

ROCKEFELLER MADE THE PASTEUR OFFER

**Unasked He Proffered Money to
Buy Scientist's Birthplace as
Gift to France.**

FLEXNER WROTE JUSSERAND

**French Committee Was Trying to
Raise the \$15,000 Needed When
Rockefeller Stepped In.**

The details of the negotiations that led recently to the purchase for presentation to the French Nation of the birthplace of Louis Pasteur, at Dôle, France, through a gift of John D. Rockefeller, have just become public.

A committee had been formed in France under M. Pieyre, Mayor of Dôle, to raise a sum of money to buy the house and to fix an endowment for its maintenance, in order to preserve it as a public memorial to the great French physician. Many leading scientists and men in public life were enlisted as sponsors, and circulars inviting subscriptions were distributed throughout Europe and America. It was announced that \$11,000 would be needed to buy and repair the property and \$4,200 for its maintenance endowment.

This plan came to the notice of Mr. Rockefeller, who caused an inquiry to be sent to the French Ambassador at Washington through Dr. Simon Flexner, Director of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, asking whether it would be acceptable to the committee in charge if he should purchase the house, put it in repair, and present it to the French Nation as his contribution toward the undertaking, leaving the public subscription open to provide the sum needed for maintenance.

Dr. Flexner wrote to M. Jusserand, the French Ambassador, the following letter:

Dear Sir: You may perhaps recall the recent correspondence with Jerome D. Greene with reference to the enterprise now on foot for the acquisition of the house where Pasteur was born as a public monument. This enterprise has interested John D. Rockefeller, who has felt the greatest admiration for Pasteur, and has also testified, as you know, to his faith in the importance of the work to which Pasteur gave his life by establishing and permanently endowing the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

The debt to Pasteur is, of course, universal, not local or national, and in no part of the world has his life been more of an inspiration than in America. I am of the opinion that, if agreeable in France to those actively interested in this matter, Mr. Rockefeller would have the utmost pleasure in bearing the cost of the purchase, repair, and equipment of Pasteur's birthplace, amounting to 55,000 francs, as part of the American contribution to this admirable undertaking. I take the liberty, therefore, of asking your Excellency whether such a gift, were it offered, would be acceptable.

Mr. Rockefeller quite understands that the memorial to Pasteur will have a greater significance if it expresses the gratitude and devotion of many persons in different countries than if it represents the act of an individual. The general character of the subscription would, however, be maintained under the conditions suggested, and Mr. Rockefeller would be glad if his own share in the gift could be regarded as representing the good will of his countrymen.

I shall greatly appreciate your counsel in this matter, so close to the hearts of all humanitarians. Very respectfully,

SIMON FLEXNER.

The contents of this letter were cabled

to France and referred to the President of the Pasteur Committee, M. Pieyre. The offer was at once accepted, and Mr. Rockefeller received this letter from Dôle:

To Mr. Rockefeller:

I have the honor of being directed by the members of the Pasteur Committee and by my colleagues of the Departmental Assembly to express to you on their behalf and on that of all the people of Dôle our deep gratitude for the noble and generous thought which has animated your decision to assume the cost of purchasing, furnishing, and repairing the birthplace of Louis Pasteur.

I shall duly send you an official copy of the vote accepting your offer, a vote passed unanimously by the members of the Pasteur Committee. Allow me, dear Sir, to assure you that the town of Dôle, moved to enthusiastic recognition of your act, will not fail to honor and perpetuate your name and your act.

I shall promptly communicate to you such action as the Municipal Council takes with this end in view at the special session which I am calling.

Accept, dear Sir, with the expression of my gratitude, the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

M. PIEYRE.

Mayor and President of the Pasteur Committee.

Pasteur was born at Dôle in 1822, and died in 1895. The town is situated in the Department of Jura, thirty miles southeast of Dijon, and has now about 12,000 inhabitants.

NIP BOY AND GIRL ROMANCE.

**Youth of 15 Refused to Give Her Up—
Both Arrested.**

Russell Suvaroff, a good-looking boy of 15 years, stepson of William C. Suvaroff, Eastern agent for a large picture frame manufactory, was brought before Justice Hoyt in the Children's Court yesterday. Standing near him, watching the proceedings with no more interest than she watched the boy, was Johanna Jaeger, who is dark-haired and also 15 years old. Both were arrested on Saturday night at the home of the girl, 314 East Ninety-fourth Street.

The arrest was made on the complaint of the boy's stepfather after he had tried in vain to persuade the youngster to stay away from the girl, because he feared that they would run away and marry. Justice Hoyt took the boy into his chambers and talked with him for a long time. He offered to parole him in the custody of his father if he would give up the girl. The boy repeated that he loved his companion, and refused to give the promise which would have brought him liberty.

The Suvaroffs live at 27 West 125th Street. Mr. Suvaroff said that the boy, who works for him at his place in West Thirty-third Street, had been neglecting his work and spending most of his time at the home of the Jaegers. He had reasoned with the boy, but he continued to call on the girl. A few nights ago, he said, he went to the Jaeger house, and upon demanding that his son come home, the latter ran into another room and he followed in time to prevent the lad jumping from the window. This exhausted his patience, and he wrote to Supt. Walsh that the boy was incorrigible, asking him to take action.

Justice Hoyt placed both in the custody of the Children's Society for a hearing on Saturday.

WEATHERBEE WILL FILED.

**Estate Said to be Worth More Than a
Million—All to Family.**

The will of Edwin H. Weatherbee, who died at his home, 240 Madison Avenue, February 2, of apoplexy, was filed yesterday for probate. Mr. Weatherbee was the head of Arnold, Constable & Co.

The petition which accompanies the will merely states that the personal and real property are valued at more than \$10,000 each, but it is understood the total value of the estate is over a million dollars.

The estate is to be divided among Mrs. Amy H. Weatherbee, the wife, and the three children, Henrietta Constable Read, Mary Angell Weatherbee and Hicks Arnold Weatherbee.