peatedly been obliged to point out a defect which too often attaches to the present scientific education of our youth. It is the absence of the historical sense and the lack of knowledge of the great researches upon which the edifice of science rests.

It should not be invidious to point out that the historical approach is especially appropriate to the teaching of physics and astronomy. It fell to the lot of these sciences to meet the full impact of authoritarianism in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. They thus became the focus of the various points of view which converge into the scientific method. But the pattern of thought thereby established became general only because the other sciences moved into their appointed places. The heritage of physics and astronomy belongs as much to biologists and chemists and geologists as to physicists and astronomers. The recognition and exploitation of this heritage is a resource which is being sadly neglected.

One final point: In urging the appropriateness of more emphasis on the historical element in science instruction, I am not suggesting a substitution of the *history* of science for the *study* of science itself. On the contrary, such a venture, to be successful, must hew pretty much to the conventional line of subject-matter already in vogue. But the stage should be set with historical wings and backdrops. As subtopics are taken up in the usual order, the story of their development will shed a new light, not only on their present significance as scientific concepts, but on how they contributed to the birth of the sciences and to the dawning of the scientific era. When the subject is developed in this way, the time involved is not at all proportional to the extra ground covered, since in the main the process consists of rearranging, from another point of view, material already involved or implied in the traditional science courses.

Neither do I take the position that the historical approach is the *only* way in which the sciences can adapt themselves to the requirements of general education which are pressing in on us with ever greater and quite proper insistence. I am sure that there are other ways. But, to me, it seems the solution lying most readily at hand and which can be exploited to the best effect. But whether that method or some other is adopted, a heavy responsibility rests upon college and university teachers of science to adapt their offerings, in one way or another, to the changing requirements of a rapidly evolving educational pattern. The American mass movement toward higher education has no parallel. We have no precedents to guide us. But we shall be wise, perhaps with the wisdom of self-preservation, if we recognize this new responsibility and marshall all our resources to meet it.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

CONFERENCES IN BIOCHEMISTRY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

A GROUP of lecture-conferences in biochemistry, dealing with endocrinology, physiology and the chemistry of vitamins and enzymes, to be held under the auspices of the department of biochemistry of the University of Chicago on June 25, 26 and 27, and on July 9, 10, 15, 16 and 17, has been announced by Dr. E. M. K. Geiling, professor of pharmacology and chairman of the department.

Visiting professors at the summer quarter of the university will conduct the meetings. Among the speakers will be Dr. C. N. H. Long, Sterling professor of physiological chemistry of the School of Medicine of Yale University; Dr. E. A. Doisy, professor of biological chemistry of the St. Louis University School of Medicine, and Professor James B. Sumner, professor of biochemistry of Cornell University Medical College.

The program of the series is as follows:

June 25, 26, 27, Professor Long: Effects of Hypophysectomy and Anterior Pituitary Extracts on Metabolism; Effect of Adrenalectomy and the Adrenal Cortical Hormones on the Metabolism of Carbohydrates and Proteins, and the Interrelationship of the Pancreas, Adrenal Cortex and Anterior Pituitary Cortex as Exemplified by the Study of Experimental and Clinical Diabetes Mellitus.

July 9, 10, Professor Doisy: Vitamin K: Assay, Purification and Isolation; Vitamin K: Constitution of Vitamins K_1 and K_2 and Related Compounds Having Vitamin K Potency.

July 15, 16, 17, Professor Sumner: Development of Present-day Ideas as to the Chemical Nature of Enzymes; the Properties, Preparation and Chemical Nature of Catalase, and Recent Progress in Enzyme Research.

All conferences will be held in Eckhart Hall from 7 to 9 P.M.

HONORARY DEGREES CONFERRED BY NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

HONORARY degrees were conferred by New York University on the occasion of its hundred and eighth commencement exercises on June 5 on Dr. N. B. Van Etten, of New York City, president of the American Medical Association; on Dr. John Philip Hogan, president of the American Society of Civil Engineers; on Dr. Gano Dunn, president of the J. G. White Corporation, New York City, and on Dr. Frank Aydelotte, who recently retired as president of Swarthmore College to become head of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, N. J. The candidates were presented to Chancellor Harry Woodburn Chase by the secretary of the university, Harold O. Voorhis. The citations follow:

NATHAN BRISTOL VAN ETTEN

Mr. Voorhis:

Nathan Bristol Van Etten, to-day celebrating his fiftieth anniversary of graduation from our former tributary, Bellevue Medical College, has not only served a full half-century in the general practice of medicine in this city, but extended widely the benefits of his wisdom and experience through high medical executive capacities: President of Morrisania City Hospital and Union Hospital; past-president of the Bronx Borough, Bronx County and New York State Medical Societies, of the Greater New York Medical Association, of the New York Society of Medical Jurisprudence and of the Medical Alumni of this university. Able practitioner and counselor, staunch bulwark against the pandemic threat of quixotic schemes of socialized medicine, he now stands at the threshold of the highest office in the medical profession of this country, the presidency of the American Medical Association. Our prescription for him reads: Doctor of Public Health.

Chancellor Chase:

Nathan Bristol Van Etten, a half century ago you were graduating from what is now the New York University Medical College. To-day you stand here as president-elect of the American Medical Association. The years between have been crowded with achievement. You have taken with high seriousness the oath of your profession. You have been active in promoting the service of that profession to the public good. For what you have done, and for your active pursuit of the ideals you symbolize, we now pronounce you Doctor of Public Health of New York University.

JOHN PHILIP HOGAN

Mr. Voorhis:

President of the American Society of Civil Engineers. For twenty-five years following graduation in arts and science at Harvard, he served this city with conspicuous ability, particularly in the realization of that life-giving miracle, the Catskill Aqueduct. In subsequent professional practice he has become recognized as an outstanding authority on water supply and related problems. As military engineer in France during the first World War, he received many deserved citations and was raised to high command. As vice-president and chief engineer of the New York World's Fair he not only directed its vast and inexorable schedule of construction, but was responsible for the solution of the fundamental problem of giving the water-logged and waste-incrusted meadows of Flushing requisite stability for construction. Engineer extraordinary, he is presented for our honorary Engineering Doctorate.

Chancellor Chase:

John Philip Hogan, in the profession you adorn, none has rendered greater service than you. Your latest achievement is the solution of the difficult engineering problems that were associated with the building of a World's Fair on Flushing Meadow. The verdict of your own colleagues is abundantly evident in your presidency of the American Society of Civil Engineers. In recognition of your great professional services we now name you honorary Doctor of Engineering.

GANO DUNN

Mr. Voorhis:

Native New Yorker, alumnus of City College and of the engineering school at Columbia; president of the J. G. White Engineering Corporation since 1913; past president of the New York Electrical Society, the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and the United Engineering Society; past chairman of the Engineering Foundation and the National Research Council; effective officer and delegate at many international scientific congresses; able counselor of national defence agencies; honored member of a score of distinguished professional and learned societies; valued director and trustee of various banking, industrial and educational establishments; president of the Cooper Union for Advancement of Science and Art; humanist and man of affairs; he is presented for the degree of Doctor of Science.

Chancellor Chase:

Gano Dunn, in the midst of a crowded professional career, the latest achievement of which is the streamlining of the Island of Haiti, you have somehow found time for so many varieties of public service that the mere recounting of them would turn this citation into a biographical essay. These are matters of record for all men to read. You have contributed to education, to business, to national and international affairs, and all your life you have been concerned with the advancement of science in many fields. You are entitled to any honorary degree in the whole category, but we have chosen that of Doctor of Science, which I now confer upon you.

FRANK AYDELOTTE

Mr. Voorhis:

Frank Aydelotte, A.B., Indiana; A.M., Harvard; B.Litt., Oxford; American Secretary to the Rhodes Trustees since 1918, and president for the past ten years of the American Association of Rhodes Scholars; sometime normal and high-school teacher of English and professor of that subject at Indiana University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; trustee of leading foundations for the advancement of learning; president of Swarthmore College for the past nineteen years, where he repaired the plumbing, extended the plant, bolstered the endowment, pioneered the "honors" movement among American colleges, sweetened faculty salaries, balanced the budget, and brought tears to the students when he announced last fall his withdrawal to accept the directorship of that crowning citadel of higher education in this country, the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton; scholar, educator, administrator, author, editor—Doctor of Laws of New York University, if you please, Mr. Chancellor.

Chancellor Chase:

Frank Aydelotte, the degree we give you to-day bears witness both to our recognition of what you have done for the cause of education and to our faith in what, as head of the Institute for Advanced Study, you will be doing over the years that lie ahead. For myself, I hail you as a respected and admired colleague, and with genu-

ine pleasure I confer upon you our degree of Doctor of Laws.

HONORARY DEGREES CONFERRED BY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

AT the commencement of Columbia University the doctorate of laws was presented to the Marquess of Lothian, British Ambassador to the United States; Associate Justice Stanley F. Reed, of the United States Supreme Court; Dr. Robert L. Stearns, president of the University of Colorado, and Cupertino del Campo, president of the Instituto Cultural Argentino-Norteamericano, Buenos Aires, and the doctorate of letters to Carl Van Doren, editor and author; Harry M. Lydenberg, director of the New York Public Library, and Sidney B. Fay, professor of history at Harvard University.

The degree of doctor of science was conferred on Dr. Alfred E. Cohn, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research; on Dr. Arthur H. Merritt, president of the First District Dental Society of New York; on Dr. Charles K. Leith, professor of geology in the University of Wisconsin; on Dr. Ross G. Harrison, Sterling professor of biology in Yale University; on Dr. Harvey N. Davis, president of Stevens Institute of Technology, and on Dr. William O. Hotchkiss, president of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

The citations were made in the absence of Dr. Butler by Frederick Coykendall, chairman of the board of trustees. For the recipients of the degree of doctor of science they were as follows:

ALFRED EINSTEIN COHN

Member of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research; graduated from Columbia College in 1900 and from the College of Physicians and Surgeons four years later; associated since 1911 in most important scientific work at the Rockefeller Institute; counselor and guide for medical research in many fields and under many different authorities, particularly in respect to the treatment of chronic human ailments, notably those of the aging heart and circulatory system; distinguished for the training and guidance of men as well as for the study of disease.

ARTHUR HASTINGS MERRITT

President of the First District Dental Society of New York; graduated with highest honors from the New York College of Dentistry in 1895 and entering at once upon the practice of his chosen profession; giving particular attention to research in the field of periodontia with most fortunate and helpful results for his fellow men; highly honored both at home and abroad for his scientific achievements.

CHARLES KENNETH LEITH

Professor of geology at the University of Wisconsin; a distinguished son of Wisconsin and graduate of its university; turning at once to geology as a field of instruction and research; putting his rich knowledge at the service of the government on many important occasions; notably honored at home and abroad for his scientific leadership and inspiration in the field of economic geology, especially in all that relates to the economic aspects of the vast iron industry.

ROSS GRANVILLE HARRISON

Sterling professor of biology in Yale University; trained at Johns Hopkins University in its early years and then at the University of Bonn; entering at once upon that vitally important field of study and research which he has since cultivated with brilliant distinction; climbing one rung after another of the ladder of scientific advancement until he is now hailed on both sides of the Atlantic as one of the world's outstanding biologists and leaders of scientific thought.

HARVEY NATHANIEL DAVIS

President of Stevens Institute of Technology; after student days at Brown and Harvard Universities, choosing a career in which he has been highly successful as a teacher and research worker in the field of mechanical engineering, especially as to all which deals with the properties of steam; president of Stevens Institute of Technology since 1928; who well illustrates the saying of Oliver Wendell Holmes that science is a first-rate piece of furniture for a man's upper chamber if he has common sense on the ground floor.

WILLIAM OTIS HOTCHKISS

President of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; another distinguished son of Wisconsin and educated at its honored State University; working successfully in mining, his chosen field of geological study; made state geologist of Wisconsin in 1909, and elected president of the Michigan College of Mining and Technology in 1925; now serving with distinction as president of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, our oldest school of engineering.

DINNER IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR McCLUNG

A DINNER in honor of Dr. C. E. McClung, professor of zoology and director of the zoological laboratory of the University of Pennsylvania, was held on the evening of June 1 at the Hotel Philadelphian, in Philadelphia. The dinner was attended by more than a hundred and fifty colleagues, former students and other friends. Dr. George William McClelland, provost of the university, acted as toastmaster. The speakers included: Professor Wyman Green, of Drew University; Dr. John C. Johnson, director of the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory, and the following from the University of Pennsylvania: Provost Emeritus J. H. Penniman; Emeritus Professors of Zoology P. P. Calvert and J. P. Moore; Emeritus Professor of History E. P. Cheyney; H. Lamar Crosby, formerly dean of the Graduate School; and Dr. A. N. Richards, vice-president in charge of medical affairs. Presentations were made by D. H. Wenrich, professor of zoology. To Dr. McClung were presented a bound copy of Volume 66 of the *Journal of Morphology,*