conceptions and false hopes on the part of the public. It is therefore essential that public education regarding the general facts of cancer and the probable sources of relief from this disease be developed to the highest degree. Every American citizen should become acquainted with the main facts about cancer and especially with the early signs of its major forms. He should indulge in periodic examinations by a competent physician, running down suspicious signs, detecting and discarding cancer-forming habits and removing precancerous lesions. He should inquire into his personal hereditary tendencies, which occasionally yield valuable clues. For these ends he should join his local branch of the Cancer Control Society or the National Society, attend public discussions of this subject and lend his support to the whole movement. The little Danish Cancer Society has ten times as many members as the American.

If he is a physician, he should be cancer conscious and alert to detect the early signs of the disease in his patients, taking nothing for granted. He should maintain his education by constant reading, faithful attendance at meetings, and should cultivate a progressive attitude toward modern organization of service and methods of treatment. In the treatment of cancer he should employ his talents, but recognize his limitations and the necessity of special skill in special fields.

If he is a philanthropist, he will be exceedingly cautious about trusting his judgment as a layman in the support of individual cancer projects. If he is a man of large means and large ideas, he will not prefer to play a lone hand, but will throw his resources in with others in one of the established institutions devoted to service or research. The trustees of Cancer Foundations will continue their invaluable support of cancer research on a broad scale, but may do well to consider some of the constructive suggestions made for the purpose of making their services more effective.

As public health agencies become more identified with cancer control it seems very necessary that the work of municipal, state and federal groups should be carefully coordinated with each other and with voluntary hospitals. The states should proceed cautiously before committing themselves to an expensive program of building hospitals for the exclusive care of advanced and indigent cases. It is probably far better to rely upon the resources of the organized medical profession and develop facilities for adequate diagnosis and treatment of early cases in as many localities as necessary. Otherwise there will always be a superabundance of advanced cases. The Federal Government would do well to study carefully the experience of other nations in the support of cancer research and service, and not commit itself to an irreversible program, defects of which may become obvious only after years of misdirected efforts and expense. There are many who believe that the search for the cause and cure of cancer is far removed from any function or responsibility of government. Yet there are many formidable research projects and immediate practical needs for which the large resources of the federal treasury seem to be the only resort.

When all the forces centering on cancer control are well coordinated and effective, relief from cancer will still remain essentially a problem for the individual man or woman. Alertness of the individual in avoiding cancer-forming habits, in detecting the premonitory signs of the disease and in accepting adequate treatment as early as possible will always remain the only effective protection. Habits of moderation in eating and living and the cultivation of a certain fastidiousness about one's person are wise resolves if one wishes to avoid cancer. This philosophy is quite appropriate for the modern man, woman and child, for there is every indication that cancer will long continue the most frequent, the most lethal and paradoxically the most curable major cause of death.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE TRING ZOOLOGICAL MUSEUM

LORD ROTHSCHILD, who bequeathed his zoological museum to the British Museum, made the provision that the legacy be accepted as an annex of the museum to be used in a modified form for zoological research. A correspondent of the London *Times* gives the following description of the museum. The building stands on a freehold site of some three acres on the outskirts of the town of Tring, close to Tring Park. It began in 1889 with a cottage in which Lord Rothschild housed his insect collection, and now consists of a main building forming three sides of a square and a large annex. These buildings occupy more than half an acre, and the aggregate floor space is about an acre and a half.

The museum, on which Lord Rothschild is believed to have spent more than £500,000, contains a zoological collection, a library (chiefly zoological, and especially entomological, but also to some extent botanical) of 30,000 volumes, and many original paintings of mammals and birds. The establishment consists of exhibition galleries which have been open to the public, the average yearly attendance being about 15,000 and of a research section which has, as a rule, been available to students only.

In the public galleries the exhibits include some 2,000

mammal specimens, among them 13 gorillas, 25 chimpanzees, 228 marsupials and a very fine specimen of the extinct horse-like animal from South Africa, the quagga. The mounted birds number 2,400, and among them are examples of the great auk and other extinct birds, and the best existing collection, numbering 62, of cassowaries. Of these last many are "type specimens." There are also important series of kiwis, birds of paradise, and humming birds, as well as of reptiles (among them 144 giant tortoises), fishes and certain invertebrates.

In the research collections there are some 1,400 mammal specimens; and, though Lord Rothschild a few years ago sold the bulk of his unmounted birds to the American Museum of Natural History for a large sum, there still remain at Tring about 4,400 bird skins, some of which belong to extinct species. There is, moreover, a large collection of birds' eggs which contains two eggs of the great auk, and the best existing series of those of the extinct aepyornis of Madagascar.

There is a collection of lepidoptera numbering more than 2,000,000 specimens. Among these are numbers of type specimens (of the geometer moths alone there are more than 6,000), and numerous species are represented which are to be found in no other museum. There are, too, examples of a great many still undescribed species. The butterflies and moths are represented in many instances by specimens collected from every part of their known geographical range. The museum also houses a collection of Anthribidae (a family of beetles of some economic importance) which is the largest in existence and contains more than 1,600 type specimens.

It is hoped that the British Government will see its way to provide the extra funds which the trustees of the British Museum will need to enable them to accept and maintain this bequest.

ENLARGEMENT OF THE WORK OF THE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AT NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

AN enlarged teaching and research program for the School of Engineering of Northwestern University has been announced which involves an increase in the faculty. Professor George A. Maney has been appointed administrative chairman.

Under the new program, which increases from 132 to 138 the number of hours required for graduation, the technical content of the engineering curriculum will be greatly increased, especially in the last two of the four years of study. Three additional professors will be added to the present staff, one each in civil, mechanical and electrical engineering.

The curriculum will include a considerable amount of study in the liberal arts and in business subjects, designed especially for the training of business executives in the engineering field. Each student will also be required to take one course in speech.

Swift Hall of Engineering, which was the gift of Mrs. Gustavus F. Swift and her son, Edward F. Swift, will be remodeled to effect a twenty-five per cent. increase in laboratory space so that additional equipment in the electrical and mechanical fields can be accommodated.

To carry out the new program, the university has authorized a fifty per cent. increase in the present budget of the School of Engineering. The proposed curriculum has been approved by the National Engineering Council for Professional Development, and will become effective in the fall.

George A. Maney, who has been appointed acting dean of the school, has been for a number of years professor of structural engineering. He received the degree of civil engineer from the University of Minnesota in 1911 and his master's degree from the University of Illinois in 1914. In engineering practice he has been primarily concerned with problems of design and research in the structural field. He was consulting engineer for the Santa Fé Terminal Building of Dallas, Texas, in 1922. He was also consulting engineer in charge of the design and construction of the Mississippi River highway bridge at Savanna, Illinois. Professor Maney is the originator of the "slope-deflection method" now widely used in reinforced concrete building, and is co-author, with Professor J. I. Parcel, of "Statistically Indeterminate Stresses." Last year he was awarded the Wason Medal of the American Concrete Institute for his research on the slope-deflection method.

BUSINESS MEETINGS OF THE WISTAR INSTITUTE OF ANATOMY AND BIOLOGY

AN informal meeting of the managing editors of the Wistar Institute journals was held on April 22 at the Rittenhouse Club in Philadelphia. The institute was represented by Dr. Alfred Stengel, president of the Board of Managers, and Edmond J. Farris, fellow in anatomy in charge of operations.

The following editors were present:

C. E. McClung, *Journal of Morphology.*
Davenport Hooker, *The Journal of Comparative Neurology.*
Charles R. Stockard, *The American Journal of Anatomy.*
Aleš Hrdlička, *American Journal of Physical Anthropology.*
E. Newton Harvey, *Journal of Cellular and Comparative Physiology.*
John R. Murlin, *The Journal of Nutrition.*

The annual meeting of the Advisory Board of the institute was held on April 23. The work of the in-