

EDITORIAL NOTES

AN UNFORTUNATE ERROR.

A patient at the George Washington University Hospital lost her life as a result of administration of formaldehyde. This brief mention of the unfortunate error is made, as statements regarding the occurrence differ. The coroner's jury placed the responsibility for the error on the pharmacist (Miss Blannie Bennet), however, other information differs from the findings. The latter stated that the 5-pound bottle from which she poured the solution was new and bore a paraldehyde label. Another patient in the same section suffered from the same poisoning, but recovered.

PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSORSHIP.

The first professorship in public health has been established in the University of Munich. Professor Dr. Schultze, the new state commissioner for public health in Bavaria, has been appointed lecturer. In his inaugural he pointed out first the negative side of his professorship; namely, combating the errors in medicine due to specialization. The problems of the new discipline in science are, as he stated, racial supervision, dwelling and colonization problems, social insurance and determination of the useful in folk remedies, the single great objective being that public health is political power.

IMPERIAL BOTANICAL CONFERENCE.

An Imperial Botanical Conference, commencing on August 28th and lasting two or three days, will be held in London this year. The subjects set down for discussion are of general interest to Empire botanists. The *Kew Bulletin*, in announcing the Conference, hopes that it will furnish a convenient meeting ground for home and overseas botanists who are on their way to attend the International Botanical Congress which meets at Amsterdam in the week following. The Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, is the chairman of the Organizing Committee of the Conference, and the honorary secretary is Professor W. Brown, Imperial College of Science and Technology, South Kensington, London, S. W. 7, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

FOURTH INTERNATIONAL HOSPITAL CONGRESS IN ROME.

The International Hospital Association an-

nounces that the fourth International Hospital Congress will take place in Rome from May 5-12, 1935. The Italian Government has extended a most cordial welcome to the Association, so that the visit to Rome is assured of being a most memorable one in every respect. The full program, giving all details of the Congress and of the study trips which will take place before and after the Congress, will be issued within a few weeks. The International Hospital Association requests government health departments, national associations and the press to give publicity to the Congress and to encourage a large attendance. The Association also expresses the hope that all who are interested in its work will endeavor to fit the Congress into their program of travel for 1935.

VACATION COURSES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HEIDELBERG.

The University of Heidelberg has provided vacation courses for those from foreign countries who desire to take part in one or the other of these special courses.

AUSTRIAN PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

The Austrian Pharmaceutical Society held its annual session in its building in Vienna. The usual order of business was carried out. Among the addresses was one by Professor Dr. H. Mark. The secretary of the organization is Dr. Hans Heger and the honorary president is Dr. Richard Firbas.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION AT TULANE.

The one hundredth anniversary of the establishment of Tulane University of Louisiana School of Medicine, New Orleans, was commemorated in a program sponsored by the Orleans Parish Medical Society, January 7th. This observance is a forerunner of the celebration planned by the University in June for three or four days, culminating on commencement day, June 12th. The recent program marked the actual day of its founding, the first Monday in January, 1835. The history of the institution was reviewed by Mayor T. Semmes Walmsley, and Drs. Charles C. Bass, dean, Waldemar R. Metz, Albert E. Fossier and Randolph Matas.