able part is used for maintaining junior men in research. But results of lasting value are rarely won in the apprentice years of investigation. The long devotion of a lifetime is often needed. It is in this direction that the Beit trustees believe that they may now properly consider some change of policy in the administration of their trust. Hitherto the trustees have sought no more than to ensure that the junior fellows should be well trained and that their ambition should be centered on the advance of medicine by research.

The report points out that the average achievement has been high, and many of the past fellows, men and women, are now found to be strengthening laboratories at home or abroad in physiology, pathology, biochemistry or zoology. Out of the total number of one hundred and two men who have completed the tenure of a fellowship since the first election in 1910, twenty-two have received full professorships in various universities.

But the opportunities to continue to full fruition the work that they had chosen came through the policy deliberately adopted by the Medical Research Council that all possible assistance should be given to some senior men for the prosecution of research bearing directly on clinical problems. The council has maintained one full-time senior post for such clinical research since 1916, providing a position equivalent to that of a university professor with assistants and laboratory facilities, but also with direct control of a number of hospital beds where studies could be made of some chosen form of disease. This was the position which gave Sir Thomas Lewis his needed opportunity. Last year the Rockefeller Foundation gave permanent endowment of the post at University College Hospital, and so enabled the council to create a second post elsewhere. The Beit trustees have now resolved to add a third by creating a professorial fellowship which may be held at some medical center in Great Britain where adequate facilities for work can be provided.

This professorial fellowship will be of tenure similar to that of a university chair, and the salary will absorb those of four or even five junior fellowships. It will not be required that the holder of the post shall have previously been elected to an ordinary Beit fellowship. The present announcement of policy will not be followed immediately by an appointment to the post.

THE McDONALD OBSERVATORY

CONTRACTS for the new McDonald Observatory of the University of Texas, whose 80-inch reflecting telescope temporarily will be the second largest in the world, have been signed by President H. Y. Benedict. A telegram announcing the signing of the contracts was received by Dr. Otto Struve, director of the Yerkes Observatory of the University of Chicago, who will also be director of the McDonald Observatory under a cooperative agreement between the two universities.

The contract for the observatory was awarded to the Warner and Swasey Company, of Cleveland, which has built some of the world's largest telescopes. The mounting for the Yerkes 40-inch refractor, the largest of its type in existence, and that for the 72-inch instrument of the Victoria Government of the Dominion of Canada, were produced by the Cleveland firm.

The big mirror will be made of pyrex glass, with a low coefficient of expansion, by the Corning Glass Works, of Corning, New York, which also is making the 200-inch glass for the California Institute of Technology, an undertaking which will require several years to complete.

Mt. Locke, a peak nearly 7,000 feet high in the Davis range in southeastern Texas, has been chosen as the site of the new observatory, following extensive tests made last winter and spring by Dr. Struve and his associates.

In drawing up the plans for the new observatory, Dr. Struve had the assistance of specialists of the staff of the Yerkes Observatory, including Professors George Van Biesbroeck and Frank E. Ross, Assistant Professor Christian T. Elvey and Research Associate George W. Moffitt. Dr. Walter S. Adams, of the Mt. Wilson Observatory; Dr. Harlow Shapley, of the Harvard College Observatory; Dr. J. S. Plaskett, of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory of Canada, and Dr. Paul Guthnick, of the Observatory at Berlin, were among those who cooperated.

The instrument that has been decided upon for the McDonald Observatory will provide for a type of research different from that for which the Yerkes refractor was designed. The new telescope will have great light-gathering power and will be highly efficient for the photography of faint stars or stellar spectra. One of the important accessories will be a constant temperature room into which the light may be concentrated for spectrum analysis.

It is expected that the telescope will be ready in two years. Some parts of the mounting, however, will be completed sooner and will be used in connection with apparatus belonging to Yerkes Observatory, so that active research probably will start on top of Mt. Locke as early as this winter.

CURTAILMENT OF THE FEDERAL SCIENTIFIC BUREAUS

As a result of the economy program of the government, forty-one chemists have to date been indefinitely furloughed, essentially dismissed, from the scientific