics, medicine and anthropology, was held at the London School of Economics on July 21, to consider the question of the present state of research in human genetics

and to explore the possibilities of its immediate development. The lack of facilities for research in a subject so vital to the human race as human genetics was generally deplored, and it was decided to seek ways and means to establish in London a central body of experts, who would organize, develop and foster sound research in human genetics within the Empire by means of grants obtained from various sources. The following committee, with power to add to its number, was appointed to take immediate action: Sir Daniel Hall, *chairman*, Sir William Beveridge, Professor F. A. E. Crew, Sir Walter Morley Fletcher, Professor R. Ruggles Gates, Professor J. B. S. Haldane, Professor Lancelot Hogben, Sir Bernard Mallet, Dr. Redcliffe Salaman, Professor C. G. Seligman, and Dr. C. C. Hurst, *secretary*.

THE University of Oregon Medical School is in receipt of information that the Research committee of the American Medical Association has made a grant of \$500 to Dr. George E. Burget, professor of physiology, for the prosecution of continuing research in the closed intestinal loop. This represents the fourth grant conferred by the committee for the study of this problem. The committee has also given a grant of \$600 to the laboratories of research surgery and research medicine, of the University of Pennsylvania, for work on the function of the gall bladder.

THE John F. Cushing Hall of Engineering, the gift of John F. Cushing, president of the Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company of Chicago, is now under construction at the University of Notre Dame. An extensive building program started at the University of Notre Dame last winter will be practically completed late in September, giving to the institution two of the most modern dormitories in the Middle West. The buildings will bring the number of residence halls at Notre Dame to fourteen, thus providing quarters for more than 2,600 students. One of the new structures will be called Alumni Hall and the other Dillon Hall.

THE first Congress of Electrical Engineers in South America will be held at Buenos Aires from July 4 to 11, 1932. The principal purpose of the congress is to afford an opportunity to interchange ideas. Tentative programs have been issued and an invitation has been extended to those who go to prepare discussions on some one of the thirty-six subjects suggested or upon other topics. The organization committee comprises fifteen sections, each to be presided over by a well-known engineer. The general secretary of the congress is Robert S. Ascher, of Buenos Aires.

PROFESSOR NELLO BECCARI and Dr. GUIDO GIGLIOLI

are leading an expedition of the Italian Royal Geographic Society which is on its way to British Guiana for six months to conduct zoological and colonial agricultural study.

ACCORDING to the London *Times* the largest scientific party ever sent to Central Australia left Adelaide, Australia, on August 9 for Alice Springs, to study the aborigines and vegetation, birds and animals. The party includes three professors, four medical men, three museum specialists and a cinematographer, and has been organized by Adelaide University, which is continuing and amplifying the studies made by previous expeditions. From Alice Springs the party will proceed several hundred miles northwest, where there are tribes of uncivilized aborigines whose life will be studied. Their language and chants will be phonographically recorded. Scouts have been out some weeks bringing in aborigines, who are establishing a special camp.

THE National Metal Congress and Exposition will take place in Boston during the week of September 21. An extensive exhibition of metals and metal products will be held in connection with the meetings. The congress and exposition are sponsored annually by the American Society for Steel Treating and will be held this year in Boston for the first time since 1924. The four following national technical societies will also meet as part of the congress: the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, the American Welding Society and the Society of Automotive Engineers. The exposition will be on Commonwealth Pier, where more than two hundred manufacturers of metals and metal products will occupy 100,000 square feet of exhibit space.

A SCIENTIFIC expedition to the Arctic has been approved by the U. S. Navy Department to study the aurora borealis for two years under the leadership of Captain F. M. Williams. The expedition will leave in June, 1932, on the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the first polar meteorological stations. America was represented in 1882 by the Greely expedition at Fort Conger, Grant Land, which has been selected as the base of the Williams expedition. The expedition has already acquired the services of a Swedish icebreaker, and two airplanes and dogteams will be used. It is proposed to photograph from the air 100,000 square miles of the extreme northern portion of Perry Land. Among the organizations which are said to be cooperating with the expedition are the International Polar Year Commission, the Carnegie Institution, Department of Terrestrial Magnetism, Naval Research Laboratory, the Naval Hydrographic Office and the United States Weather Bureau.

AFTERNOON and evening lectures of public interest have been arranged at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, according to a recent announcement. Evening lectures will be popular or semi-popular in character, while the afternoon lectures will be more technical. Lectures to be given include those by T. Wayland Vaughan and Burt Richardson.

THE General Board of the University of Cambridge recommends that the following posts be established as from October 1 in connection with the Rockefeller Endowment for Scientific Departments: a university lectureship in cytology in the department of agriculture; a university lectureship in plant physiology and a university lectureship in mycology in the department of botany; an additional university lectureship and an additional university demonstratorship in the department of biochemistry. It is recommended that readerships in the university should be created for: Mr. F. T. Brooks, of Emmanuel College, in mycology; Dr. A. D. Imms, of Christ's College, in entomology, and Mr. James Gray, of King's College, in experimental zoology. A curatorship will be established to the Sedgwick Museum in the department of geology, and a senior curatorship and a junior curatorship of the Museum of Zoology will be established.

FIFTY graduates of the U. S. Naval Academy are spending several weeks in plants of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, where several courses have been arranged for them. These include training for mechanical engineers specializing in turbine work and others who are primarily interested in Diesel engine practice. For electrical engineers, special stress will be put on electric ship propulsion and auxiliaries, both on shipboard and in navy yards. Metallurgists and civil engineers will have work in manufacturing processes and structures.

THE first fish hatchery to be built by the U. S. Government as a part of its five-year building program will be constructed near Rochester, Indiana. The site, which was selected by the Bureau of Fisheries, is located at the outlet of Lake Manitou. Thirty such hatcheries will be constructed in various places in the United States.

ACCORDING to a statement issued by the American Forestry Association, the United States Government has allotted to the Alabama Commission of Forestry \$57,320 for the promotion of timber production within the state during the coming year. The funds are to be expended for forest planting and forest-fire protection. The amount allotted is approximately \$4,000 more than that for the current year.

THE *Museum News* reports that a standing commission on museums to act in a general advisory capacity has been appointed by the British Govern-

ment. The commission is constituted as follows: Viscount D'Abernon, *chairman*; J. B. Beresford, of the treasury, *secretary*; Evan E. Charteris; Sir Richard Tetley Glazebrook; Lord Hanworth, the Earl of Harewood; Sir George MacDonald; Sir Henry A. Miers; Charles Reed Peers, and Sir Philip Sassoon, M.P. The functions of the commission are: (1) To advise generally on questions relative to the most effective development of the national institutions as a whole, and on any specific questions which may be referred to them from time to time; (2) to promote cooperation between the national institutions themselves, and between the national and provincial institutions; (3) to stimulate the generosity and direct the efforts of those who aspire to become public benefactors.

THE Board of Control of Mental Health Services, with the approval of the British Minister of Health, has, according to a report in the *London Times*, appointed the following to advise the board upon questions arising in connection with scientific and ancillary mental health services: Mr. L. G. Brock, *chairman*; Sir Hubert Bond, Mr. Robert Bruford, Mr. W. E. Lovsey, Mr. T. S. Good, Dr. Adeline Roberts, Mr. J. C. Grime, Professor J. Shaw Bolton and Mr. P. Barter, *secretary*. The mental treatment act, which came into operation on January 1, confers upon local authorities powers to provide for outpatient treatment and for the after-care of mental patients, and, subject to the approval of the Board of Con-

trol, to undertake or to contribute to research in regard to mental illness. The Board of Control has appointed the advisory committee to assist them in the consideration of schemes of research submitted for the board's approval, and in regard to such questions as the organization of social services in connection with outpatient treatment and after-care, on which local authorities may seek the board's guidance. On technical questions relating to research the advisory committee will have the expert advice of members of the Medical Research Council's committee on mental disorders.

THE personnel of the new Bureau of Agricultural Engineering of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, which was established about a month ago, includes many members of the former division of agricultural engineering. S. H. McCrory is chief of the bureau, H. H. Barrows is assistant chief, and K. McSorley is secretary. The new divisions are: Irrigation, W. W. McLaughlin, chief; drainage and soil-erosion control, L. A. Jones, chief; mechanical equipment, R. B. Gray, acting chief; structure, Wallace Ashby, chief, and plans and service, M. C. Betts, chief. As special assignments in the bureau, C. A. Bennett is in charge of cotton-ginning investigations and G. R. Boyd, of farm-land development. The editorial and information division is under R. D. Marsden, and the division of administration under G. P. Wolf. S. P. Lyle has been appointed in charge of extension activities and Mrs. Dorothy Wilks, librarian.

DISCUSSION

THE "RICKETTSIAE" AND THE INTRACELLULAR "SYMBIONTS"

KLIGLER and Aschner,¹ in an article on the "Rickettsiae" from certain blood-sucking pupipara, misunderstood my interpretation² of the intracellular bacteria found within the American and German roach. These authors, in discussing my work on these diphtheroids (p. 113) state, "The mere fact that they are found in the insect cells is in our opinion no justification for classing them with the *entirely distinctive* group of Rickettsia." This, notwithstanding the fact that in their first sentence they state, "Rickettsia or rickettsia-like organisms have been studied extensively during the last decade; but there is as yet *no clarity as to the nature and precise definition* of this group of microbes." It will be noted in my work that both the terms "Rickettsia" and "Sym-

bionts" were printed in quotes, and that much trouble was taken to demonstrate that the microorganisms discussed were indeed bacteria.

Kligler and Aschner's point of view was anticipated, and for this reason, in 1930,³ I discussed the whole question of the intracellular "Symbionts" and the "Rickettsiae" at length. I still maintain that size and tinctorial properties alone do not constitute valid taxonomic characters and that a natural classification is based upon general biological relationships. Creating new orders, families, genera and species without sufficient evidence is termed "splitting" by biologists and is considered extremely unconservative. The most conservative workers always attempt to place new organisms within established systems.

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¹ *J. Bacteriology*, 22: 103-114, 1931.

² *J. Exp. Med.*, 51: 59-82, 1930; *ibid.*, 51: 903-907, 1930.

³ *Archives of Pathology*, 9: 71-96, 1930; *ibid.*, 9: 557-576, 1930.