

international movement and in a contribution to the conference urged the practical policy of establishing standards meeting the approval of the conference and offering these to the Pharmacopoeial Commissions throughout the world for voluntary adoption.

A second conference was called for 1914, but was postponed because of the world war. It was finally assembled at Brussels in 1925, with representatives from more than forty nations participating. Additional uniformity in standards and preparations was recommended at that time and the conference adjourned after passing recommendations that its work be taken over by the health organization of the League of Nations.

The establishment of a pharmacopoeial secretaryship, at the League, has been the basis for discussion for many years, but the actual establishment of the program has only now been completed. The chairman of the committee, Dr. Hampshire, is the secretary of the British Pharmacopoeial Commission, which has recently published the first supplement to the British Pharmacopoeia. This International Commission plans to compile a list of the more important medicines used throughout the world and invite the respective National Pharmacopoeial Commissions in various countries to prepare model monographs, which when finally approved will be presented to the Pharmacopoeial Commissions of the world with the hope that they may assist in bringing about greater uniformity.

It is hoped that the International Commission may also be able to compile the Pharmacopoeial literature of the world for the use of all Pharmacopoeial Commissions, thus avoiding the duplication of literature reviews by each nation.

#### CELEBRATION OF THE CENTENARY OF THE CELLULAR THEORY

THE Mexican Society of Natural History has appointed a committee to invite participation in the publication of a commemorative volume, which will celebrate the centenary of the foundation of the cellular theory by Schleiden and Schwann.

The president of the society, Dr. M. Martínez Báez, is chairman of the committee. Other members are Professor Enrique Beltrán, Dr. Alfonso Dampf and Ing. José R. Alcaraz. This committee has issued the following appeal:

The scientific world celebrates this year the centenary of the cellular theory which was founded by the German botanist Mathias Jacob Schleiden and by the zoologist Theodor Schwann a hundred years ago. To commemorate this event, which according to E. B. Wilson, the famous cytologist, has had the same far-reaching consequences as the theory of evolution, the Mexican Society of Natural History (Sociedad Mexicana de Historia Natural) resolved at their meeting, May 6, to publish a special volume which

would contain papers relating to problems of the cellular theory and kindred subjects.

The undersigned committee respectfully submits the resolution to the learned sister societies of the world and begs to invite all biologists interested in the cellular theory to collaborate in the preparation of the volume. The paper which, according to the jury, is the outstanding contribution, will be awarded the Schleiden-Schwann medal of the Mexican Society of Natural History. The terms of the contest are given below. Every cytological paper is welcome, but only those which have a direct bearing on the theory will be judged.

The committee hopes that the publication of a commemorative volume, with contributions by scientists of many countries, will not only serve science, but establish also friendly relations with Mexico, where research in biology has found in the last years an enthusiastic support by government authorities. The committee would be pleased if scientific societies, academies, editors of scientific reviews, etc., would insert these lines in their editions and if scientists would call the attention of their learned friends to the planned publication.

#### TABLET IN HONOR OF W. J. S. LOCKYER AND NORMAN LOCKYER

A CORRESPONDENT of the London *Times* reports that a memorial to the late Dr. W. J. S. Lockyer, who was the director from 1920 to 1936 of the Norman Lockyer Observatory, was unveiled on July 16. Founded by the late Sir Norman Lockyer, the distinguished astronomer, who was long editor of *Nature*, and Sir Frances McClean as a private observatory twenty-six years ago, it has since been equipped and maintained entirely by private donations. The buildings have a commanding position on the top of Salcombe Hill, Sidmouth, and visitors had an opportunity to inspect different departments. The observatory is especially equipped with telescopes and cameras.

The memorial includes a panel containing a portrait of Dr. Lockyer, surrounded by smaller portraits of Lady Lockyer, Miss Lockyer and several friends who assisted in the administration and organization of the observatory during his period of office. Beneath the panel is a cabinet containing the insignia and other records of the life and work of Sir Norman Lockyer, who died in 1920, and was succeeded as director by Dr. Lockyer, his son.

The memorial was unveiled by Sir Francis McClean. Sir Robert Mond presided, and those present included Sir Richard Gregory, chairman of the council of the observatory; Lady Lockyer, honorary treasurer; Captain W. N. McClean, honorary secretary; Mrs. J. Lockyer, Dr. H. Spencer Jones, Astronomer Royal, and D. L. Edwards, director of the observatory.

In his address Sir Richard Gregory, who succeeded Sir Norman Lockyer as editor of *Nature*, said that it ought not to be too much to hope that an observatory

like that on Salcombe Hill, in which many notable contributions to progressive knowledge were being made, would not have to depend entirely upon the relatively small number of friends who had hitherto maintained it in its high position. Funds for scientific studies which led to industrial development were liberally provided in England, but a subject like astronomy, which had little direct relation to profitable industry, had to look for support to those who desired knowledge only for its own sake, whether or not it was of practical value.

It happened sometimes that such knowledge, obtained in the pure pursuit of scientific truth, was afterwards found to be of practical service. The most remarkable example of that kind was associated with the name of the founder of that observatory. When Sir Norman Lockyer discovered the element helium in the sun in 1868 no one dreamed that it would be produced daily in immense quantities, and would be used for the inflation of airships. Twenty-six years after its discovery in the sun it was found to exist in certain minerals in the earth, and after the Great War it was found to be contained in fair quantities in natural gases in some oil wells in the United States, which had practically the monopoly of the gas.

#### RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. FREDERICK TILNEY, since 1914 professor of neurology and neuro-anatomy at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, died on August 7 at the age of sixty-three years.

DR. LAWRENCE F. FLICK, organizer of the Henry Phipps Institute of the University of Pennsylvania and influential in the founding of the National Tuberculosis Association, died on July 6 at the age of eighty-one years.

DR. HAROLD DICKINSON SENIOR, emeritus professor of anatomy and director of anatomical laboratories at New York University, died on August 6 at the age of sixty-seven years.

DR. LOUIS C. LOEWENSTEIN, consulting engineer, New York City, died on August 3 at the age of sixty-two years.

DR. LOUIS SHEPARD DE FOREST, practicing physician, who retired several years ago as a professor at the Yale University School of Medicine, died on August 4 at the age of eighty-one years.

ARLAND LEE MACKINNEY, in charge of forest management research at the Southern Forest Experiment Station of the U. S. Forest Service in New Orleans, was accidentally drowned on July 4. He was thirty-four years old.

E. M. NELSON, formerly president of the Quekett Microscopical Club and of the Royal Microscopical Society, an authority on microscopy and microscope construction, died on July 20 at the age of eighty-seven years.

THE centenary of the birth of Edward S. Morse, distinguished for his work in zoology and ethnology, the first professor of zoology at the University of Tokyo, was celebrated on June 25 at Tokyo under the joint auspices of the Tokyo Science Museum and the Society for Propagating Scientific Knowledge. Morse was president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1886, and from 1880 to the time of his death was director of the Peabody Academy, Salem, Mass.

TRIBUTE was paid on July 22 to the memory of Charles Dawson, who, between the years 1911 and 1913, found portions of the fossil skull of Piltdown Man and in doing so discovered the remains of the earliest Englishman known. Sir Arthur Keith unveiled a monolith memorial in the grounds of Barkham Manor, Piltdown, to mark the spot on which the fossil was found. The memorial, erected by permission of David Kerr, the present owner of the manor, is of Yorkshire sandstone and stands about 5 feet in height. A large and representative company was present at the ceremony.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

PROFESSOR THOMAS HUNT MORGAN, director of the Wm. G. Kerckhoff Laboratories of the California Institute of Technology, corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences, Paris, has been elected one of the twelve foreign associates of the academy.

THE Liebig Memorial Medal of the German Chemical Society has been awarded to Dr. Eduard Zintl, professor of chemistry at Darmstadt.

THE fifth award of the Dawson Williams Memorial Prize, which is given in recognition of work done in connection with pediatrics, has been made to Professor

Leonard G. Parsons, professor of children's diseases at the University of Birmingham. It was presented to him at the Plymouth meeting of the British Medical Association on July 19. Professor Parsons delivered the Dawson Williams Memorial lecture, describing his work on the nutritional problems of childhood.

DR. I. W. MAGILL, senior anesthetist to the Westminster Hospital, London, has been awarded the triennial Hickman Medal, given for "original work of outstanding merit on anesthesia or in subjects directly connected therewith." The award is made by the