

new Research Laboratory of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, which was formally opened in November, 1896; and the Wellcome Chemical Research Laboratories, which were established in the summer of 1896.

The scope of these laboratories and the directions in which research is conducted in them naturally differ. The first mentioned, for example, is more especially of an academic character, and is therefore devoted to somewhat abstract investigations in chemistry and physics; the second is stated to have for its primary object the examination of morbid specimens and material, the study of zymotic diseases, and, in general, bacteriological, physiological and pathological work; while the third, the Wellcome Chemical Research Laboratories, are designed for investigations in both pure and applied chemistry, and, in the latter instance, with special reference to the study of that large class of both organic and inorganic compounds which are employed as medicinal agents in the treatment of disease.

Mr. Henry S. Wellcome, in establishing the chemical research laboratories which bear his name, explained that the work which he

proposed to inaugurate would be carried out on no selfish lines, but would be controlled and dictated with the highest regard for science, and this promise has been fulfilled in no niggard spirit.

The first home of the laboratories was in a building located at No. 42, Snow Hill. It was recently found desirable to make considerable extensions. In order to accomplish this, it was decided that the laboratories should be transferred to a building of their own, of which they should have complete use and possession. Such premises were secured at No. 6, King Street, Snow Hill, where, in a very central part of London, and amid surroundings replete with many of its most interesting historical associations, the laboratories are now located.

The building is a handsome, modern one of

Venetian style of architecture, and comprises four stories and a basement. A view of it is represented by Plate I.

On the ground floor of the building are the office of the Director and the library, a well selected one, and quite complete for the special requirements. It contains not only a considerable number of recent chemical and pharmacological works, but also complete sets of many journals, etc. Files of many of the more important chemical, pharmaceutical and medical periodicals of England, America and Germany are also kept. As several very large and complete scientific and technical libraries are also at all times accessible to members of the staff, it is evident that the requirements in this direction are most abundantly supplied. In the library there is also a cabinet

containing specimens of the various substances prepared in the course of laboratory investigations, which already form a collection of considerable interest.

The laboratories proper are located on the first, second and third floors of the building, as represented in Plate VI. They are similar in their arrangement, are provided with gas and electricity for

both illuminating and heating purposes, and completely equipped with all the necessary apparatus and appliances for conducting chemical investigations. There are pumps on each table for filtration under pressure, and special adaptations for vacuum distillations. A separate connection with the electric main supplies the current for heating iron plates used for the distillation of ether and other similar liquids. Each laboratory is provided with fine analytical and ordinary balances, which are carefully protected from dust and moisture by tightly-fitting glass cases. There are also telephones on each floor, so that communication between the different laboratories or with the Director's office can be quickly effected.

The basement of the building, which is well

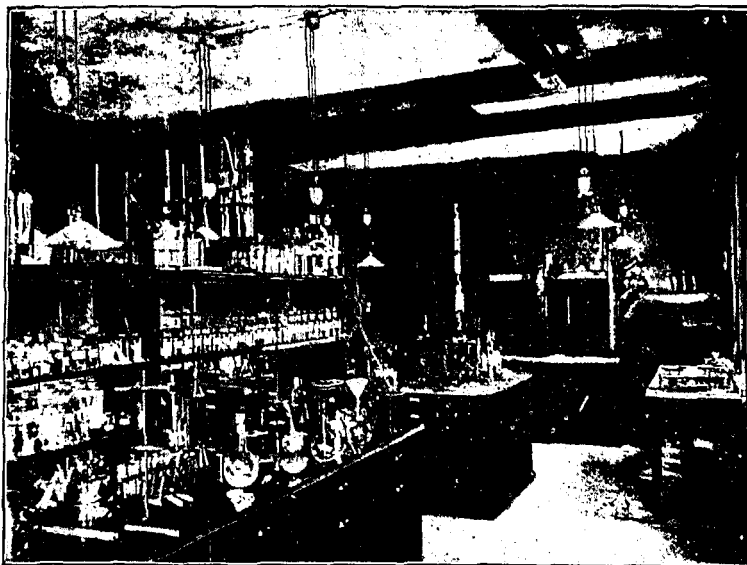


PLATE VI.

THE LABORATORIES—THIRD FLOOR.

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