

ministrative Board of the two institutions, has made a statement to the alumni of the hospital and of the Cornell University Medical College in which he said that:

No part of the \$17,000,000 is to be used for additional plant. It will be spent so that our magnificent buildings, modern equipment and skilful, kindly staff may be utilized to prevent and relieve more of the city's suffering. We estimate that service can be given to a materially increased number of patients with a relatively small increase in capital investment.

The hospital is now being conducted at a minimum of expense and to the maximum of the facilities which its present funds have permitted it to open, but it feels an obligation to make available additional beds and specialized services for patients, at the same time enlarging its program of research and teaching which is conducted jointly with the Cornell University Medical College. A portion of the income from the \$8,000,000 which it is proposed to allot to the hospital will be used to cover the present annual operating loss of approximately \$1,000,000 occasioned by the free and partly free care of patients. It is planned that the income from the \$9,000,000 sought for the Cornell University Medical College will be used to strengthen the pre-clinical departments engaged in teaching and research.

The present New York Hospital was built to "endure not less than 100 years." Its specifications provided for floors and services which were beyond what could be put into operation at the outset. There remain to be put into use two entire floors of the children's hospital, a floor of the psychiatry building, and additional medical pavilions for the "sick poor"; and there is also need for expansion and development of present service in the fields of neurology, diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat and in the field of orthopedics.

The Board of Governors comprises the new Endowment Committee, with Mr. Barbey serving as chairman. Among its other officers are: Barklie Henry, *vice-president*; Augustine J. Smith, *secretary*; Bronson Winthrop, *treasurer*; Cornelius N. Bliss, John Hay Whitney, Vincent Astor, and others. The plan, which has the endorsement of the United Hospital Fund, of which The New York Hospital is a member, is to stabilize and make less dependent on current donations each year the hospital's three great channels of service to the public. These are the medical care of the sick, the teaching schools of medicine and nursing and research.

It is planned to endow four graduate fellowships with \$80,000 each to be used as scholarships for graduate doctors whose work shows brilliant promise, but who lack funds to continue.

THE BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN

THE twenty-seventh Annual Report of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, for the year 1937, reports an addition to the endowment funds of \$250,000. A portion of the income from this fund is specified to be used for research in plant pathology. The garden also received a bequest of \$10,000 to be expended for gates, seats or other structures on the grounds.

The report notes the municipal, national and international aspects of the activities of the garden. The exchange of plants, seeds and publications and the trade services and bureau of information include about 160 botanic gardens, municipal and national governments and commercial concerns in more than 50 countries. The inter-library loans from the garden include 24 states of the Union, the District of Columbia, Canada and India. Herbarium loans have included ten states, the District of Columbia and one foreign country.

Service to schools includes all five boroughs of Greater New York. More than 3,700 teachers in 214 elementary and high schools were supplied with plant material for the instruction of more than 177,000 pupils; 350 potted plants were placed in classrooms, and 36,000 plants raised by members of Botanic Garden classes of adults and children were taken home. The year's attendance at classes exceeded 100,000.

Nearly forty radio broadcasts on plant life and on the garden are now given annually over WNYC and in cooperation with the Radio Garden Club over WOR. The fan mail from these talks includes thirty-nine states, from Maine to California and south to Texas as well as from Canada. California supplies the third largest number of correspondents, *viz.*, about a hundred and twenty-five.

One section of the report is devoted to research in progress, including disease resistance in plants; breeding a chestnut tree of timber-producing character and immune or resistant to the chestnut blight; the culture, nomenclature and pathology of Iris with special reference to varieties of Japanese Iris; and problems in systematic botany. The publications of technical and popular papers by members of the staff during the year include nearly 100 titles.

The report stresses the falling off of income during the past ten years, and the urgent need of not less than a million dollars additional endowment.

SCHENECTADY MEETING OF THE NEW YORK STATE SECTION OF THE AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY

PHYSICISTS from forty-nine communities in New York State, and some from contiguous sections outside the state, formally organized the New York State Sec-

tion of the American Physical Society during a recent meeting at Union College. Of the 150 who attended the sessions, 113 became charter members of the new association.

Among the subjects discussed were television, a possible new approach toward killing cancerous cells by means of low-voltage rays; a discussion of fundamental problems in aeronautical science; microscopic work under conditions where optical instruments can not be used and telescopic work in hazy weather conditions.

Dr. Peter I. Wold, professor of physics at Union College, who had been chairman of the committee on organization and arrangements during the past six months, was elected the first chairman of the association for a term of two years. The charter members adopted a constitution, with the sanction of the American Physical Society, which dedicates the section to the "advancement and diffusion of the knowledge of physics." Any physicist, whether teaching or in industrial work, and students of physics are eligible for membership. Other officers elected were: W. B. Rayton, of the Bausch and Lomb Optical Company of Rochester, *vice-chairman*; Paul R. Gleason, of Colgate University, *secretary*; G. H. Cameron, of Hamilton College, *treasurer*; they will also serve during their term of office on the executive committee, to which were elected: Mrs. Anna W. Pearsall, of Hamilton High School, and R. E. Burrough, of the Eastman Kodak Company, for four years, and R. C. Gibbs, of Cornell

University, and Carleton A. Moose, of Milne High School (Albany), for two-year terms.

Among the demonstration exhibits following the reading of papers was the antiphonal organ, designed and built by John Bellamy Taylor, acoustic engineer of the General Electric Company and lecturer on acoustics at Union College. Other exhibits included a monomolecular film technique which is being used by Dr. Caryl P. Haskins and his staff in the Haskins Laboratory of Union College; spectrometer exhibits by the Spencer Lens Company; recent developments in street lighting by the General Electric Company; a recently completed Michelson Interferometer, built by David W. Mann, of Harvard University, and some rare early books on physics owned by Professor Mortimer F. Sayre and the Union College Library.

Dr. Irving Langmuir, associate director of the General Electric Research Laboratory, was the principal speaker at the dinner which concluded the meeting. Dr. Wold presided. Dr. R. C. Gibbs, as president of the Optical Society of America, spoke briefly on the great need for such organizations as the New York State Section of the American Physical Society. Other speakers included Dr. Haskins, research professor of biophysics at Union College; Dr. E. H. B. Bartelink, of the general engineering laboratory of the General Electric Company; Dr. H. P. Gage, of the Corning Glass Works; Dr. Paul E. Hemke, of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and Dr. R. P. Johnson, of the General Electric Research Laboratory.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. GILBERT NEWTON LEWIS, dean of the College of Chemistry at the University of California, has been awarded the fifth Theodore William Richards Medal of the Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society "for conspicuous achievement in chemistry." The medal, founded in 1930 to commemorate the work of Professor Richards, of Harvard University, will be presented to Dr. Lewis at a ceremony on May 13.

THE American Institute of Chemists has awarded its annual medal to Dr. Frederick G. Cottrell, consulting chemist, metallurgist and inventor, in recognition of "outstanding scientific achievements and for his service to the profession." The medal will be presented to him at the annual dinner of the institute on May 14 at the Claridge Hotel, Atlantic City.

DR. C. O. SWANSON, head of the department of milling industry at Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Science, has been awarded the Thomas Burr Osborne Medal by the American Association of Cereal Chemists. The presentation will be made at the annual convention of the association at the

Netherland Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati, on the evening of May 25.

THE John Phillips Medal of the American College of Physicians, given "for an outstanding contribution in the field of internal medicine or its allied sciences," was presented on April 6 to Dr. Harry Goldblatt, professor of experimental pathology of the School of Medicine of Western Reserve University. The medal was awarded to Dr. Goldblatt in recognition of "the development of an important method for the production of experimental hypertension in animals; demonstrating the importance of disease of the blood vessels of the kidneys in the origin of high blood pressure, and for contributing successfully to our understanding of the essential type, the most common disabling condition encountered by the medical practice." It had previously been awarded to Dr. Oswald Theodore Avery, of the Rockefeller Institute, New York; Dr. William Bosworth Castle, of Harvard University; Dr. Leo Loeb, of Washington University; Dr. Henry Robert Murray Landis, of the University of Penn-