

The eightieth birthday of William Henry Welch : the addresses delivered at the ceremonies in Memorial Continental Hall, Washington, D.C., April 8, 1930, and an account of the celebrations in honor of Dr. Welch in many parts of the world.

Contributors

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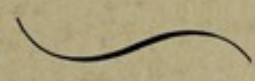
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THE EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY

OF

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WILLIAM HENRY WELCH



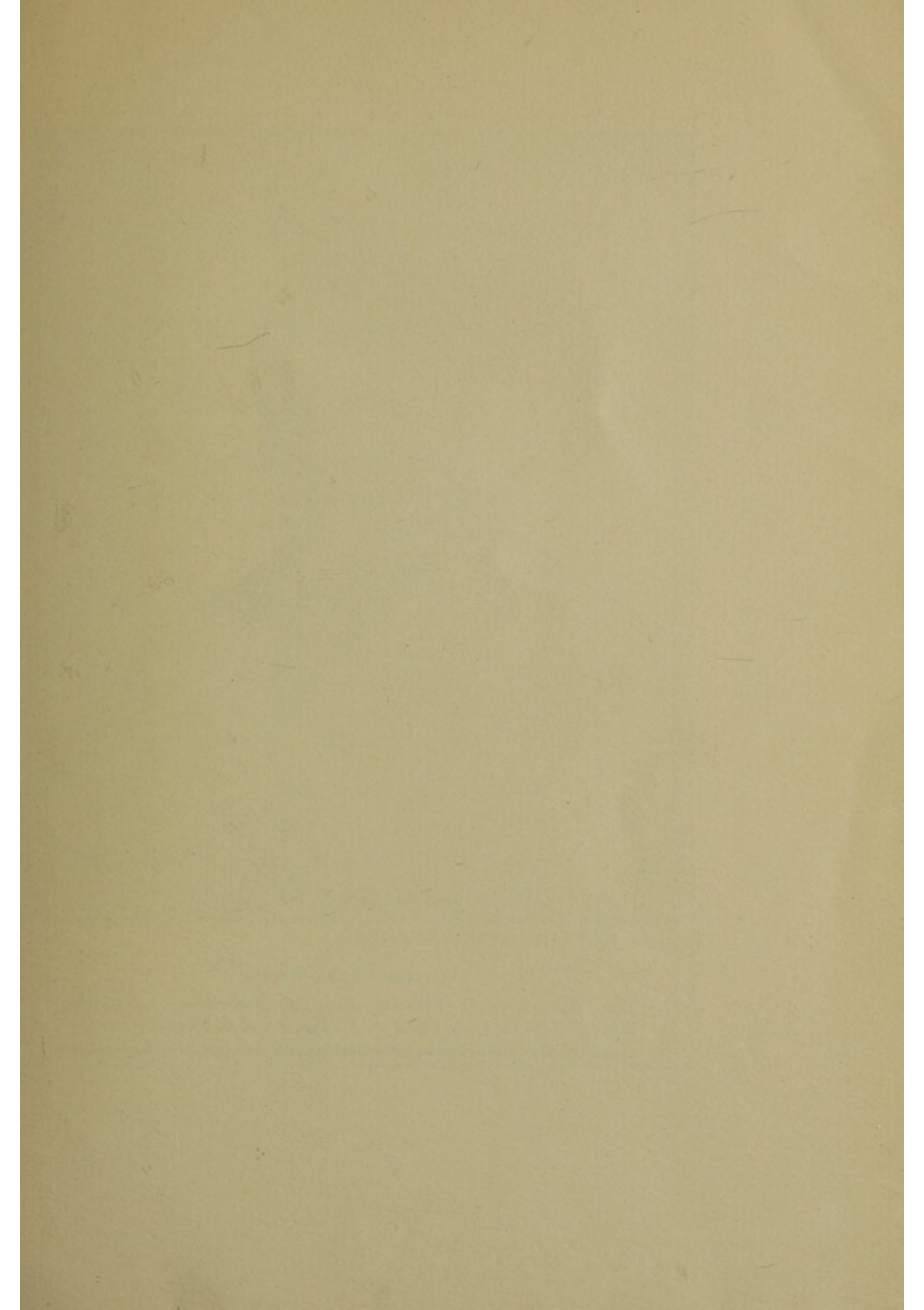
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Our greatest statesman in the field of public health.

—HERBERT HOOVER





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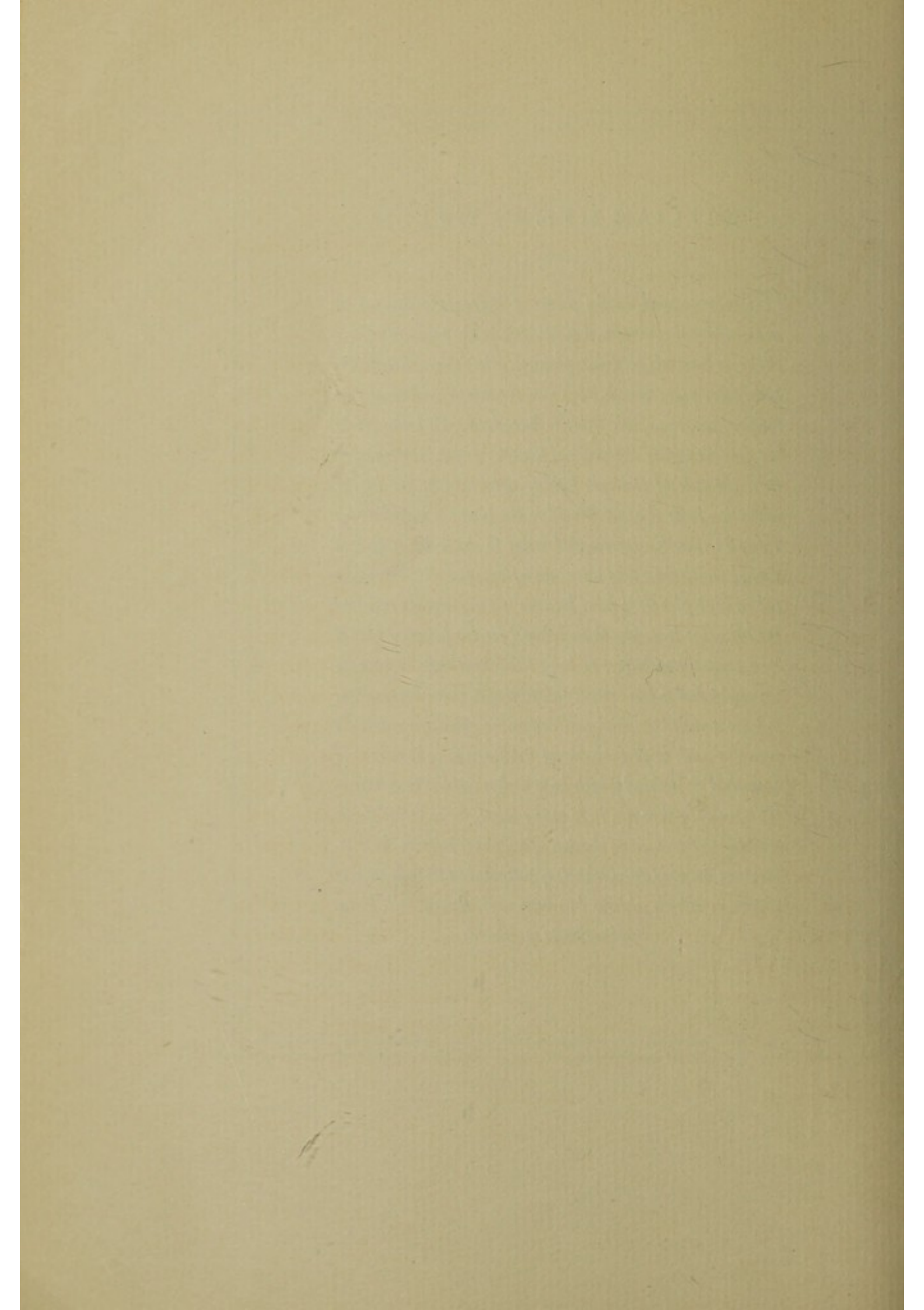
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WILLIAM HENRY WELCH

*To have stepped, in the prime of life, into a position of acknowledged intellectual leadership in the profession of his choice; to have occupied that position, albeit unconsciously, for those forty years which have seen the most rapid strides in medical progress of all time; to have had such influence in the furtherance of the medical sciences in this country as to turn the tide of students seeking opportunities for higher education from the Old World to the New; to have been as ready in countless unrecorded ways to share his time and thought with those who were inconspicuous as with those who sat in high places; to have been no less universally respected for his great learning than beloved for his personal charm and companionability; to have stood knee-deep in honours unsought and to have remained seemingly unaware of them; to have rounded out with distinction two successive university positions and, with enthusiasm undimmed, to be now well launched on a third which he is no less certain to adorn—
To have done so much, in so many ways, for so many years, and to have aroused no shadow of envy or enmity on the way, betokens not only unselfishness of purpose but that fineness of character which always has been and always will be an inspiration to mankind.*



FOREWORD

WHEN President Hoover said to a distinguished audience in Washington, on April 8, 1930, "Doctor Welch is our greatest statesman in the field of public health," his words were heard all over America and in distant lands. Tributes equally warm were at the same hour being paid by other speakers in the presence of audiences assembled in many parts of the world, from New York to San Francisco, and from Paris to Peiping. The occasion was the eightieth birthday of Doctor William Henry Welch, of the Johns Hopkins University, and the celebration of this event has become memorable, both because of its world-wide scope and because of the depth of affection which was everywhere expressed for the man who is at the same time "Popsy" and the "Dean of American Medicine."

An account of the various celebrations, reports of the speeches delivered, the texts of scrolls and other formal greetings from institutions, and of the hundreds upon hundreds of congratulatory messages from individuals, would make an extremely interesting record of what the world thinks today, not only of the high distinction of Doctor Welch, but of the profound worth of pursuing the objectives which have been his during more than half a century of leadership in medicine. What would be involved in publishing such a record may be inferred by glancing over the summary of celebrations in this pamphlet. The present purpose is mainly to publish the addresses delivered at the ceremonies in Memorial Continental Hall, Washington, D. C., in honor of Doctor Welch.

Responding with characteristic modesty to the praises which came to him in Washington, Doctor Welch remarked that it was his "inclination even at four-score years to look forward rather than backward." He declared that, all along the line, in the study and treatment of disease and injury, in preventive medicine and public health "so much more remains to be done than has been accomplished . . . that our mental attitude should be far from satisfaction

with existing conditions." These words are a call to arms from a wise general still in the field.

The Committees on the Celebration, in sponsoring the publication of these proceedings, desire to pay one more tribute to Doctor Welch and at the same time to look forward with him to the decisive victories that must still be won in the field of public health in America and elsewhere.

JOHN A. KINGSBURY
Secretary of the Executive Committee

Jun 23 '36

Oct 3 '38

THE CEREMONIES IN WASHINGTON

The Address by the Chairman

LIVINGSTON FARRAND

MR. PRESIDENT, DR. WELCH, AND FRIENDS OF DR. WELCH:

IT IS a very happy occasion that brings us together, that of celebrating the eightieth birthday of William Henry Welch, but it is a very bewildering task that is offered us even to outline within the space of one hour the great service of that extraordinary man. Certainly it is not for me to attempt to indicate except in one or two points the contributions which Dr. Welch has made.

A great teacher, a constructive educator, a wise counselor, a leader of public opinion — in all these fields of activity he has left his impress.

It was a very happy thing for this country and for the world that Dr. Welch's youth, or rather Dr. Welch's early years, for he has never lost his youth, coincided with those great advances in science which opened the most dramatic period in the history of human thought. And his has been a leadership which has meant much in the application of those discoveries of medical science to which he himself has contributed so well. It has meant so much for the improvement of the conditions of mankind.

There are those who will speak to you and who are far more competent than I to indicate the bearing of Dr. Welch's technical contributions, but I hope I may take just a moment to mention one particular field in which he has played a great rôle, sometimes to him, I fancy, unconsciously — namely, the great field of public health.

Dr. Welch, a pathologist, always the man of science, a great builder of a great medical school in Baltimore which has changed the face of medical education in this country, and to which we all gladly pay tribute, has held through-

out his life, a keen interest in affairs. It was quite impossible for him, apparently, not to play his part as citizen as well as leader in his chosen field.

And so we see him in that quiet way of his, as a member of the State Board of Health of Maryland, forging new lines of activity in the days when official administration in that field was both halting and limited. And today we look back to the early steps taken there in Maryland from which we have all drawn inspiration and which we now see followed in all the different commonwealths of the country.

Those who were concerned in the first organization of the great fight against tuberculosis remember very clearly the counsel and the encouragement that Dr. Welch gave and the wise lines of action which he laid out and indicated, lines which have been followed throughout this country and throughout the world.

At the international congresses that have been held, that of Tuberculosis in this city in 1908 and that of Hygiene and Demography, he played an outstanding part, and now at the end of his eighth decade, by common consent and with common acclaim he is to preside at the coming International Congress to be held in Washington in the field of mental hygiene, which presents today perhaps the leading health problem of the world.

This is the perennial youth whose life we celebrate. We thank God we have had him and we thank God we still have him. He has meant more to medical science and its application than any other American.

If we turn from these personal activities to the great events in national and state action for public health and inquire on whose advice important decisions were made, important laws formulated, strategic personnel selected, and particularly if we are able to go behind the scenes and published records and into the private knowledge of when advice was sought and from whom, by those in positions of authority, we find in an astonishing range of activities the same guiding hand, and always modestly concealed.

If we turn to the policies formulated by trustees and custodians of wealth to apply to the betterment of human life in this and other lands, and ask where they found their inspiration and from whom they secured the words of counsel

which justified themselves by their perfectly self-evident vision, in an astonishing number of instances the paths lead from New York and other centers to the door of this modest sage of Baltimore.

It is that blend, that combination of scientific achievement, of a broad knowledge of affairs, of an ever-present and sympathetic interest in human welfare which has made him the great counselor in the field of public health, and has made him the great citizen that he is.

If I may be permitted a personal note (it is always a tempting thing to analyze the characteristics of outstanding men), I think there is one trait in Dr. Welch which he shared with his great colleague, Osler, which is peculiarly appealing. It is his constant solicitude for the inconspicuous man who has yet rendered service; his unfailing insistence that in so far as he could bring it about the world should learn of contributions of value and that some measure of the recognition that was their due should come to men of worth. And, Dr. Welch, there are countless numbers who have been your beneficiaries in the days of discouragement that come to all of us who look back with affectionate gratitude to the friendly encouragement that you have given so often and with such open hand.

Ladies and gentlemen, the name and number is legion of those to whom Dr. Welch has been teacher, counselor, guide and friend. The name and number is legion of those who would welcome an opportunity like this to voice their debt and to express their affection and admiration for him. This may not be.

There is one, however, who has had the happy lot of peculiarly close relation with our honored guest, both personally and professionally through many years of common aims and common labor—himself a figure of world distinction in the great field to which Dr. Welch has devoted his life. He speaks with an authority which all will recognize.

I present to you Dr. Simon Flexner of New York.

The Address by the Chairman of the Executive Committee

SIMON FLEXNER

MR. PRESIDENT, DR. WELCH, MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

AS a pupil, in the words of your chairman, as a beneficiary of Dr. Welch, in honoring whom today on his eightieth birthday we honor ourselves more, may I speak for those almost numberless pupils, direct and indirect, whose scientific and professional lives he has influenced, to pay him the tribute he has so well earned in the more than fifty years of service he has given to medicine in its broadest aspects?

Dr. Welch's career is no accident. Careers such as that which Dr. Welch has followed can, in the nature of things, be no accident. We must remember that he comes from a long and distinguished line of physicians. His father, his father's four brothers and his grandfather were physicians. What chance had he? His profession was arranged long before he imagined it. But the profession which he has essayed has been different from that of his forebears, as the period which his active labors cover differs from that of his forebears.

Like all men who make great careers, he was precocious. Entering Yale at sixteen, he graduated at twenty. He entered medicine after a year's experience as a teacher, but abandoned it very soon because, with a prevision almost unexampled, he discovered that in his generation medicine would be more of a science than it had been in the past. He returned, therefore, to his alma mater and spent a year in the study of science, broadly, comprehensively, intensively acquainting himself especially with chemistry as it was then developing in its early, modern, organic form. Than this there could have been no better preparation for the career that he had mapped out for himself, for he had mapped out for himself a scientific career in medicine, although medicine as taught in those days was clinical rather than experimental.

At a very early time he decided, and against the most alluring temptations which practical life could offer, that he would be a pathologist and not a clin-

ician. One of the contributing influences, it appears, was a small incident. He was the winner of the Seguin prize, offered by the Professor of Neurology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York, where he studied, that prize being an excellent microscope. A microscope, in itself a trifling instrument, to one who means to be a pathologist is an emblem, and such it was to him.

He went abroad to study in Germany, and through a set of happy circumstances was diverted from conventional pathology. He did not go to Berlin, to study with the great pathologist, Virchow, but to Breslau, a much less eminent university, where he came under the influence of a triumvirate that has not had its equal in another day. He became the pupil of Cohnheim, a great experimental pathologist, and the colleague of Weigert and Ehrlich — two men who have carved their names deeply into the history of the science of pathology.

Upon returning to the United States not only gifted as he was by nature, but trained by these and other happy circumstances which time does not permit me to describe, he was equipped to establish pathology in the United States with a breadth and depth, the equal of that of any other country; and by virtue of the qualities which distinguish him, of personality and ability, he not only accomplished this great purpose, but he accomplished it in such a manner as to be unsurpassed in the whole world, perhaps even to supersede the best that the world up to his period had been able to produce.

Think of all the activities in which he has been engaged, a scientist, an investigator, no one so learned in the history of his science as is he; a teacher of extraordinary capacity for discovering the able student, of a depth of generosity which inspired every able student to do more than his best; an educator who introduced a new era into medical education, not confined wholly to this country but one slowly and surely permeating the educational thought of all the developed countries of the world; a great citizen in the sense that he has used his knowledge in order to bring the results of science to mankind and to apply them for its benefits.

There is no human being in this country who is not his debtor, many mil-

lions more than have ever heard his name. If we go into history, there are few personalities that can be compared with the personality of our distinguished guest. You will remember that Francis Bacon in his thirtieth year stated that he would take all knowledge for his province. That seemed a great boast. Dr. Welch today has commanded all knowledge of medicine, and more, as his province. He would not admit this; yet it is true in essence, and the extent of that knowledge today, as compared with that existing in the seventeenth century, is such that no real comparison can be made.

There is one great historical figure in the Renaissance with whom perhaps it is not only permissible, but possible to compare Dr. Welch, and that figure is Leonardo da Vinci, a man whose interests in theoretical science and whose pioneer contributions to practical mechanics and other branches of applied science, whose interest in the arts, surpass those of anyone before him or anyone since his time. One must go back to that individual to get a measure with which to compare our great, distinguished guest of today.

And now, ladies and gentlemen, I have the great privilege of presenting to Dr. Welch the first impression of an etching by a distinguished artist, Mr. Hutty, made very recently from sittings; and in presenting this first copy to Dr. Welch, I am at the same time presenting formally some fifty other copies to outstanding scientific and educational institutions of the world.

Among those to which it is being presented are the Health Section of the League of Nations, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, the Pasteur Institute in Paris, the Robert Koch Institute in Berlin, the State Serum Institute in Copenhagen, the Peiping Union Medical College in Peiping, the Kitasato Institute in Tokyo, and the Osler Library of McGill University in Montreal. There is not time for me to read to you the entire list.

In conclusion may I say that in the great honor which has been conferred upon me in permitting me to speak for the students of Dr. Welch, for those who have profited from him more than any expression of gratitude can ever suffice to express, I have been honored far beyond my deserts.

The Chairman introduces

MR. KINGSBURY

LADIES and Gentlemen, there have been spontaneous words of tribute that have come in these last hours from all over the world, words of congratulation to Dr. Welch. It may interest you to know that at this very hour there are being held simultaneously in all parts of the world meetings in honor of this same event. Just as we were entering this hall I was informed that a cable had been received from Tokyo saying that a meeting was being held there at this hour, and they are all listening in on this modern radio contrivance of which we are at the moment the victims.

I was also told that the meeting in Tokyo being held at this hour is at the same time, at nine o'clock tomorrow morning. Far be it from me to attempt to explain to this audience the mysteries of longitude. Dr. Welch, no doubt, will explain it with entire lucidity, but it is thrilling to know that the world is participating with us and gladly, in this hour.

I have asked the man who has really made it possible for us to come together here today — made those arrangements which are so complicated under all the circumstances, to report to you briefly some of these messages which have been received. I present to you the very efficient Director of the Milbank Memorial Fund, Mr. John A. Kingsbury, of New York.

The Reading of a Few of the
CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES FROM AROUND THE WORLD
by the Secretary of the Executive Committee

JOHN A. KINGSBURY

MR. PRESIDENT, DR. WELCH, MR. CHAIRMAN, FRIENDS OF DR. WELCH,
SEEN AND UNSEEN:

IN behalf of the Committee, it is my privilege to present to you, sir, the affectionate greetings received from a host of friends, and congratulatory addresses from universities and other institutions of learning in many lands, to which you have added lustre during your long and distinguished career. I present them, sir, but, for obvious reasons, I cannot read them. They are here. They are there on the table. They are still coming in through the air and under the ground and beneath the sea.

There are, however, a few brief messages that I am sure this audience will wish to hear, this audience here and this audience everywhere.

First, from the League of Nations, the Health Organization, just one paragraph: "The recognition by those who drafted the Covenant of the League of Nations that preventive medicine formed a fit subject for international cooperation was in large part due to the time and energy you have given freely during so many years of your life to the development of this subject.

"It must be a real source of gratification to you to see springing up in so many countries official and private health agencies animated by the desire to prevent sickness and to prolong life, and inspired by principles which you have done so much to establish."

Here is a cablegram of felicitations and admiration from the State Serum Institute in Copenhagen. From the Ministry of Health in Great Britain comes a letter signed by Sir George Newman. He pays tribute to "the chief representative of progressive Preventive Medicine on the American continent," and continues: "We regret that the sea lies between us, or we should turn up

in full and representative force to acclaim the great and good man whom you honour on our behalf as well as your own."

Here is a scroll bearing the seal of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland. "We claim the result of your work as a part of our heritage," it says, "which has won for you our respect and homage." The Royal Society of Medicine in London sends a scroll which refers to the fact that Dr. Welch accepted election as an Honorary Fellow twenty-five years ago. It greets him now in behalf of "four thousand five hundred Fellows, Members and Associates throughout the world." A passage reads: "Your work, sir, is enduring and you have already the knowledge that many worthy pupils are following faithfully the paths along which your genius has directed them."

Here is an illuminated greeting from the Robert Koch Prussian Institute for Infectious Diseases, in Berlin, where I believe, sir, you got a large part of your inspiration and early education. I take pleasure in exhibiting this to your friends. As translated the greeting reads: "The 'Robert Koch' Institute sends heartiest congratulations on this day to one of Robert Koch's oldest pupils, Dr. William Welch, successful scientist, teacher, organizer of science, and intermediary between German and American research."

Dr. Farrand has already called your attention to the message from Tokyo. It is signed by Baron Kitasato, of the Kitasato Institute for Infectious Diseases, and his associates, Professor Kitashima and Professor Hata. The message reads: "Please accept hearty greetings from Tokyo sitting in concurrent international celebration of eightieth birthday of Dr. Welch." Here is a greeting from one hundred thousand American physicians organized in the American Medical Association; and here, sir, last but not least, is the scroll from the Pasteur Institute, where they are now holding a celebration. Let me quote two or three passages from a translation:

"For more than half a century, you have devoted your activity, your energy and your splendid intelligence to the service of Science and of your great country. Your position as the most prominent bacteriologist in the United States is and has long been unchallenged. In your youth, after your first visit to Germany, England and France, you brought to your country a flame from

the torch lighted by Pasteur, Lister and Robert Koch. You have made of this flame a center of light and strength. It is at your school, the Johns Hopkins University, that the best of our American colleagues in the fields of bacteriology and hygiene have been educated. Well may you be proud of your pupils, as they are justly proud of their Master.

“As we participate heartily in your Jubilee we desire to recall what you did for us all during the cruel and glorious years of trial. You extended to us a brotherly hand and we felt the beating of your heart. No one of us, no future member of the Pasteur Institute family, can ever forget it.

“You returned to us, and also to Strasbourg, where you were drawn by so many memories of your student days, in order to take part in the celebration of the Pasteur Centenary. You were then the representative both of your Government and of all the scientific institutions of your country and embodied for us the spirit of American Science and friendship.

“For the numerous assurances of your sympathetic interest and the cordial esteem which you lavished upon us we are and will ever be most profoundly grateful.

“We ardently hope that we shall have the joy, for many years to come, of honoring and greeting you as one of the most illustrious masters of medical science, as well as one of the great benefactors of Humanity.”

You will have the pleasure, sir, of reading, at your leisure, these and many more greetings from all the world.

The Chairman presents

PRESIDENT HOOVER

DR. WELCH and all of us are highly privileged in the presence here today of the one person who in his own right speaks with the voice of the American people. Ladies and Gentlemen, the President of the United States.



Photo by Wide World

PRESIDENT HOOVER AND DOCTOR WELCH

*This Photograph was taken at Memorial Continental Hall in Washington, D. C.,
on April 8, 1930, immediately after the Ceremonies in Honor
of the Eightieth Birthday of Doctor Welch.*

The Address by

THE HONORARY PRESIDENT FOR THE CELEBRATION

The President of the United States

HERBERT HOOVER

THE many years that I have been honored with Dr. Welch's friendship make it a privilege to join in this day of tribute to him by his friends and by the great scientific societies of our country and of the whole world. Dr. Welch has reached his eightieth year and a whole nation joins in good wishes to him.

Dr. Welch is our greatest statesman in the field of public health, and his public service to the nation well warrants our appreciation of him. With profound knowledge, wide experience and skill in dealing with men, sound judgment and a vision of the future, he has been a great asset to this nation, and we may fortunately hope that he will continue for many years to bless mankind with his invaluable leadership.

Our age is marked by two tendencies, the democratic and the scientific. In Dr. Welch and his work we find an expression of the best in both tendencies. He not only represents the spirit of pure science but constantly sees and seizes opportunities to direct its results into the service of human kind.

Medicine until modern times was a species of dramatic play upon emotions rather than a science made useful through technology. It combined centuries of experience in trial and error in reactions from many drugs, with a maximum of skill on the part of the practitioner in a kindly art of making the patient feel as hopeful and comfortable as possible while he was dying of the disease, the origin and treatment of which was as yet undiscovered. Providence was made responsible for his fate rather than the bacillus which should never have been allowed to infect him.

Modern medical practice, however, is based upon a vast background of scientific research and discovery. In the creation of this science, in the conversion of its principles into technical methods for use in actual practice, in the

diffusion of knowledge of these principles and methods, and in the application of them upon a national and world-wide scale, Dr. Welch has played a leading American part. As a research worker in pure science, he has made original and valuable discoveries. As a technologist he has devised practical methods of applying pure science. As a teacher he has spread true knowledge and inspiration among literally thousands and hundreds of thousands. But in organizing and directing research and application of medical knowledge on a wider field of prevention of disease, he is among the preeminent few who deserve the title of statesman.

No valuable change in everyday practice of any of the great arts has ever been made that was not preceded by the accretion of basic truths through ardent and painstaking research. This sequence that precedes effective action in medicine is equally important in every field of progress in the modern world. It is not the method of stirred public emotions, with its drama of headlines; it is rather the quiet, patient, powerful and sure method of nature herself, of which Dr. Welch has been the master.

Dr. Welch has happily combined in his character and intellect the love of truth and the patient experimental habit of the pure scientist, with the ingenuity of the inventor and the organizing vision and energy of the promoter of sound enterprise — and combines all these things with a worldly wisdom and gracious charm that has made him a leader amongst men.

When we have said all of these things in tribute to his scientific knowledge, his great influence in education and public health, we have one more thing we may say that transcends them all. That is, that he has contributed more than any other American in the relief of suffering and pain in our generation and for all generations to come.

I know that I express the affection of our countrymen and the esteem of his profession in every country when I convey to him their wishes for many years of continued happiness.

The Chairman presents

DOCTOR WELCH

DR. WELCH, your friends have spoken. We are keenly conscious of the inadequacy of language to express the thoughts we have, but, dear friend, we lay our tribute at your feet, and if you find it in your heart to speak to us, any words of yours will be most welcome.

The Response by

DOCTOR WELCH

I INTENDED to throw away my manuscript, but I knew I could hardly trust myself to speak without it. I must speak in my own person and not in that of the idealized figure which has been presented to you.

It is quite beyond my power of words to express the thoughts and the feelings of gratitude which this wonderful occasion has aroused in me. Did I accept merely as a personal tribute these words of praise and this manifestation of appreciation and good will marked by this large and distinguished gathering and by meetings elsewhere, I should be overpowered with a sense of unreality depriving me of utterance, but I shall assume, as I feel that I am justified in doing, that by virtue of certain pioneering work and through over a half-century of service, I stand here to represent an army of teachers, investigators, pupils, associates, and colleagues, whose work and contributions during this period have advanced the science and art of medicine and public health to the eminent position which they now hold in this country.

It is, then, in this representative capacity, as well as personally, that, first of all, I express to you, Mr. President, immeasurable gratitude for the distinction which you lend to this occasion by your presence and active participation. You will permit me to add, sir, that your presence and generous words of appreciation have a significance not measured solely by the high office which you hold, for you speak, sir, with the authority of one who has made memorable and outstanding contributions not only to this nation but to the whole world in the field of public health and social service, especially to the most appealing part of this domain, the health and welfare of infants and children.

And to you, President Farrand, and to you, my old friend and pupil, Dr. Flexner, who have spoken here so eloquently, even if in words all too generous so far as I, personally, am concerned, to Mr. Kingsbury and the other distinguished members of the committees which have arranged this marvellous

occasion, to the many citizens, also to the medical officers of the Army, Navy, and Public Health Service, members of my profession here gathered, who honor me by their presence, my debt of gratitude is beyond words to express. If my voice carries to an invisible audience, to personal friends and to other gatherings in honor of my eightieth birthday and what it may symbolize, it conveys appreciation and greetings which come straight from my heart.

While I have been kept in ignorance of the details of these ceremonies, I have been cognizant that the immediate occasion was to be the presentation to me of Mr. Hutty's etching, which, I am sure, in spite of the handicap presented by the subject, he has made a work of art. This I am delighted to accept with gratitude, and I am still more rejoiced that so many selected institutions and organizations with which I have been connected are to receive it.

If it is true, as I have been told, that there are gatherings of friends and colleagues in many places, not only in this country but also in other countries, who are interested in the event here celebrated, I only wish that the time allotted permitted me to tell them — my friends in Germany, whence came my early training and inspiration in pathology and bacteriology, my friends and colleagues in Paris, especially those at the Pasteur Institute, and those in London, Tokyo, Peking, and elsewhere — to tell them how much pleasure and satisfaction and inspiration I have derived from their friendship and association. To the favor and support and cooperation of the members of my profession I owe whatever success I have attained.

No one could have been more favored in his professional career by time and opportunity, and by the good work, achievements and cooperation of pupils, assistants, and associates, than I have been.

Born only three and a half years after the introduction of surgical anaesthesia, I entered upon my professional career in the middle seventies of the last century, before Lister had really triumphed by the general adoption of the principles of antiseptic surgery and just before the demonstration by Pasteur and by Koch of the causation of infectious diseases by microscopic germs. I returned from Germany, thrilled with enthusiasm, at the dawn of the new era, and with some training and capacity to use that master key forged by

pathology and bacteriology, which was to unlock secrets of nature destined to transform the face of modern medicine.

Since that time the fundamental achievement which has made possible the remarkable development of scientific medicine in this country during the last four decades has been the great improvement in medical education, with the accompanying creation of laboratories for instruction and research. So brilliant have been the results in discoveries and their application to the treatment and prevention of disease, that one is likely to lose sight of the foundation upon which the stately superstructure rests.

Only those can realize the magnitude of this achievement who know something of the condition of medical education in this country fifty years ago, when no one dreamed of endowing medical education and research, in contrast with the condition today, when these subjects, together with utilization of opportunities to further and to apply the new knowledge, constitute the most favored and rewarding fields of private and public philanthropy.

I like to think that the primitive little laboratory which I started in 1878 at the Bellevue Hospital Medical College and that of Dr. Prudden, inaugurated almost simultaneously at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and especially our effort to meet a much larger opportunity, at that time unique in this country, at the Johns Hopkins University and Hospital four decades ago, were not without influence in the improvement of medical education. But the accomplishment would not have acquired the national importance which it has assumed without the participation of other medical schools in the forward movement, the awakening of the medical profession through the American Medical Association and the State licensing boards, and the recognition by the great foundations, first and most important of all, the General Education Board, of the needs and opportunities of the situation.

If I have handed on any intellectual heritage to pupils, assistants, and associates, whose work and achievements have been the greatest satisfaction and joy of my life, it is derived from that which I received from my own masters. America is now paying the debt which she has owed so long to the Old World by her own active and fruitful participation in scientific discovery and the advancement of the science and art of medicine and sanitation.

The greatest triumphs of modern medicine have been in the prevention of disease, although the physician's power to alleviate and to heal has also been greatly enhanced. It is perhaps not too much to claim that America has taken a position of leadership in the application of the new knowledge to the prevention of disease and to personal and public hygiene.

But, my friends and hearers, it is my inclination, even at fourscore years, to look forward, rather than backward, and to avoid a feeling of self-complacency through the rehearsal of past triumphs. All along the line, in the fields of medical education and research, in the study and treatment of disease and injury, in the preservation and improvement of health and the prevention of disease, so much more remains to be done than has been accomplished, the problems awaiting solution are so numerous and pressing, above all, the better utilization of existing knowledge and the need of more knowledge are so obvious and so urgent that our mental attitude should be far removed from satisfaction with existing conditions.

While public health is the foundation of the happiness and prosperity of the people and its promotion is recognized as an important function of government, how wide is the gap between what is achieved and what might be realized, how inadequate is the understanding of the public concerning the means adapted to secure the best results, how small the attractions offered to those entering or who might desire to enter careers in public health through lack of suitable financial recompense, of security of tenure of office, of opportunities for promotion, of standards for eligibility based upon special training and experience, and of funds made available for the public promotion of health. Something of the lack of adjustment of the average man to rapidly changing social, economic, and political conditions of our complicated modern civilization may be reflected in a certain temporary maladjustment between curative medicine and preventive medicine, which should stand in harmonious relations.

As my immediate and, doubtless, final professorial interest is on the humanistic side of medicine, I may, in closing, be permitted to emphasize the attractions and importance of studies in the history of medicine and of science. We physicians apply the word "Humanism" to a period and to a spirit which

released the mind from thralldom to authority and contributed mightily not merely to the study of antiquity but to the study of nature and of man, leading logically and rapidly to the cultivation of experimental science, between which and humanism as we understand and use the word, there is no incompatibility whatever.

While nothing can be more hazardous than to attempt to predict the directions of future discovery and progress in the biological and medical sciences, it requires no prophetic gift to be confident that with the widening of the boundaries of knowledge will come increased power to relieve human suffering, to control disease, to improve health and thereby add to the sum of human happiness and well-being. Your presence on this occasion and the wide-spread recognition so conspicuously manifested of the value of services rendered in the field of medical education and medical science are an encouragement to teachers and workers for which I am profoundly grateful and which accentuates the note of hopefulness which I have endeavored to sound.

The Chairman:

Ladies and Gentlemen, our hour is ended and this gathering stands adjourned.

*A Brief Account of Celebrations in many Parts of the World
in Honor of the Eightieth Birthday of*

DR. WILLIAM HENRY WELCH

*And a List of the Institutions which received Impressions of the
Drypoint Portrait by Alfred Hutty*

THE world-wide distribution of warm friends of Dr. Welch, as well as of institutions in which he has been especially interested, was recognized from the beginning by the Committee which had charge of the celebration of his eightieth birthday. Hence the Committee arranged to have many local celebrations held simultaneously with the central ceremonies in Washington. Extensive radio broadcasting was chosen as another means of enlarging the scope of the event. A unique feature of the celebration which also served to link up local gatherings with the program in Washington was the simultaneous presentation of drypoint portraits of Dr. Welch to about fifty institutions selected with his approval. These portraits were the work of the well-known artist, Alfred Hutty, who had been commissioned to make them especially for the occasion.

The ceremonies in Washington were held in Memorial Continental Hall, on April 8, 1930, the program beginning at noon and lasting exactly one hour. In the audience of about sixteen hundred friends of Dr. Welch were official delegations from the War and Navy Departments and from the United States Bureau of the Public Health Service, as well as official representatives from a great number of educational institutions and scientific organizations. Mrs. Hoover graced the occasion by occupying her box. Seated on the platform were President Hoover, accompanied by military and naval aides, Dr. Welch, and the three other speakers.

Dr. Farrand, President of Cornell University, delivered the opening address and then, in his capacity as Chairman of the meeting, introduced Dr.

Simon Flexner, Chairman of the Executive Committee. Dr. Flexner, after expressing an appreciation of the career and personality of Dr. Welch, presented to him, in behalf of the Committee, the first impression of the etching, which had been framed and stood on an easel on the platform. He then addressed himself to institutions in all parts of the world, presenting to them by radio the etchings which had been sent to the respective institutions in advance. Following this address, Mr. Kingsbury, Secretary of the Executive Committee, displayed a large collection of scrolls, formal greetings, and personal messages which had arrived for Dr. Welch. He called attention to the wide range of places from which these greetings came, and read selected passages. President Hoover then delivered his address, a warm tribute to the remarkable character and outstanding accomplishment of Dr. Welch, who responded with fine tact and in a stimulating mood of reminiscence and prophecy.

The Washington program was successfully broadcast by the National Broadcasting Company and by the Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc. It was also broadcast by short wave from stations KDKA and WGY, and word has come to the Committee that the program was heard as far away as Sydney, Australia.

A local celebration of unique interest was held in Norfolk, Connecticut, the birthplace of Dr. Welch. A bronze tablet on the house where Dr. Welch was born was dedicated on April 8th. On the same day at noon a meeting was held in the town Library, which received a Huddy etching, and the assembly heard the Washington program over the radio. Resolutions adopted by the selectmen were wired to Dr. Welch before the Washington meeting.

At Yale University a meeting, with radio reception, was held in the auditorium of the Brady Laboratory. Dr. C.-E. A. Winslow was the principal speaker. Yale's official representative at Washington was Dean Milton C. Winternitz, of the School of Medicine. Teachers and students of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of Columbia University, heard the program over the radio in the Presbyterian Hospital, connected with the medical school. The program was also heard at the University and Bellevue Hospital Medical College in New York. The above-named three institutions are, as is well

known, respectively, Dr. Welch's alma mater, the medical school from which he received his degree of M.D., and the school at which he began his career as a teacher. All three received impressions of the Huttu etching.

Local celebrations in California were held at Los Angeles, under the auspices of the Southern California Health Association, and at the Stanford University Medical School, San Francisco, which received an etching, the speakers being Dr. A. L. Fisher, Dr. T. K. Gilman, Dr. A. W. Meyer, Dean William Ophüls, and Dr. Emmet Rixford.

At Cincinnati an enthusiastic gathering was assembled under the leadership of Dr. William H. Peters, Commissioner of Health. The speakers were Dr. Martin Fischer, of the College of Medicine, University of Cincinnati, which received an etching, and the Honorable Russell Wilson, Mayor of Cincinnati.

In Philadelphia the Henry Phipps Institute of the University of Pennsylvania, which also received an etching, held a meeting at which the Washington program was heard by radio.

Splendid cooperation with the Committee was given by the American Social Hygiene Association, also the recipient of a Huttu portrait, which stimulated several effective local celebrations. One was in Portland, Oregon, with a luncheon meeting held jointly by the Oregon Social Hygiene Society and the Portland City and County Medical Society, attended by eighty-five persons. The speakers were Dean Richard B. Dillehunt, of the University of Oregon Medical School, and Dr. Norman F. Coleman, President of Reed College. Other local celebrations reported to the American Social Hygiene Association were a meeting of the Cleveland Social Hygiene Association, and a joint meeting of the Missouri Social Hygiene Association and the St. Louis Medical Society, which was addressed by Dr. Ernest Sachs. There were also meetings in Minneapolis reported by Professor Chloe Owings, of the University of Minnesota.

A luncheon meeting held in the headquarters of the American Social Hygiene Association, New York City, was attended by representatives of eight other national organizations. This meeting was addressed by Mrs. Anna

Garlin Spencer. The addresses of President Hoover and Dr. Welch were heard over the radio and the portrait etching was formally accepted.

A special exhibition in honor of Dr. Welch was given at the Library of Congress. Books by him were displayed together with photographs and the Hutty etching which had been presented to the Library. A similar exhibition was arranged by the John Crerar Library in Chicago, also with the etching as a central feature.

A number of celebrations were held in foreign cities remotely separated. At the Health Section of the League of Nations, Geneva, which received an etching and had sent a formal address to Washington, the meeting was presided over by Dr. F. G. Boudreau. At Nyon, Switzerland, Dr. Arnold C. Klebs gave a dinner in his home which was attended by the following-named guests, representing nine different countries: Dr. Y. Biraud, France; Dr. Boudreau, the United States; Dr. M. Ciuca, Rumania; M. Guillaume Fatio, Switzerland; Dr. A. C. Gaal, Hungary; Dr. T. F. Huang, China; Dr. Hector Mortimer, Great Britain; Dr. M. Pantaleoni, Italy; and Dr. E. Tomanek, Czechoslovakia.

In Paris there was a luncheon at the Hotel Crillon which had been arranged by the Pasteur Institute. The principal speakers were Professor A. Calmette, Dr. Rupert Blue, and Professor Selskar M. Gunn. An address by Dr. Alan Gregg, who was unavoidably absent, was read by Professor Gunn. An impression of the Hutty drypoint had been sent to the Institute, which participated in the Washington ceremonies by presenting a scroll of greetings.

At the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, to which an etching had also been sent, about two hundred persons assembled to hear an illustrated lecture on Dr. Welch by Sir Andrew Balfour.

The Peiping Union Medical College, Peiping, China, gave a dinner on the evening of April 8, attended by sixty guests, including Dr. W. W. Yen, ex-Premier of the Chinese Republic. The hall was decorated with three embroidered red silk scrolls, later sent to Dr. Welch. Dr. Y. T. Tsur, master of ceremonies, read an address engrossed in Chinese on gold paper, which was also sent to Dr. Welch. Other speakers were Mr. Roger S. Greene, Director of the College; Dr. Francis R. Dieuaide, Dr. Ashley A. Weech, and Dr. C. E.

Lim, who proposed the formal toast to Dr. Welch in Chinese wine. This College received one of the Huttly etchings.

At the Kitasato Institute, Tokyo, a special luncheon was attended by ninety guests. All stood while a formal tribute to Dr. Welch was read. Baron Shibasaburo Kitasato presided, and the other speakers were Dean Kitashima and Dr. Charles A. Kofoid. One of the guests was Dr. Thorvald Madsen, Director of the State Serum Institute, Copenhagen. The Kitasato Institute received an etching and sent a formal greeting to Washington.

The principal celebrations in honor of Dr. Welch held before or after his birthday were at the New York Academy of Medicine and in Baltimore. The former event was a dinner held at the Academy on the evening of April 4th, attended by Dr. Welch and about one hundred and thirty guests. One of the Huttly etchings was presented to the Academy, which subsequently presented Dr. Welch a handsome, illuminated address on vellum signed by all the guests. The Baltimore meeting was held under the auspices of the University Club at The Alcazar. Nearly one thousand guests were present. The speakers were Alfred Jenkins Shriver, toastmaster, Governor Albert C. Ritchie, Senator Frederic C. Walcott, of Connecticut, Dr. Simon Flexner, Dr. William H. Howell, Mr. John A. Kingsbury, and Dr. Welch.

Institutions not already named which received the Huttly drypoints were: The Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland, Cambridge, which was represented in Washington by Howard T. Karsner, Professor of Pathology at Western Reserve University, Cleveland; the Royal College of Physicians, and the Royal Society of Medicine, London, and the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, Dublin, all of which sent formal greetings to Dr. Welch. Portraits were also sent to the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, the Ashmolean Museum, in Oxford, and the British Museum.

The German institutions which received etchings were the Reichsgesundheitsamt (Government Health Service), and the Robert Koch Prussian Institute for Infectious Diseases, in Berlin, both of which sent formal greetings to Washington, and the Institute of Medical History in Leipzig.

Other foreign institutions receiving etchings were the State Serum Institute,

in Copenhagen, which sent a congratulatory telegram to Dr. Welch, and the Osler Library of McGill University, Montreal.

American institutions not previously mentioned which received impressions of the drypoint were as follows:

In Washington, D. C.: The Army Medical Library, Carnegie Institution, The National Academy of Sciences, and the U. S. Bureau of the Public Health Service.

In Chicago: The Department of Medicine of the University of Chicago, and the American Medical Association.

In Baltimore: The Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of the State of Maryland, and, at the Johns Hopkins University, the Pathological Laboratory, the President's Office, the School of Hygiene and Public Health, and the William H. Welch Medical Library.

In Boston: The Boston Medical Library and the Harvard University Medical School.

In St. Louis: The School of Medicine of Washington University.

In Princeton: Princeton University.

In New York City: The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Milbank Memorial Fund, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

In Cleveland: Western Reserve University.

The importance of the event was widely recognized by periodicals as well as by the daily press. Within one month after the celebrations had taken place the Secretary of the Executive Committee had received nearly four thousand clippings, not counting duplicates, from American newspapers alone.

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