be made if the problems of human ulcer could be studied effectively on laboratory animals?

Why multiply illustrations? Our thesis is not a denial of the great good that can come from "hominal" physiology. The "clinical physiologist" deserves encouragement. We need more persons capable of applying physiological knowledge in the study of disease and its treatment. My plea is rather that distinguished devotees of practical medicine and surgery shall refrain from unwarranted derogatory attacks upon one of the best helps of their profession in the past. It is difficult enough to fight suffering, disease and death without being obliged to fight the ignorance and prejudices of those who would tie the arms of the laboratory worker. The ultimate objective of all methods of attack upon ignorance is the same.

In closing I can not do better than to quote from the significant words of the distinguished biochemist and Nobel laureate, Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins, president of the Royal Society of Great Britain:

> While scientific advances of every kind tend to react upon and assist medicine it is certain that without experiments upon animals the subject can not properly advance. The necessity continually arises for performing preliminary experiments upon living animals before this or that new piece of knowledge can be applied to the relief of humanity. Much of the new knowledge can, indeed, only be won by means of such experiments. The alternatives are three: ignorance and lack of progress; experiments upon human beings; or experiments upon animals. It should not be difficult to choose among them. The emotions which have led many to reject the last alternative are among those deserving the highest respect. Such emotions, however, have too often been allowed to express themselves in combination with ignorance and with an absence of all sense of proportion. . . . The experimentalist has nothing to fear, but everything to gain, from the formation of an informed and healthy public opinion concerning his work.[15]

OBITUARY

K. K. GEDROIZ

THE staff of the Department of Soil Science of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station and of the College of Agriculture of Rutgers University wish to place on record in SCIENCE their keen sorrow and regret at the death of Professor K. K. Gedroiz and, with their colleagues at other institutions and in other countries, to recognize his passing as a most serious loss to science and to agriculture. The young but rapidly growing science of the soils has lost in Professor Gedroiz an outstanding scholar whose contributions to our knowledge of the base exchange capacity and the colloidal properties of the soil have revolutionized our ideas concerning this important branch of soil science. As president of the second International Soil Science Congress that convened in Russia in 1930, he contributed materially by his great reputation toward making the congress a success, even though ill health prevented him from taking a part in its deliberations. Russia has given many great men to soil science, and the name of Gedroiz will be remembered, with those of Dokutschaiev, Sibirtzev, Kossowitch, Glinka and many others, as having laid the foundation of a new science, which is at the very base of agriculture. The director and the members of the staff of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station and of the College of Agriculture of Rutgers University wish to convey to the Academy of Sciences of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics and to their colleagues in the union and in other countries this message of sympathy and profound regret.

A. W. BLAIR
SANTE MATTSON
S. A. WAKSMAN

RECENT DEATHS

DR. WILLIAM PATTEN, professor emeritus of zoology at Dartmouth College, died on October 27. He was seventy-one years old.

RUDOLPH FREDERICK SCHUCHARDT, chief electrical engineer of the Commonwealth Edison Company, Chicago, past president of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and a member of the administration board of the American Engineers Council, died on October 26 at the age of fifty-six years.

CURTIS CLARK HOWARD, professor of toxicology at the Ohio State University for more than forty years, died on October 23. He was seventy-eight years old.

DR. ERNST HUBER, associate professor of anatomy at the Johns Hopkins Medical School, has committed suicide. He was forty years of age.

SIR EVERARD IM THURN, explorer, anthropologist and naturalist, died on October 8, at the age of eighty years. Sir Everard was formerly curator of the British Guiana Museum and in 1919–20 president of the Royal Anthropological Institute.

ALFRED CHASTON CHAPMAN, consulting research chemist, of London, England, died on October 17 in his sixty-third year.

DR. KARL E. RITTER VON GOEBEL, professor of botany in the University of Munich, and director of the Botanical Gardens, died on October 10, at the age of seventy-seven years.

MEMORIALS

A MARBLE bust of Commodore Matthew C. Perry has been presented to the Navy Department by his

[15] "Science and the Nation," edited by A. C. Seward, Cambridge University Press, 1917.

grandson, Perry Belmont, and will be placed in the projected new naval museum. It is the work of Erastus D. Palmer, of Albany.

THE *Bulletin* of the University of Maryland School of Medicine dedicated its July issue to the memory of Dr. C. Hampson Jones, late professor of hygiene and public health at the school and commissioner of health of Baltimore.

IT is planned to establish a memorial library of medicine in Tokyo in memory of the late Baron Kitasato. Count Kiyoura has been elected chairman of the committee appointed to carry out the plan.

THE London County Council has affixed a glazed-ware tablet on No. 3, Manchester Square, W., to commemorate the residence there of the eminent neurologist, John Hughlings Jackson.

THE Leiden branch of the Royal Horticultural Society of the Netherlands, in order to commemorate the founding of the acclimatization garden for Japanese plants "Nippon," by Jhr. Dr. Ph. F. von Siebold, held an exhibition from May 4 to 8, in the City Auditorium of Leiden, of living Japanese plants, shrubs and trees. Many of these are descendants of plants imported by von Siebold. Belgian and Dutch horticulturists collaborated to make this collection as complete as possible. At various other institutes of the University of Leiden, smaller exhibits were held of the ethnographical, zoological and botanical material gathered by von Siebold. Biographical materials were shown at the University Print Collection. In the University Gardens, which still contain more than forty trees and shrubs of von Siebold, a bronze statue, by the sculptor O. Wenckebach, was unveiled by his grandson and by the grandson of his head-gardener.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE PARLIAMENTARY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE BRITISH SCIENCE GUILD

THE London *Times* reports that the council of the British Science Guild plans to develop its proposals for the fostering of the scientific attitude in public affairs. Some months ago, representatives of scientific institutions and societies attended a conference, which decided to form an organization entitled to speak for science as a whole, and to act as an advisory and consultative body to members of both Houses of Parliament who are interested not only in the relation of science to industry, but in the application of the scientific spirit to all national, imperial and international affairs.

The committee already exists in embryo. The societies which it represents include the guild itself, the Institutions of Civil, Mechanical, Electrical and Heating and Ventilating Engineers, the Institute of Physics, the Institution of Naval Architects and the Royal Institute of British Architects.

The movement was originated in the lifetime of the last Parliament by Major A. G. Church, the organizing secretary of the guild, and the invitation which brought the scientific institutions together was signed by Sir Samuel Hoare, now Secretary of State for India, in his capacity as the guild's president. Major Church recently reported that he had received invaluable help in the early stages of the movement from Mr. Ormsby-Gore, now first commissioner of works, and had been much indebted for support outside Parliament to Sir Richard Gregory, the editor of *Nature*, who is the chairman of the guild's council of management.

A draft constitution for the new body had been drawn up with a program of work. The fulfilment of that program would depend on the financial support which it received. It was of the greatest importance that the body should be independent of the government, so that it should have full liberty of criticism. There was some danger that it might be mistakenly regarded as a government body if, as had been suggested, it received the title of the National Science Advisory Council. As the Parliamentary and Public Affairs Committee of the British Science Guild, the name and constitution of the organization would be more accurately suited to its function.

One of the chief duties of the new body will be to hold a watching brief, on behalf not merely of the scientific community but also of the nation, whenever governmental and other institutions discuss subjects which affect the national interests. To add impetus to its task, the British Science Guild has committed itself to the production of an ambitious volume, designed to help the British people, including its statesmen, politicians, administrators, financiers and industrialists, to realize the value of the contributions which science has already made to the nation's progress, and the potentialities of science in the evolution of a better order of society.

"We shall be as much concerned with the education of the scientific community as with that of the body politic," Major Church said. "Governments will ignore scientific workers as long as they themselves remain indifferent to the affairs of state—more indifferent, it appears, than any other section of the community. Yet statecraft is now mainly a question of making humanity fit for science, or at least of