

in the years 1875 and 1876, as having inaugurated the renaissance of the study of the structure and functions of plants which had been so brilliantly carried on by British botanists in earlier times. It must, we feel sure, afford you great and justifiable satisfaction to contemplate the marvelous development of such studies in this country during the years that have passed since you quickened them into new life.

The professorial career on which you had embarked so brilliantly was unfortunately, as it may have seemed at the time, brought to a close by your appointment to the assistant directorship of Kew in 1875 and your subsequent appointment as director ten years later. The work that you were enabled to carry out at Kew has been of such national importance that, however much we may regret the loss of the stimulating influence you would undoubtedly have exerted as a professor, we all realize the great and lasting services you have rendered to botany, not only from the purely scientific point of view, but also in relation to the development and encouragement of botanical enterprise throughout the British Empire.

Another notable result of the interest you inspired was the successful launching of the *Annals of Botany*, which has come to be one of the leading botanical periodicals of the world. We do not forget that it was your enthusiasm that turned the scale when the question of "to be or not to be" hung in the balance. The *Annals* is a lasting monument to your courage and prescience.

It would need a lengthy document were we to attempt to set out in detail the value of your many efforts for the promotion of our science, but in conclusion we feel we must refer to the noble work you did in saving the old Chelsea Physic Garden from destruction. Thanks to you, London has now a botanic garden where students and teachers can study the structure and functions of plants and pursue those studies which you did so much to promote.

With our very kind regards and good wishes,

Believe us to be, dear Sir William,

Yours very truly,

D. H. SCOTT	F. KEEBLE
S. H. VINES	A. B. RENDLE
F. O. BOWER	A. SHIPLEY
BALFOUR	H. WAGER
H. T. BROWN	F. F. BLACKMAN
D. PRAIN	V. H. BLACKMAN
F. DARWIN	F. W. OLIVER
H. H. DIXON	A. G. TANSLEY
A. C. SEWARD	F. E. WEISS
J. B. FARMER	A. W. HILL

and all the leading botanists in Great Britain and Ireland.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE University of Strasbourg has conferred the title of doctor *honoris causa* on Drs. Simon Flexner and Jacques Loeb, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research; William H. Welch, of the Johns

Hopkins University; William Maddock Bayliss and Ernest Henry Starling, of the University College of London; John Newport Langley, of the University of Cambridge; Edward L. Ehlers, of the University of Copenhagen; Jules J. B. Bordet, of the University of Brussels; Edoardo Perroncito, of the University of Turin, and Santiago Ramon y Cajal, of the University of Madrid.

AT the general public meeting of the American Chemical Society on Tuesday, September 11, addresses of welcome will be delivered by C. H. Hall, chairman of the Milwaukee Section; Hon. Daniel Hoan, mayor of Milwaukee; Hon. Emanuel Philipp, president of the Milwaukee Association of Commerce, and President Fox, of Milwaukee University. The general addresses at this meeting will be delivered by Dr. Charles F. Burgess, who will speak on "Marketing chemical discoveries," and Dean R. T. Kendall, of the Medical School, Northwestern University, who will speak on "Bacteria and the chemist."

THE following awards have been made by the Royal College of Physicians, London: The Baly gold medal, given every alternate year for distinction in the science of physiology, to Mr. J. Barcroft; the Bisset-Hawkins medal, bestowed triennially for work in advancing sanitary science or in promoting public health, to Dr. T. M. Legge.

AT the International Surgical Congress recently held in London, Dr. Davide Giordano, Venice, Italy, was elected president to succeed Sir William Macewen. The predecessors in the presidency of these congresses were: Kocher, of Berne; Czerny, of Heidelberg; Championnière, of Paris; Depage, of Brussels, and Keen, of Philadelphia. The next congress will be held in Rome.

WE learn from the *Journal* of the American Medical Association that more than twenty physicians of Ontario were candidates at the recent elections to the Canadian Parliament. The following physicians were the successful candidates: Joseph D. Monteith, Stratford; the Hon. David Jamieson, Durham; Arthur G. Wallis, Algoma; Leeming Carr, East Hamilton; George V. Harcourt, Parry Sound; Forbes E. Godfrey, West York, and John P. Vrooman, Lennox.

THE National Alliance for the Increase of the French Population has awarded the first prize of 50,000 fr. to M. Paul Haury for the best popular pamphlet on the decreasing birth rate in France and the tragic consequences to the nation.

SIR RICHARD GLAZEBROOK has been appointed chairman in charge of exhibits in pure science at the British Empire Exhibition to be held next year in London.