

of subscribers increased more than a quarter of a million during 1939. The financial condition as of December 31, 1939, determined by the New York State Department of Insurance shows that a surplus of \$1,651,249 is available for the added protection of subscribers.

The annual certificate of approval has been awarded by the American Hospital Association for evidence of progress, sound administrative policies and procedures and a financial position which protects the interests of subscribers.

As experience in the field has increased, adjustments have been made in the service, which has had the continued cooperation of subscribers, of more than 270 member hospitals and of the medical profession. The report closes with the statement that "The American people have found a way to protect themselves against the costs of hospital care for unexpected sickness or accident. The future of non-profit hospitalization throughout the nation is bright with possibilities for even greater service."

THE THEFT OF RESEARCH MICROSCOPES FROM THE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY, AMHERST COLLEGE

EARLY in the evening of February 5, two valuable research microscopes were stolen from the Biological Laboratory at Amherst College. One of these was the microscope used by Professor Oscar Schotté. It was taken from his laboratory table. It was a Leitz mon-objective binocular. Maker's No. 300473, Amherst College No. die cut on base A C BIOL 53. This instrument was equipped with 4 Leitz apochromat objectives and paired 8x oculars. In addition there was attached to it a Zeiss paneratic condenser for illuminating.

The other microscope was a Zeiss machine being used by Dr. George Child in Professor H. H. Plough's laboratory. Maker's No. 259779, Amherst College No. die cut on base A C BIOL 61. This machine was equipped with a Butukni binocular draw tube, two achromat and one apochromat objectives and paired 10x oculars.

A Spencer rotary microtome Maker's No. 3631, Amherst College No. die cut on base A C BIOL 207, was taken from Dr. Schotté's room at the same time as the microscope.

The instruments were in use up to six o'clock on that day, but their disappearance was not noted until the following day. The laboratory building is ordinarily locked after six o'clock, but because of an evening lecture it was open on that particular evening.

Apparently neither of the research rooms was locked, although the door of each was closed. Whoever took the instruments knew what he wanted, since other valuable apparatus, including less valuable microscopes and a calculating machine, were passed over without being disturbed.

The Department of Biology of Amherst College will appreciate any information concerning instruments that are offered for sale that will lead to the recovery of the stolen instruments.

OFFICERS OF THE FEDERATION OF AMERICAN SOCIETIES FOR EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY

THE Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology which is made up of the American Physiological Society, The American Society of Biological Chemists, The American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics and the American Society for Experimental Pathology met at New Orleans on March 13, 14, 15 and 16. Officers elected for the coming year are:

The American Physiological Society: Dr. A. C. Ivy, of Northwestern University, *president*; Dr. Philip Bard, the Johns Hopkins University, *secretary*; Dr. C. J. Wiggers, Western Reserve University, *treasurer*, and Dr. Charles H. Best, University of Toronto, *councillor*.

The American Society of Biological Chemists: Dr. W. C. Rose, University of Illinois, *president*; Dr. R. J. Anderson, Yale University, *vice-president*; Dr. C. G. King, University of Pittsburgh, *secretary*; Dr. A. Baird Hastings, Harvard, *treasurer*; Dr. Edward A. Doisy, St. Louis University, *councillor*; Dr. Henry A. Mattill, University of Iowa, and Dr. Glenn Cullen, University of Cincinnati, *council members*.

The American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics: Dr. E. M. K. Geiling, University of Chicago, *president*; Dr. C. F. Schmidt, University of Pennsylvania, *vice-president*; Dr. G. P. Grabfield, Harvard University, *secretary*; Dr. E. E. Nelson, Tulane University, *treasurer*; Dr. B. H. Robbins, Vanderbilt University, and Dr. C. H. Thienes, University of Southern California, *councillors*, and Dr. H. Gold, *membership committee*.

The American Society for Experimental Pathology: Dr. Shields Warren, of Harvard University, *president*; Dr. Jesse Bollman, of Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn., *vice-president*; Dr. Harry P. Smith, University of Iowa, *secretary-treasurer*, and Dr. Paul R. Cannon, University of Chicago, and Dr. Balduin Lucké, University of Pennsylvania, *members of the council*.

Dr. Warren, under the plan of having the heads of the constituent groups serve as chairman of the federation in rotation, assumed that office.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. FREDERIC JOLIOT and Madame Irene Joliot-Curie, co-workers in the Radium Institute, Paris, have been awarded the 1940 Barnard Gold Medal for "Mer-

itorious Service to Science" bestowed by Columbia University every five years. The medal was established by the will of Frederick A. P. Barnard, presi-