

endeared him to all. His friends will miss him, but more lasting will be the loss to those young men who grew up under him, either in the laboratory or in the plant, engaged in research or production, for in him they always had a real friend, who combined those rare qualities of leadership in both the practical and the scientific side of their work, of a patient teacher and a reliable guide. It is to such men we can give the title of a kindly gentleman.

WILLIAM CAMPBELL

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

#### CHARLES EDWARD MOLDENKE

DR. CHARLES EDWARD MOLDENKE, born on October 10, 1860, at Lyck, East Prussia, died at his home in Watchung, N. J., on January 18. Dr. Moldenke received his B.A. and M.A. degrees from Columbia University and his Ph.D. from the University of Strassburg. He was widely known as a student of classical archeology, antiquities and history and was a philologist of the first rank, master of 19 languages, including Hebrew, Arabic, Sanskrit, Icelandic, Anglo-Saxon, Pehlevi, Hieroglyphic, Hieratic, Demotic, Coptic, Cuneiform and Persian. His fame as an Egyptologist was world-wide. He was the first to translate the inscriptions on the New York Obelisk in Central Park and was the author of seven books on Egyptian subjects.

Having extensively traveled throughout Europe, Asia Minor, northern Africa and many parts of the Americas, his interest soon turned to the wonders of nature. Becoming a diligent student of botany, he became an indefatigable collector, not only of

antiquities, but also of plant specimens. In 1886 he published an important work on the trees of ancient Egypt, bringing together for the first time all available information about the trees cultivated by the ancient Egyptians, including their origin, uses and names. In 1911 he traveled and collected in Cuba, Puerto Rico, St. Thomas, Jamaica, Panamá and Venezuela, and in 1916 and 1927 in New England, northern New York and Pennsylvania. In 1929-1930, accompanied by his younger son, he botanized throughout the southeastern states, spending six full months in Florida alone, which he traversed from end to end, paying special attention to the flora of the everglades, subtropical hammocks and the keys. Over 23,000 plant specimens were collected on this trip alone. In 1932 he made a circular tour of the entire United States, visiting every major phytogeographic province and making excellent and thorough collections of the representative flora of each province. In 1933 he botanized through the Middle West, the badlands of South Dakota and the Black Hills, and in 1934 visited again the rich collecting grounds of Kentucky, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas and Louisiana. Including the many plants brought back by him from his European, Oriental and African travels, Dr. Moldenke collected over 50,000 plant specimens, the majority of which are now deposited in 30 of the leading herbaria of the Old and New World and the remainder now being assembled into sets for distribution by his son, an assistant curator at the New York Botanical Garden.

CORRESPONDENT

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL NEUROLOGICAL CONGRESS

THE second International Neurological Congress will be held in London from July 29 to August 2, under the presidency of Dr. Gordon Holmes. At the program executive conference held in London in 1933 Sir Charles Sherrington was elected president by the assembled delegates, but since then he has been compelled to resign on grounds of health. According to the *British Medical Journal*, the various sessions of the congress will be held in the large hall of University College, Gower Street, W.C. 1, and in lecture rooms of the college. After the official opening on July 29, Professor O. Marburg will preside over a discussion on the epilepsies, their etiology, pathogenesis and treatment, and this will be continued in the afternoon under the chairmanship of Professor O. Rossi. The morning of July 30 will be devoted to a discussion of the physiology and pathology of the

cerebro-spinal fluid, under the chairmanship of Professor O. Foerster, and miscellaneous papers will be read in the afternoon. On August 1 Professor H. Claude will preside over a discussion of the functions of the frontal lobe, and on the morning of August 2 the hypothalamus and the central representation of the autonomic system will be considered under the chairmanship of Professor H. Brouwer. The afternoons will be occupied with the reading of miscellaneous papers. The number of these afternoon sessions will be determined by the total number of papers offered and accepted; so far as proves practicable, the papers will be grouped systematically under different headings. In the evening at eight-thirty the triennial Hughlings Jackson memorial lecture, under the auspices of the section of neurology of the Royal Society of Medicine, will be delivered by Professor O. Foerster, of Breslau.

The program committee is composed of the British

officers of the congress and the above-named chairmen of the morning discussions, with Dr. S. A. Kinnier Wilson as its secretary. Abstracts of each paper to be read at the morning sessions must be submitted to one of these chairmen or the program committee not later than March 1, by which time also the completed papers must be in possession of the committee. The abstracts must be written in English, French or German. As regards the afternoon sessions, not more than one paper from any one member of the congress is permitted, but members may take part in any discussion which arises from any paper. All neurologists, neuro-surgeons, psychiatrists and any physicians or surgeons interested in neurology may become active members, the fee being £1 10s. Applications for membership should be addressed to Dr. Kinnier Wilson, 14, Harley Street, W.1, London, or through one of the national committees. The social events and excursions arranged so far include an official reception on the first evening; receptions by the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons on the second evening; the official banquet on August 1, at 7:30 P. M.; a reception on August 2 in the evening by the section of neurology of the Royal Society of Medicine; and visits to Oxford, Cambridge, Stratford-on-Avon, Windsor and Goodwood.

#### THE NEW YORK UNIVERSITY WEATHER STATION

THE establishment of a weather station by the New York University College of Engineering, equipped for both ground and upper air observations, on the University Heights campus, has been announced.

The new station, the first meteorological observatory in uptown New York, will be under the direction of Dr. J. Edmund Woodman, professor of geology and lecturer on aeronautical meteorology and navigation at the Guggenheim school of aeronautics at the university.

Weather reports will be made twice daily both to the U. S. Weather Bureau in the Whitehall Building and to the Airway Weather Bureau station at the Newark airport. The station has been named as one of a dozen "special" stations reporting directly to the New York office of the Weather Bureau, and as the first cooperative upper air station in the country. The observatory apparatus has been placed on the roof and in the tower of Graduate Hall on the University Heights campus, and will be available as an instructional laboratory for students of meteorology. Graduate Hall, once the residence of the late Chancellor Henry Mitchell MacCracken, is modeled after New England seacoast homes and is surmounted by a glass-enclosed lookout tower, which should be ideal for the weather recording apparatus.

Pilot balloons will be sent aloft in time for observations to be phoned at 8 A. M. and 8 P. M. daily, for observations in the upper air. The balloons, about three feet in diameter, are inflated with carefully measured quantities of hydrogen just before use so as to give them a known ascensional rate of 600 feet per minute. After release the balloons are observed through a theodolite, an instrument resembling a surveyor's transit, and a record is made of the balloon's position each minute it is visible. For night observations the balloon is made visible by attaching to it a small Chinese lantern lighted by a paraffin candle.

Instruments which will be placed on the roof of the new observatory will include a nephoscope for determining the direction, velocity and disintegration of clouds at various levels; an airways anemometer and anemoscope to give instantaneous readings of wind direction and velocity; an anemoscope and anemograph to give a continuous two-day record of wind direction and velocity; maximum and minimum thermometers; sun thermometers, and a rain gauge.

An instrument shelter just constructed will house a thermograph to give a continuous record of temperature; a whirling psychrometer to give relative humidity and rate of evaporation; and a hair hygrometer to give a continuous record of humidity.

Inside the tower of the observatory there will be a mercurial barometer and a microbarograph and a battery of aneroid barometers for determining atmospheric pressures; a battery of accurate Centigrade and Fahrenheit thermometers; anemograph and airways indicators for determining wind velocity and direction; a hygrodeik for determining relative humidity; several sling psychrometers; plotting boards and other weather instruments. The station will have a meteorological library and facilities for research.

#### GIFT FOR SUPPORT OF DENTAL RESEARCH AT YALE UNIVERSITY

A GRANT of \$17,500 has been made by the Carnegie Corporation of New York to Yale University for the support of dental research in the School of Medicine during the coming year, according to an announcement made by President James Rowland Angell. This gift makes possible the continuance of a program launched six years ago to promote the scientific study of the teeth and to stimulate the interest of physicians in the rôle played by the teeth in health and disease.

The dental research project at Yale is unusual in many ways and has been watched with interest from its inception by both the dental and medical professions. It is one of the few organized attempts to enlist medical personnel and resources in the study of dental problems and to provide a full medical train-