

Hostel accommodation for students at King's College is being substantially increased, a grant of 12,000*l.* having been allocated to this purpose. Among noteworthy events of the year were the following: the opening of the Unit of Obstetrics and Gynæcology at the Royal Free Hospital for Women and of the Institute of Historical Research; the inauguration of professorships of history, central European history, history and culture of British Dominions in Asia, Sanskrit, physics, and five medical school professorships; the institution of a Bachelorship in dental surgery and of a B.A. degree and diploma in Slavonic studies; the creation of a staff tutorship for University Extension Tutorial Classes; and the formation of a Union Society on the lines of those of Oxford and Cambridge. The report foreshadows the establishment, in close association with the University, of a central Post-graduate Medical School and Institute of State Medicine, a site for the purpose adjoining the University's Bloomsbury estate having been acquired by the Rockefeller Foundation which recently offered to provide 2,000,000 dollars for the furtherance of these objects. Arrangements were made during the year with the University of Paris for six members of the Faculty of Medicine to lecture in London, and six similar exchanges in various departments of science were arranged with four Dutch Universities. The report closes with an eloquent and stimulating reminder of present-day university educational aims.

THE council of the British Medical Association announces that an Ernest Hart Memorial Scholarship, tenable for one year, of the value of 200*l.*, for the study of State medicine, and three Research Scholarships, each of the value of 150*l.*, and tenable for one year, for the investigation of a subject relating to the causation, prevention or treatment of disease, are to be awarded. Grants in aid of research in these subjects will also be made. Preference will be given to members of the medical profession and to applicants who propose to undertake to investigate problems of practical medicine. Applications for scholarships and grants should reach the Medical Secretary of the Association, 429 Strand, W.C.2, not later than June 24 next.

THE Board of Education has just published a table of holiday courses which will be held in England and Wales during the coming summer (H.M.S.O. 6d). In addition to general courses for teachers at most of the centres, there are special courses in the following subjects:—biology, at Aberystwyth and Saltburn; practical geography, at Nottingham, Scarborough, Falmouth, Brecon, Barry, Bangor, Oxford, and Bristol; economic geology, at Camborne; mine surveying, at Camborne, Amman Valley, Cardiff, and Penarth; mechanical, electrical, and civil engineering, at Cardiff and Penarth; psychology, at Brighton, Derby, Nottingham, Repton Hall, and Bangor; science courses for teachers, at Cardiff, Barry, Penarth, Oxford, Weston-super-Mare, and Repton Hall; sociology, at Edinburgh; oceanography and fisheries, at Barrow-in-Furness; botany, chemistry, mycology, and entomology applied to everyday life, at Wye; and climatology and the relations between geological structure and agriculture, at Midhurst, the country hostel of the London School of Economics. In this course, Prof. W. T. Gordon and Dr. E. J. Russell will lecture; of the other courses, about half are being organised by various educational bodies and the remainder by local education authorities and neighbouring universities. The table gives the dates of each course, the fees, the principal subjects of instruction, the address of the local secretary, and other particulars.

Calendar of Industrial Pioneers.

May 11, 1830. Friedrich Albrecht Winsor died.—A native of Brunswick, Winsor settled in England about the end of the eighteenth century. He lectured upon the use of gas, in 1806 had an exhibition of appliances at 97 Pall Mall, London, and early the following year lit a part of that street with gas. This was the first street lighted in that way. He was connected with the Westminster Gas Light and Coke Company, and in 1815 went to Paris, where he died; there is a cenotaph to his memory in Kensal Green Cemetery.

May 13, 1883. James Young died.—The originator of the paraffin industry, Young was born in Glasgow in 1811, became an assistant to Thomas Graham, the chemist, and was then successively manager to Muspratt and to Tennant. Through a suggestion of Lyon Playfair, Young was led to the investigation of a petroleum spring at Alfreton, Derbyshire, and in 1850 took out a patent for the dry distillation of coal. Entering into partnership with Meldrum and Binney, he founded works in Scotland, where naphtha, lubricating oils, paraffin for burning and solid paraffin were produced.

May 13, 1884. Cyrus Hall M'Cormick died.—The son of an American farmer who had introduced various labour-saving appliances, M'Cormick began work on the reaping machine in 1831, three years later took out a patent, and in 1847 started a factory for manufacturing his machines in Chicago. It was afterwards said that owing to M'Cormick's invention "the line of civilisation moves westward thirty miles each year." Many honours fell to him, and he was made a corresponding member of the Paris Academy of Sciences as having done more for the cause of civilisation than any other living man.

May 14, 1852. Walter Hancock died.—A member of the family whose name is associated with the rise of the British rubber industry, Hancock was born in Wiltshire in 1799. Between 1824 and 1836 he made a large number of experiments with steam road carriages, in 1832 built the *Era* which ran between London and Brighton, and the following year constructed the *Enterprise* which ran between Paddington and the City.

May 14, 1915. John Samuel White died.—The founder of a well-known firm of shipbuilders and engineers at East Cowes, White was one of the pioneers of the fast steamboat for naval purposes. To increase the manœuvring power of his boats he brought out the double rudder system with the deadwood removed.

May 15, 1888. Charles François Hervé Mangon died.—A student of the École Polytechnique and the École des Ponts et Chaussées, Mangon, though originally employed on railway engineering, was best known for his works on irrigation and drainage and the application of science to agriculture. He held a chair in the École des Ponts et Chaussées, was a member of the Paris Academy of Sciences, and for a time was director of the Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers.

May 17, 1910. Philip Cardew died.—From the Military Academy at Woolwich Cardew passed into the Royal Engineers and afterwards specialised in the application of electricity to purposes of war. He was instructor in this subject at Chatham and became known for his inventions, among which were the hot-wire voltmeter and the vibrating transmitter for telegraphy. In 1888 he became the first electrical adviser to the Board of Trade. E. C. S.