

from short rods in line with the plane of vibration, while the extremely small diameter of the rods would not sufficiently intercept the light vibrating in a plane transverse to their length.

It is expected to continue the investigation with artificial light and other varied conditions, followed by a later account.

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May 23, 1921

### EDWARD BENNETT ROSA

DR. EDWARD B. ROSA, chief physicist of the Bureau of Standards, at Washington, died suddenly at his desk on Tuesday afternoon, May 17, 1921. Dr. Rosa was at the time the chief of Division I. of the Bureau of Standards, the functions of which include research, standardization and testing in the fields of electricity, magnetism, photometry, radio communication, radium, X-ray, and public utilities. Dr. Rosa was appointed physicist in the Bureau in 1901. In 1910 he was given the grade of chief physicist. Dr. Rosa's painstaking accuracy in scientific research is well known among specialists in the fields in which he worked. His investigations have been published in 36 scientific publications of the bureau and 4 technologic papers, not to speak of a large number of special reports, circulars, and articles in technical journals.

Among the researches of unusual interest may be mentioned the precise determination of the value of the coulomb, the value of the ampère, and of the ratio between the electrostatic and the electromagnetic units of electricity. His other laboratory researches included a wide range of problems chiefly connected with the improvement of the standards and methods used in precise electrical measurements.

Perhaps one of the most striking examples of Dr. Rosa's thoroughness and success in securing the cooperation of the technical groups interested may be found in the development and publication of the National Electrical Safety Code, the revised form of which has

just recently appeared as a "Handbook" issued by the Bureau of Standards.

In his work as administrator he successfully organized the work of electrical testing, photometry, radium testing, and research and standardization work involved in radio communication. Dr. Rosa showed a deep interest in all phases of the bureau's development, and will be remembered with profound respect and admiration by his colleagues. His work will endure as a permanent foundation for the branches of physics and electrical engineering to which he devoted so many useful years of his life.

S. W. STRATTON

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,  
BUREAU OF STANDARDS

### SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

#### THE HARPSWELL LABORATORY

THE Harpswell Laboratory was founded at South Harpswell, Maine, in 1898, as a summer school of biology by Dr. J. S. Kingsley, then professor of biology in Tufts College, Massachusetts. In 1913 it was reorganized as a scientific corporation under the laws of the state of Maine, with a board of ten trustees. Up to 1920, ninety-two scientists have worked in its laboratory at South Harpswell and over one hundred and ten papers have been published, as a result of this work, in American and foreign journals of biology.

In the spring of 1921 the Harpswell Laboratory became a member of "The Wild Gardens of Acadia" Corporation, and this corporation allotted to the Harpswell Laboratory a tract of land of abundant acreage for its purposes and further growth at Salisbury Cove, Maine, on Mount Desert Island, with shore frontage and favorable life conditions, upon which the Harpswell Laboratory has established its Weir Mitchell Station. In its new site the laboratory is in close contact with the wild life sanctuary of Lafayette National Park, created recently on Mount Desert Island by the United States through the efforts of a group of its summer residents. This is the only National Park in the eastern portion of the Continent and the only one in the country