The Challenge of the Future to Medical Education:
DR. HENRY S. HOUGHTON ..................................................... 491

Science and Conservation: DR. JOHN C. MERRIAM ................. 496

Scientific Events:
Conversations of the Royal Society; Expedition of the Department of Tropical Research of the New York Zoological Society; Fellowships of the National Research Council; The Fiftieth Anniversary of the Founding of Memorial Hospital, New York City; The General Sessions of the American Association at Berkeley ......................................................... 497

Scientific Notes and News .................................................. 500

Discussion:

Societies and Meetings:
The Alabama Academy of Science: PROFESSOR P. H. YANCY. The Tennessee Academy of Science: PROFESSOR JOHN T. MCGILL ................................................................. 506

Scientific Apparatus and Laboratory Methods:
Fishing Colonies from a Gelatin Film Culture: DR. ANTONI KOZLOWSKI. "Use of Sodium Diethyl dithiocarbamate in the Determination of Minute Amounts of Copper": PROFESSOR HAL W. MOSELEY, ARTHUR G. ROHWER and MARGARET C. MOORE 507

Special Articles:
The Third Major Mechanical Factor in the Circulation of the Blood: PROFESSOR YANDELL HENDERSON, A. W. OUGHTERSON, L. A. GREENBERG and C. P. SEARLE. A Species and Genus of Freshwater Bryozoan New to North America: PROFESSOR ULRIC DAHLGREN .................................................... 508

Science News ................................................................. 8

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THE CHALLENGE OF THE FUTURE TO MEDICAL EDUCATION

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I

We meet to-day to mark the completion of a century of developing medical education in this commonwealth, to remember with respect and gratitude those who had a notable part in its growth, to appraise the fruits of progress and to look forward, as prophetically as we may, to the future.

Last night we had a spirited and eloquent outline of the heritage of this state in medical education. The line runs far back into the great sources of modern medicine in London and Edinburgh, and has come down through generation after generation of worthy and able men. The central thread of high idealism has held firm, and decade after decade has shown growth and vigor. That I was privileged to touch intimately the lives of some of these men—Starling, Loving and Francis Landacre—will always be a treasured memory. To these and all the noble pioneers of medicine in this region we owe a lasting debt. Let us say of them, in the words of the son of Sirach, "They gave their counsel with understanding, and were wise in their words of instruction. All these were honored in their generation, and were a glory in their day. There are some who have left a name, so that men declare their praise; and there are some who have no memorial, . . . yet these were