

London, Berlin, Heidelberg and Paris, abroad, as well as in Buffalo, St. Louis and Boston, here, and that this institution has the advantage of having an organization of men thoroughly trained in cancer research work, which it has taken ten years to develop and bring together.

The problem of cancer is the most serious of all the problems that confront the medical profession to-day. The steady increase of the disease baffling all efforts to discover the cause or a means of controlling it has attracted the leading minds in medicine to the field of cancer research. The only hope of a solution of this great problem is by bringing to bear upon the problem, the combined efforts of every department of medical science and by having the closest affiliation between the cancer wards and the scientific laboratories of a great university. W. B. C.

#### THE NATIONAL ARGENTINE OBSERVATORY

UPON the recommendation of the Minister of Public Instruction the Argentine Congress has provided in its budget for 1912 a 5 foot reflecting telescope for the National Observatory at Córdoba.

It is expected to locate this telescope in the mountains to the west of and close to Córdoba where preliminary investigations have already been made and the meteorological conditions found to be good.

The program of work for this telescope comprises photographs and other investigations of the nebulae and clusters of the southern sky, in continuation of similar work in the northern sky; photographic observations of comets, faint satellites, etc.; stellar parallax; observations of special regions of the sky; spectrographic observations with high and low dispersion and in the line of sight.

C. D. PERRINE

OBSERVATORIO NACIONAL ARGENTINO,  
CÓRDOBA, May 11, 1912

#### AN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ANTHROPOLOGY

At an International Conference called by the Royal Anthropological Institute and held

June 4 in the rooms of the institute, London, immediately following the sessions of the International Congress of Americanists, it was voted to organize an international congress of the anthropological sciences, which shall either include several existing congresses or work in affiliation with them. The congresses which it is hoped may become a part of the projected congress are Congrès International d'Anthropologie et d'Archéologie Préhistoriques, International Congress of Anthropology, Congrès Internationaux d'Ethnographie, International Folk-Lore Congresses and International Congress of Americanists. The organizing committee appointed by Dr. A. P. Maudslay, president of the conference, consists of the following: Maudslay (*ex officio*), chairman, R. R. Marrett (Oxford), secretary, Hrdlička, Boas, Krämer, Capitan, Heger, Duckworth, Waxweiler, Lafone Quevedo, van Panhuys. This committee met at the close of the conference and decided that a congress should not be held before 1915 (if then). In the meantime a general committee is being constituted by gradually adding names to the organizing committee; and sub-committees are being formed to establish harmonious relations with the various existing international congresses.

GEORGE GRANT MACCURDY

#### HONORARY DEGREES IN SCIENCE

THE degrees conferred by Harvard University at its recent commencement on men of science and words used by President Lowell are as follows:

Master of arts: Charles Francis Stokes, surgeon for sailors in peace and war, on sea and land, on battleships in the west and the east and around the world; professor of surgery, director of hospitals, Surgeon-General of the Navy. Doctor of science: Frederick Forchheimer, who in his practise, by his teaching, and with his pen, has contributed to the marvellous advance of medicine in our day; a man in the judgment of his peers worthy to preside over the Association of American Physicians; Carlos de la Torre y Huerta, statesman and naturalist; first in his knowledge of the molluscs of the Gulf; discoverer of fossils who has revolutionized the geologic history of Cuba; Frederick Cheever Shattuck, a teacher of medicine, pungent

and incisive; a practitioner with the insight that makes a physician great, and with a strong man's sympathy that has brought comfort and courage to countless sufferers; Benjamin Osgood Peirce, physicist and mathematician, by whose skill in experiment and calculation intricate problems in heat and magnetism have been solved; a man of science ignorant only of his own deserts. Doctor of laws: George Washington Goethals, a soldier who has set a standard for the conduct of civic works; an administrator who has maintained security and order among a multitude of workmen in the tropics; an engineer who is completing the vast design of uniting two oceans through a peak in Darien.

The honorary degree of doctor of laws was conferred by Western Reserve University, at commencement, upon Dr. P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education; Dr. G. A. Gordon, pastor of the Old South Church, Boston, and Dr. T. C. Mendenhall. Dr. Mendenhall was presented by Dr. Frank Perkins Whitman, professor of physics, who said:

*Mr. President:* I present to you, that he may receive at your hands the degree of doctor of laws, Thomas Corwin Mendenhall, teacher, investigator, administrator, professor of physics, but chiefly leader and inspirer of youth in this state, and the Imperial University of Japan; effective interpreter of nature and her laws; president of two notable scientific schools; head of a great government department; leader or collaborator in many scientific undertakings of the United States. Though prevented in youth by circumstances, not according to his desire, from entering regularly on her courses of study, Professor Mendenhall is no stranger to Western Reserve, for at the old college in Hudson he found a congenial academic atmosphere, and the inspiration of high scholarly ideals, as a special student with Professor Charles A. Young. To-day Western Reserve University cordially receives him into the company of her graduates, at the summit of a career of which in the day of small beginnings she is happy to have had some part in laying the foundation.

Among recipients of the doctorate of laws from the University of Pennsylvania are the following: Joseph Swain, president of Swarthmore College, and the orator of the day; Louis A. Duhring, professor emeritus of dermatol-

ogy and honorary curator of the dermatological collections of the University of Pennsylvania; James Tyson, emeritus professor of medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, and John Grier Hibben, president of Princeton University.

At its recent commencement Northwestern University conferred the degree of doctor of science on Dr. Henry Smith Carhart, emeritus professor in the University of Michigan and from 1872 to 1886 professor of physics in Northwestern University.

Brown University has conferred the honorary degree of doctor of science on Professor W. J. Hussey, director of the observatory of the University of Michigan.

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#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE board of scientific directors of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research announces the following appointments and promotions: Alexis Carrel (experimental surgery) has been promoted to the rank of member of the institute. The following associates have been made associate members for a term of three years: Peyton Rous (pathology and bacteriology), Donald Dexter Van Slyke (chemistry), Walter Abraham Jacobs (chemistry) and Frank Watts Bancroft (experimental biology). The following assistants have been made associates: Paul Franklin Clark (pathology and bacteriology), Richard Vanderhorst Lamar (pathology and bacteriology) and Harold Wasteneys (experimental biology). The following new appointments are announced: Harold Lindsay Amoss (assistant in pathology), Clarence J. West (assistant in chemistry), Wolfgang Ewald (fellow in experimental biology), Francis Richard Fraser (assistant resident physician and assistant in medicine), Frederic Moir Hanes (assistant resident physician and assistant in medicine).

DR. EDGAR W. OLIVE, professor of botany in the State College of South Dakota, and state botanist, has been appointed curator in the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, to have charge of the department of public instruction, and also