Notices.

FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ELECTRO-RADIO-BIOLOGY.

The International Society of Radio-Biology announces that His Excellency Benito Mussolini, following the favourable advice of the National Council of Research, approved the calling of an International Congress of Electro-Radio-Biology. This First International Congress of Electro-Radio-Biology will take place from September 10 to 15, 1934, in the Doges Palace at Venice.

The Congress will be presided over by his Excellency, the Marquis Guglielmo Marconi, President of the Royal Academy of Italy, President of the National Council of Research, State Senator, and by His Excellency, Count Giuseppe Volpi di Misurata, State Minister, State Senator.

The object of the Congress is to invite Physicists, Chemists, Biologists, Naturalists, and Physicians, for a discussion on the biological action of all radiations, in order to co-ordinate the respective investigations.

Moreover, the organizers of the congress hope to determine the radio-biological tendency of many present physical and biological investigations.

The Congress also intends to study the chemical and biological phenomena of radiations.

The applications of the radiations to medicine and therapy will not be examined and discussed in this Congress.

For further information application should be made to the General Secretary of the Congress, Dr. Giocondo Protti, S. Gregorio 173, Venice (Italy).

HENRY LESTER INSTITUTE OF RESEARCH, SHANGHAI.

Information has recently been received regarding the establishment of this new agency for the fight against disease in the Far East.

Mr. Henry Lester, who died in 1926, left funds for the provision of an institute for the study of medical science and, under the advice of a representative of the University of Hong Kong, the trustees decided that the Institute should take the form of a post-graduate organization mainly devoted to research. With this end in view a site, measuring some 350 feet by 500 feet, was purchased in Avenue Road, Shanghai, and on this site fine modern buildings have been erected.
The main building is E shaped and has a frontage of 200 feet, with two wings each ninety feet long and a small central block. There are three main floors with a basement under the main central block and a flat roof over all. The ground floor provides accommodation for lecture halls, library, journal rooms, and administrative offices. The first floor is devoted to physiological sciences and the second floor to pathology, while on the roof provision is made for an aquarium, an insectarium, and some laboratory units.

The laboratory accommodation has been provided on the unit plan, that is to say all rooms either consist of a unit space of twelve feet by eighteen feet, which is considered sufficient for a single research worker, or of multiples of this unit space for groups of workers or special purposes. The partitions between the laboratories are of aerocrete and are non-structural, so that if in the future any redistribution of the available space is found necessary, the rearrangement can be carried out with a minimum of inconvenience and at small cost.

The importance of providing animal quarters designed to give living conditions such as obtain in a modern animal hospital has been recognized and a separate Animal House has been built. This consists of rooms situated round a central court and is equipped with panel heating, cold and hot water, steam, gas, electric light and power and apparently everything else required for the efficient care and handling of the dumb aids to scientific progress.

The equipment of the whole Institute appears to have been carried out on a scale worthy of the buildings and Dr. H. G. Earle, the Director, is to be congratulated on the collection of a staff well qualified to engage in organized research.

The buildings were only taken over at the end of 1932 and so far there has been time for not more than the planning out of the work of the different sections, but with the abundance of material available in China and the facilities provided in this Institute and in the Lester Chinese Hospital for its investigation, fruitful results are to be expected in the future.

**AIDED GOVERNMENT MEDICAL OFFICER POSTS IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA.**

From time to time the Government of Southern Rhodesia requires medical officers for small out-stations at which it is not desirable to place recently qualified practitioners as there is insufficient work to keep them fully occupied, but which are very suitable stations for active men, retired on pension and fond of country life.

At the present time (June, 1934) there is a vacancy at one station Umvuma, on the railway between Gwelo and Fort Victoria and some thirty
miles from the former town. It is a pleasant village of some one hundred European inhabitants in the midst of a ranching and small mining community.

It is essential that the medical officer be reasonably physically fit and reliable in all respects. There is no hospital at Umvuma but a well-equipped modern hospital is in course of erection at Gwelo.

The actual Government duties of the post are roughly medical attendance on members of the B.S.A. Police and their families, school boarders, indigent persons, prisoners and the medico-legal and public health supervision of the district. In practice this will not be found to extend to more than a few hours work per week.

The Government salary is at the rate of £300 per annum plus certain payments for official mileage and for medicines supplied to patients. Private practice is to be expected but it is hard to compute its value, which may range from £60 to £120 per annum.

The climate is very healthy and the social amenities are good. Excellent educational facilities at very reasonable rates exist in Gwelo and elsewhere in the Colony and the income tax is 1s. in the £ on incomes over £800 for a married man. Excellent game shooting is available. Further details about South Rhodesia may be obtained from the Official Secretary to the High Commissioner for Southern Rhodesia, Crown House, Aldwych, W.C.2, and applications with full details should be made by air-mail to the Medical Director, Public Health Department, P.O. Box 587, Salisbury, South Rhodesia.
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