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.

ELIHU THOMSON

THOMSON LABORATORY OF GENERAL ELECTRIC CO., LYNN, MASS.

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 alloted 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

in direct contact with the sea. This secures a permanent and rich area for biological study in every field, vertebrate and invertebrate.

Salisbury Cove is an old fishing and farming hamlet on the north shore of Mount Desert Island about five miles from the town of Bar Harbor and on the county road from it to the town of Ellsworth on the mainland, where there is a railroad station and junction. The village of Salisbury Cove is a market gardening and farming community of quiet and simple kind, but Bar Harbor has good stores of every sort, an excellent hospital, express, telegraph, cable facilities, good train service. The class in zoology will be conducted by the acting director, Professor Ulric Dahlgren, of Princeton University, and two assistants, for six weeks, from July 6 to August 17, in which types of the principal groups of the animal kingdom will be studied as to their habits, structures and classification, together with a number of the more important subjects of general biology. Independent research workers may obtain rooms that can be occupied from June 25 to September 15.

PRESENTATION TO DR. FREDERICK BELDING POWER

Dr. Frederick Belding Power, chemist in charge of the phytochemical laboratory, Bureau of Chemistry, Department of Agriculture, was presented with a gold medal by Mr. Henry S. Wellcome, of London, before a gathering of distinguished guests, in the auditorium of the Cosmos Club, on the afternoon of May 9. The medal was given in recognition of Dr. Power's distinguished services to science during eighteen and one half years as director of the Wellcome Chemical Research Laboratories of London.

Dr. Charles D. Walcott, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, presented the medal to Dr. Power on behalf of Mr. Wellcome, who although present was suffering from a severe throat affection. In his address Dr. Walcott spoke briefly of the life and discoveries of Dr. Power:

We have gathered here this afternoon to do honor to Dr. Frederick Belding Power, who for fifty years has spent his thinking hours among the complicated molecules of organic compounds; who, because he possesses that peculiar faculty of exhausting each subject which he takes up, has had the greatest influence both in America and Great Britain in raising the standards of our pharmacopœias; who has gained distinction by his most difficult and life-consuming researches into the chemical composition of plant compounds.

Dr. Power graduated from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy in 1874, in the same class with his life-long friend, Mr. Wellcome, who urged him to pursue his studies in Germany. He spent the years from 1876 to 1880 in Strassburg, becoming the assistant of Flueckiger, one of the greatest pharmacologists of Europe. Returning to America, he spent nine years in the organizing and building up of the department and school of pharmacy in the University of Wisconsin, four years in researches on essential oils in a newly organized chemical works near New York, and in 1896 Mr. Wellcome appointed him director of his chemical research laboratories in London.

For eighteen and one half years he devoted his time exclusively to chemical research and the direction of a staff of research workers under him. One hundred and fifty important memoirs were published from the laboratories during this period. These covered a wide field of investigation, for which material was obtained from all parts of the world. Among these a very notable and complete study was made of the East Indian chaulmoogra oil, which resulted in the discovery of some physiologically active acids of an entirely new type. These form the basis of the new treatment of leprosy which gives promise of affecting a complete cure of one of the most terrible diseases of mankind.

During these years in London, Dr. Power had the opportunity of meeting and forming the close friendship of the foremost scientific men of Great Britain. The recognition of his work by the leading chemists and other scientists of Europe would be perhaps exemplified in the high tribute paid to him by the late Lord Moulton, one of the most learned and versatile men in Europe, who was entrusted by Kitchener with the task of producing the high explosives for the war. Shortly before his death he chided Mr. Wellcome for permitting Dr. Power (who for family reasons had returned to America) to leave Great Britain, for, as he remarked, "there was no one in Europe who could fill his place."