

THE OLIN HALL OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY

THE cornerstone of the Olin Hall of Chemical Engineering of Cornell University, to be erected at a cost of \$700,000, was laid on June 14, during the annual alumni reunions. In the absence on account of ill health of Franklin W. Olin, the donor, the ceremony was performed by his son, John M. Olin, who made a brief address. Another son, Spencer T. Olin, was also in attendance.

President Edmund Ezra Day in his reply said:

We have had a dream of the future of engineering at Cornell. It is a dream set in an illustrious record of achievement in the past in this field. It has to be remembered that it was at Cornell University that engineering was first recognized as worthy of support by the full resources of a great educational institution and first achieved distinction at the university level. It is unbelievable that engineering at Cornell should cease to have a place of great distinction in American education, but it has been clear at the same time that if that place were to be here, the existing resources of the Engineering College here at Ithaca had to be promptly and substantially amplified. Consequently, we have been dreaming dreams. For a time they seemed to be but dreams. Then Franklin W. Olin stepped into the picture and gave us reassurance of immeasurable value. Sometimes benefactions have values which defy measurement. It is my opinion that this great gift of Mr. Olin falls in that class. Not only does it supply the need of modernized facilities for the School of Chemical Engineering; it gives reassurance of the success of the whole Engineering College program. The value of this gift is enhanced because of its timing. It comes at a time when this undertaking needed just the kind of "lift" that this edifice gives. Nothing that has happened at Cornell since I have been here has afforded so much encouragement for the future.

Dean S. C. Hollister, of the College of Engineering, who presided at the ceremony, then introduced Spencer T. Olin, who briefly substantiated the sentiments expressed by his brother; Ezra Whitman, chairman of the Trustee Committee on Buildings and Grounds; Provost H. W. Peters; Maxwell M. Upson, chairman of the Committee on Development of the Endowed Colleges of the Board of Trustees; John Lowry, of John Lowry, Inc., contractor of the building; Harold Shreve, of Shreve, Lamb and Harmon, architects of the building, and Dr. F. H. Rhodes, Johnson professor of industrial chemistry and director of the School of Chemical Engineering. It is planned to open the new building in the autumn.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK CITY

AN appropriation of \$100,000 is included in the 1941-42 budget of the Health Department for the new Public Health Research Institute of New York

City. It will be used exclusively for scientific research essential for the protection and the improvement of the health, safety and welfare of the people of the city.

Following favorable action by the Board of Estimate and the City Council, the Board of Estimate on June 26 authorized the city to enter into a contract with the Research Institute. This will be a scientific, non-profit organization, entirely devoted to obtaining for the city the best available biological products and advanced skill and procedures for combating disease and epidemics which occur or may occur.

In commenting on the Board of Estimate's approval of the contract, Mayor F. H. LaGuardia said:

Many public health problems that arise in this city are peculiar to this locality, and scientific research and experimentation with regard thereto must be done locally. In this the largest city in the world, disease may readily assume epidemic proportions and thus it is most essential that our municipal Health Department be fortified with the best research talent and facilities available. The Research Institute will make that possible.

Dr. John L. Rice stated that David M. Heyman, a member of the banking firm of Adolph Lewisohn and Sons, had been named president of the institute and a member of the Board of Health. The *President* of the Board of Health is David Rockefeller, son of John D. Rockefeller, Jr.; the *Vice-president*, David Morse, attorney; the *Secretary* and *Treasurer*, Edwin P. Chinlund, president of the Postal Telegraph Company. *Ex-officio* members of the board are: Mayor LaGuardia, Comptroller Joseph D. McGoldrick and the Health Commissioner.

A research council has been set up by the board, with Dr. Thomas M. Rivers, director of the Hospital of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, as *chairman*. Dr. Rivers also is a member of the Board of Health of New York City. Other medical and scientific men named to the Research Council are:

Dr. Eugene L. Opie, professor of pathology, Cornell University Medical College; Dr. Henry Clapp Sherman, professor of chemistry, Columbia University; Dr. Michael Heidelberger, associate professor of biochemistry of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia; Dr. George Baehr, clinical professor of medicine of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, who is also physician to Mount Sinai Hospital, trustee of the New York Academy of Medicine and chairman of its Public Health Relations Committee, and Dr. Ralph S. Muckenfuss, director of the Bureau of Laboratories of the Department of Health, member *ex-officio*.

The contract between the city and the Research Institute, approved by the Board of Estimate, became effective on July 1. Neither members of the Board of Directors nor of the Research Council will receive