LINCOLN WARE RIDDLE

THE following minute on the life and services of Professor Riddle was placed upon the records of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences of Harvard University at the meeting of June 7, 1921:

Lincoln Ware Riddle was born in Jamaica Plain, Mass., October 17, 1880. He graduated from Harvard in 1902, received the degree of A.M. in 1905, and of Ph.D. in 1906. In the same year he became instructor in botany at Wellesley College. He was appointed professor of botany there in 1917 and held this position for two years, when he came to Harvard as assistant professor of cryptogamic botany and associate curator of the cryptogamic herbarium. At the close of his first year of service upon our faculty he was attacked by the prolonged illness which terminated fatally on the 16th of last January.

The rare enthusiasm and singular devotion which he brought to his work were early made manifest. As a boy of twelve, at the Roxbury Latin School, he declared his purpose to devote his life to botany, and henceforth gave himself unreservedly to its pursuit.

At Wellesley he became deeply interested in lichens, and devoted himself more and more to the study of these plants. He made good use of the important lichen herbarium at Wellesley, and of the unique collection at Harvard, and in 1913, during a year's leave of absence in Europe, studied the collections in Upsala, Helsingfors, Geneva, London and Paris. His publications soon made him a leading authority on the subject.

He was constantly handicapped by a frail physique, but this did not prevent him from accomplishing important scientific work or from taking an active part in the affairs of the community. In his relations with his fellows he was the soul of honor and loyalty, with a personality that drew all men to him. In the class-room his sympathy and friendliness, as well as his clarity of style, made his teaching attractive. His devotion to his students was noteworthy and his influence great and lasting.

In the circle which mourns him his careful scholarship was widely esteemed by his professional associates; he was honored by all for his inspiring ideals, and, beyond the lot of most men, he was sincerely beloved.

WINTHROP J. V. OSTERHOUT,
ROLAND THAXTER,
MERRITT L. FERNALD,
Committee

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE PRINTERS' STRIKE AND SCIENCE

IT is perhaps desirable to state that, owing to the strike of compositors for a forty-four hour week, the printers of SCIENCE continue to bring out the journal under serious difficulties. They have, for example, been unable to page the number of *The American Naturalist,* which should have appeared on May 1 and was in type at that time. Owing to the weekly publication of SCIENCE, it has been given precedence, the composition and make-up of the number having been largely done by the heads of departments. It has, however, been necessary to reduce the size of the numbers and to limit the amount of composition as closely as possible. Nearly all advertisers have cooperated with the publication department in using copy already in type and limiting as far as possible new composition. It may again be noted that the strike is nation-wide, affecting, in the east at least, the printing of most scientific journals.

GRANT FOR THE STUDY OF STELLAR PARALLAXES[1]

THE Advisory Council for Scientific and Industrial Research has quite recently granted an application made to it to assist in carrying out a piece of research work relating to the determination of the parallaxes of stars having a certain type of spectrum. The grant has been made to Mr. W. B. Rimmer, who up to the present has been employed in spectroscopic researches at the Imperial College of Science and Technology under the direction of Professor A. Fowler, but will now carry out this research at the Norman Lockyer Observatory at Salcombe Hill, Sidmouth. This observatory was founded by the late Sir Norman Lockyer in 1912, and the programme of work has been confined strictly to the photography of the spectra of stars and their subsequent classification according to his scheme of increasing and decreasing temperatures, which has been confirmed in its general features by the more recent work of Russell and Hertzsprung on giant and dwarf stars. The researches of Professor W. S. Adams have now

[1] From *Nature.*