the construction of small community hospitals in various states and continued to render services of various kinds to ten older institutions built since 1927. As a contribution to medical education, the fund gave fellowships for advanced study to seventeen teachers in medical schools or to junior staff physicians in teaching hospitals selected for appointment to medical faculties.

THE INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

THE Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma has approved the incorporation of an industrial research institute. Dr. Homer L. Dodge, dean of the Graduate School, who with President W. B. Bizzell, formulated the plans, recently visited and made a study of several research foundations. The institute will differ from others in that it will include not only the natural sciences and engineering, but also social sciences and commerce.

It plans to make available to industry the investigators and research facilities of the university. Smaller industrial concerns, unable to afford research laboratories and technicians, will be aided.

The institute will be a non-profit corporation and will be conducted without cost to the state. Arrangements for securing funds will be entered into with industrial companies and private individuals. The Board of Regents, therefore, acting through administrative officials of the university, will establish an agency to arrange with industrial concerns for fellowships and research projects and the use of equipment. Three fellowships, financed by individual corporations, are now in existence at the university, and more are expected to be added as the program expands. Patents taken out will be held by the institute, and all royalties received will be used for research.

Since plans have been in process of formation for several years, the institute will go into operation as soon as it is incorporated.

THE SCHOOL OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY

CORNELL UNIVERSITY has received a gift of a new building for the School of Chemical Engineering, to be erected at a cost of $700,000. The donor is Franklin W. Olin, of Alton, Ill., a civil engineer graduate in 1886 and trustee of the university, who for many years has been president of the Western Cartridge Company and affiliated concerns. Mr. Olin presented the building as a memorial to his son, Franklin D. Olin, Jr., who received his M.E. degree from Cornell in 1912 and died in 1921. Construction will begin immediately, on a schedule calling for completion in October of this year. The plan contemplates similar buildings for the other three schools of civil, mechanical and electrical engineering, with a materials and metallurgy laboratory equipped to serve the entire college. These buildings will form a new quadrangle on the southern portion of the main university campus.

According to Dean S. C. Hollister,

> Olin Hall of Chemical Engineering will have unsurpassed facilities for training in this field. With more than 100,000 feet of floor space, the building will provide numerous laboratories of varying sizes, adapted both to undergraduate instruction and to graduate research. Occupying most of one wing will be an extensive three-story laboratory, enabling students to build and operate large-scale model plants, embracing all the equipment necessary for following through an entire chemical manufacturing process.
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> These facilities will give our students the means of studying chemical processes not only on a test-tube scale, but also on a basis so closely approximating commercial manufacture that they can readily determine economic as well as engineering factors in designing and operating full-scale plants.

Olin Hall will be an L-shaped structure with three stories above a basement. Both portions of the building will be 60 feet in depth. It will be of fireproof construction throughout, faced in part with native stone to harmonize with Myron Taylor and Willard Straight Halls, which are adjacent. Architects for the new building are Shreeve, Lamb and Harmon of New York City.

An unusual feature of the building is that the majority of the lecture rooms, class rooms and offices will be placed on the ground floor to avoid congestion on stairways. Three lecture rooms, accommodating respectively 300, 110 and 70 students, will be on this floor. There will be a single lecture room, seating 200, on the second floor. Throughout the building there will be numerous small laboratories for specialized instruction and research.

The new building is designed to accommodate approximately 450 undergraduates and a large number of graduate students. The School of Chemical Engineering, under a selective system of limited enrolment, now has 277 students, an increase of 119 in this field since the school was established in 1938.

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

PROGRESS of scientific investigations carried out during the past year at the Smithsonian Institution was reported in January by Charles G. Abbot, secretary of the Board of Regents.

The Astrophysical Observatory has nearly completed the revision of results of measurements of the solar constant—a factor from which can be computed the amount of energy from the sun falling on the earth—for the past eighteen years.

By eliminating a season effect in the cycles of solar variation Dr. Abbot himself has found a closer corre-