Physiological Universe

Leaves at University

In connection with the Adelaide University Physical Universe extension lectures, Dr. A. B. Doherty, lecturer in the Physical University, will give on Tuesday evening, 20th July, the last of his series of lectures on "The New Physics and the New Atom," at the University. The lecture will be in outline an account of some of the knowledge and speculations concerning the physical universe.

The lectures will be based on the developments and major achievements of astronomical observation. The relation of astronomical data to the revolutions of the Earth and the Sun will be considered. We can measure the scale of the universe in space and time. The properties and characteristics of matter and energy, and the classification of the atom, will be discussed. Finally, the nature of light, and its relation to matter, will be explained. The life history of stars will be described. The radioactivity of cosmic rays will be considered. The meaning of cosmic rays will be explained.

In the audience, a large number of students and others, will have the opportunity to discuss the lecture with the lecturer. The lecture will be followed by an interval, during which refreshments will be available. The lecture will be open to the public and admission will be free.

A Wonderful Discovery
TERROR OF DIABETES DISPelled
Once Hopeless Disease Conquered

It is doubtful whether the majority of people realize the boon conferred upon humanity in the discovery of insulin, the now world-famous remedy for diabetes. This disease was formerly an absolutely hopeless one. A person attacked by it in youth or middle age had not the slightest chance of recovery. It was one of the incurable diseases known to medical science, and in young people it was usually so swift in its inroads that once it was diagnosed no comfort could be given to the sufferer. A severe diet, which in itself made existence almost a living death, was practically the only form of treatment. Insulin, however, has conquered this fatal disease.

Diabetes, the wasting disease of the pancreas, has long been so well known to the whole community that its effects are obvious to any one. Until comparatively recently it was one of the mystery diseases. Its cause was unknown and its treatment baffled the medical profession of the world. Scientists, however, have been devoting to the finding of a cure for many years, and it is doubtful whether the world at large will ever know how much of its hope and energy has been put into this study. Even now, however, it is questionable whether the community at large realizes to the full the effect of Dr. Banting's discovery.

Effective in All Cases

A paragraph which appeared in the "South Australian" recently stating that another Canadian research worker had prepared a substitute for insulin, which could be taken by the mouth, led a reporter of this paper to question Professor T. Brailsford Robertson, of the University of Adelaide, regarding the progress that had been made with the use of insulin in the treatment of diabetes. Professor Robertson said his treatment had succeeded beyond all question.

"You cannot put back a destroyed pancreas," he remarked, "any more than you can put back a bone that has gone, but insulin arrests the disease and is the only thing in the treatment of diabetes that gives it a normal expectation of life. It appears to be of value in every case, no matter how severe, though naturally in the less acute it is easier to treat. Both treatments are still going on, but with the object of proving the value of insulin. The medical profession will be effective if used in the proper way. It is necessary for the patient's diet, but there is no reason why with the continued use of insulin a person stricken with diabetes may not continue to live a normal life with reasonable care in the matter of the food taken.

Torturing Diet a Thing of the Past

Previously it was an absolutely hopeless disease in a young or middle aged person. The expectation of life after developing acute symptoms was probably not more than four years. There were, of course, people who could not die, and with them naturally insulin is not as effective in those with whom it is used. Formerly the diet made the treatment almost worse than the disease. It was torture. The medical profession has been able to forego the rule that the person with diabetes has itself inflicted terrible suffering upon patients. Of course, one cannot eat waffles," added Professor Robertson with a smile, "and results from the use of insulin, but there are many cases even in Adelaide where people who have had diabetes can eat just as normal and as good a life as anybody else and be as healthy as they were before they had diabetes.

Cost Within Reach of All

Professor Robertson in reply to further questions said the experiments now going on were in the direction of finding a way of administering insulin effectively through the mouth, but so far success had not been obtained. Further, preliminary to the injection of insulin from vegetable substances, and in that respect a certain amount of success had been reported. The only means of administering insulin was by hypodermic injection. Until about 13 months ago the Animal Products Research Foundation had supplied South Australia and the Western District with insulin, and it had been stored in the University's laboratories.

In the Executive Council on Wednesday the following appointments were made in the University's Honorary Staff. Dr. E. E. Maguire, honorary bio-chemical eximcler; Dr. H. H. T. Boyce, honorary oral surgeon, Dr. H. H. J. Poynter, honorary assistant oral surgeon, Dr. G. A. Garwood, dental surgeon, Dr. R. G. O'Leary, and Dr. J. H. Lewis, honorary dental surgeons. The appointment of Mr. E. A. Moore, Mr. G. C. Tanton, and Mr. H. J. Williams to the staff of the University was also announced.

Rohase Lectureship.

To Attract Special Learning.

LONDON, June 16. The annual Rhodes scholarships held at Oxford University to-night, Sir Otto Beit and Mr. F. W. Grant announced the foundation of the Oxford Rhodes Memorial Lectureship in connection with the new Rhodes House. It will be awarded to the best man or woman most distantly distinguished in public life, business, science, scholarship, or letters, on condition that the recipient resides at Oxford for one term, and delivers at least two lectures. The person to be invited to bring to Oxford distinguished persons of scholarship or science from any country in the world so that their special learning or experience may be made available to the University. It is expected that the value of the lectureship will be about £200.-.

Oxford Rhodes Lecture Ship.

Conditions Announced.

At the annual Rhodes Scholars' dinner at Oxford to-night, Sir Otto Beit and Mr. F. W. Grant announced the foundation of the Oxford Rhodes Memorial Lectureship in connection with the new Rhodes House. It will be awarded to the best man or woman most distantly distinguished in public life, business, science, scholarship, or letters, on condition that the recipient resides at Oxford for one term, and delivers at least two lectures. The person to be invited to bring to Oxford distinguished persons of scholarship or science from any country in the world so that their special learning or experience may be made available to the University. It is expected that the value of the lectureship will be about £200.-.