

for the experimental biologists and medical men to learn something definite about their history and initial functions that should be of great importance in the treatment of the diseases in man due to abnormalities of the ductless glands."

WOMAN ASTRONOMER HONORED BY OXFORD UNIVERSITY

For hundreds of years, Oxford University, in England, has been giving honorary degrees to leading men in the fields of science and art, but for the first time, a woman was so honored when the degree of Doctor of Science was conferred on Miss Annie Jump Cannon, of the Harvard College Observatory, in recognition of a long series of valuable contributions to astronomy, chief of which is the completion of a catalog of 225,300 stars - "The Henry Draper Catalog of Stellar Spectra".

This catalog was inspired by the late Prof. E. C. Pickering, former director of the observatory, and supported by funds provided as a memorial to Dr. Henry Draper of New York, who made some of the first successful astronomical photographs. It was started in 1911 and published as it progressed, the last volume appearing last summer. The complete work includes nine large volumes.

Miss Cannon sailed for England on June first and received the degree in person. She will visit astronomers in other parts of England and in France and will attend the triennial meeting of the International Astronomical Union at Cambridge, England, in July. She is a member of the Union's International Committee on Spectral Classification.

A native of Dover, Delaware, Miss Cannon attended Wellesley College, graduating in 1884 with the degree of B.S. Her connection with the Harvard Observatory began in 1897. Since then her work, in addition to the Henry Draper Catalog, has included a long series of observations of variable stars, a bibliography of the literature on variable stars, containing about 75,000 references, the discovery of 200 variable stars, 4 new stars and one spectroscopic binary, a double star with the two parts so close that only the spectroscope reveals their duplicity. Much of this work was done at the Harvard Observatory branch station at Arequipa, Peru.

Among the other honors that she has received are honorary membership in the Royal Astronomical Society of Great Britain, and in the American Philosophical Society of Philadelphia; honorary degrees of Doctor of Science from the University of Delaware in 1918; Doctor of Astronomy from the University of Groningen, Holland, in 1921; and Doctor of Laws from Wellesley, her alma mater, last month. In addition, she has been selected as one of the twelve greatest living American women, by the National League of Women Voters.

A single fly may carry anywhere from 550 to 6,600,000 disease germs.

Foreign countries are adopting the type of parachute developed and used by the U. S. Army Air Service to make aviation safer.

From 12 to 15 per cent, of the pork produced in the United States each year is exported.
