

During the war he had charge of the execution of many lines of research, including the elaborate work done by the bureau on aviation engines, the atmospheric conditions which are encountered at heights up to thirty thousand feet being produced for the first time in a specially designed altitude chamber. This work was of importance in many ways, such as in fixing specifications for gasoline for aviation engines, and determining their performance with variations in design.

His contributions to knowledge appear almost exclusively as a long series of papers in the scientific and technologic series of the Bureau of Standards. His work was most painstaking and thorough and was always thoughtfully planned and skillfully executed. He was a delightful and inspiring companion to work with, as I can testify from an almost daily association extending over twenty years.

Dr. Waidner was a man of wide acquaintance, a member of the Washington Academy of Sciences, the Philosophical Society of Washington, the Cosmos Club, the American Society for Testing Materials and a fellow of the American Physical Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

In addition to his scientific position, Waidner naturally had at the bureau many important administrative and advisory functions to perform, some of them bringing him into close contact with his fellows. Thus, as a member of the editorial committee, continuously from its formation in 1903, he is largely responsible for the policy and standard of the bureau's publications. This position, as well as that of the chairman of the personnel committee, he filled with consummate tact and devoted conscientiousness. He had the saving grace of wit and common sense, and broke many a deadlock with a happy thrust that left no sting.

His associates will remember him not only for his high standard of work but for his ever ready kindly advice, some times given to good effect when not asked for, his sterling character, genial personality, intense loyalty to his friends and to the institution of which he was a dominating mind, and above all, during the past few years, for his grit and cheerful-

ness in combating the disease that finally took him off.

S. W. STRATTON

BUREAU OF STANDARDS

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

VIENNA INSTITUTE FOR ICE AGE RE-SEARCH

SCARCELY any department of scientific research is of more general interest than that which concerns prehistoric man, his development during the Ice Age and the changes then taking place in the conformation of land and sea. Yet, with the exception of the Institute of Human Paleontology in Paris, generously endowed by Prince Albert of Monaco, there has hitherto been no special center for the investigation of this period.

A public institution for study of the Ice Age has now been established in Vienna in connection with the Natural History Museum of the Austrian Republic, and every effort will be made to investigate the phenomena of the Ice Age on a broad scientific basis.

The geographical position of Vienna renders it well adapted for this purpose, since the land structures associated with the glaciation can be studied in the vicinity and observed in their ancient relations to the environment of prehistoric man. Lower Austria is well known to have furnished a rich store of ancient stone implements and weapons.

The Vienna Institute is under the leadership of Dr. T. Bayer, director of the anthropological and ethnographical collections. Dr. Bayer's papers in which he demonstrates the existence of no more than two distinct periods of glacial conditions may be said to have created a new basis for this field of research. He is assisted by a group of colleagues and it is hoped to extend the circle of workers to include those in other countries who are devoting themselves to this period of research. They are invited to enter into communication with Dr. Bayer at the Natural History Museum, Vienna, who will be pleased to give fuller information as to the present activities of the institute.

JULIUS PIA

VIENNA, MARCH 16