material service to the industry, if some way could be devised to bring them together. After once having established this friendly relation, the question of the industries helping to finance pure research will take care of itself. In some cases it will take the form of research fellowships, in others that of the endowment of one or another teaching or research professorship. Now it might be a gift of a building and again that of a piece of apparatus which the university could not afford to buy.

Progress to-day is very rapid, but we must not forget that we owe much to those who carefully laid the foundations without thought of reward. One discovery follows another so rapidly that it is hard to keep abreast of the times. Hardly has the radio become commonplace when we learn that accurate photographs are being transmitted by wire. These advances represent the result of cooperative effort, and anything we can do to encourage cooperation will help make progress in the future more rapid than in the past.

FRANK E. E. GERMANN
CORNELL UNIVERSITY

ERIC KNIGHT JORDAN

1903–1926

ERIC KNIGHT JORDAN, the son of David Starr Jordan and Jessie Knight Jordan, was killed on March 10, 1926, by the overturning of an automobile. He was on his way to a geological survey of the Santa Maria region of Lower California.

In Eric Jordan, a great scientific name gave fair promise of receiving new luster. He was hardly more than a boy when he died, for he had been born in San Francisco on September 27, 1903. But he had already achieved distinction in his chosen field. Before entering the university he had made a considerable collection of mollusks of Lower California and of various shores of Europe, while in a secondary school he had prepared a manual of the mollusks of Lower California. This book, which was never published, contained considerable original work, especially on the Chitons and on the minute snails called Odostomia. His studies on the molluscan fauna of Trinidad Head, Calif., were written at the age of fifteen, and published by the U. S. National Museum.

He was graduated from Stanford University in 1923, with geology as his major subject and zoology as a minor. In 1924, under the auspices of Cornell University, he made a large collection of the fishes from Hawaii. Under the direction of the California Academy of Sciences, he later took part in a geological and biological survey of the Off Shore Islands of Mexico, and also in a survey of the middle portion of Lower California. The reports on these last two expeditions are still unpublished.

His chief publications were: "The Mollusks, Living and Fossil, of Lower California, and Their Testimony as to Climatic Conditions in the Miocene Age"; "A Catalogue of the Fishes of Hawaii, with Account of New Species" (in collaboration with D. S. Jordan); "A Review of the Fishes of Hawaii," based on his own collection in 1924. At the time of his death he was a graduate student in geology and assistant curator in the same subject in the California Academy of Sciences.

He was in the perfect bloom of his young manhood; lithe, tall, vigorous, a lover of the High Sierras. A clear-headed and persistent worker, he was also a born executive and a master of English. His love for biological studies approached genius, but there was none of the abnormal or repellant traits of the "prodigy" about him; his personality remained sweet and winsome. He was married but one month before his death to one of his classmates, a gifted and lovable young woman, Elizabeth Roper Jordan. The grief of his bride and of his parents is too sacred for the intrusion of public sympathy. But the scientific world realizes that heredity and early training under an incomparable master had given Eric Jordan opportunities which were perhaps unique. It is a priceless instrument that has been broken. Laboremus!

ALBERT GUERARD

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

LEADING scientific men and engineers of America and Europe will attend a ten-day meeting of the International Electrotechnical Commission, which will be held in the Engineering Societies Building, New York, beginning April 13.

This meeting will be the first to be held in the United States by the commission, which functions through national committees representing the technical societies and governments of a score of nations.

It is expected that delegates will be sent by every country represented on the commission. The preliminary and incomplete list of delegates includes the following:

Belgium.—Frans Dupont and M. E. Uytborck.
France.—J. J. Frick and M. E. Roth.
Germany.—P. Schirp, Dr. Rudenberg, P. Strecker, Dr. Fleischmann, M. Kloss and Richard Stern.
Great Britain.—Sir Richard Glazebrook, Sir Archibald Denny, L. B. Atkinson, W. W. Lackie, L. St. L. Penched, Col. F. T. Purves, C. P. Sparks, Sir George Sutton, W. B.

Woodhouse, S. T. Allen, E. G. Batt, S. B. Donkin, A. R. Everest, A. D. Cramb, P. V. Hunter, J. P. Gregory, W. Lee, Lieut.-Col. F. A. Cortez Leigh, R. B. Mitchell, W. Pearson, J. S. Peck, C. Rodgers, T. Roles, F. Wallis and P. Good.

Holland.—C. Feldmann, Mr. Tromp, Mr. Rosskopf and Bellaar Spruyt.

Italy.—G. Semenza (president I. E. C.), E. Morelli, Mr. Ucelli and Ernesto Vannotti.

Norway.—H. A. Mork.

Russia.—Professor Chatelain.

Switzerland.—E. Huber-Stocker, A. Huber-Ruf, Charles Burlet, Antoine Schrafl, H. Zoelly and Paul Thut.

Poland.—C. Drewnowski and Z. Okoniewski.

Spain.—A. Artigas.

United States.—W. F. Durand, F. R. Low, C. O. Mailloux, A. E. Kennelly, C. E. Skinner, F. D. Newbury, E. A. Snyder, A. H. Moore, J. Franklin Meyer, C. A. Bates, N. W. Storer and D. W. Roper.

At the close of the meeting the delegates will tour the United States and Canada, being entertained by local committees in numerous cities, including Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburgh, Chicago, Detroit, Niagara Falls, Ottawa, Montreal, Boston and Schenectady. The Canadian National Committee will welcome the delegates at Niagara Falls and accompany them to Montreal where a public meeting will be held in their honor.

AN EASTERN SECTION OF THE SEISMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

AN eastern section of the Seismological Society of America has been formed, with the following temporary officers: *Chairman,* Dr. James B. Macelwane, St. Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri; *vice-chairman,* Mr. Ernest A. Hodgson, Dominion Observatory, Ottawa, Canada; and *secretary-treasurer,* Comdr. H. N. Heck, U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, Washington, D. C.

The society is a national organization with headquarters in California. People in the east who are interested in the problems developed by earthquakes have long felt the need of a local section, because the headquarters and activities of the society are on the west coast and eastern members received no benefit except the subscription to the bulletin.

The purpose of the eastern section is to arouse interest in earthquake study from every viewpoint: from that of the business man, architect and engineer and those who benefit by their work, the insurance companies and the insured, those studying the earthquake dangers in large cities, as well as those interested in the study of earthquakes as geologists or seismologists.

This will be accomplished in two ways. A quarterly section bulletin which will list books and articles published in regard to various phases of the earthquake problem and special papers and abstracts. Articles written in the bulletin will be interesting reading for the layman as well as the scientists. An annual section meeting will be held in a different place each year. At this meeting papers which will interest all those mentioned above will be presented.

The first annual meeting will be held in Washington, D. C., on May 1, 1926, at the close of a series of meetings including those of the American Physical Society, National Academy of Science and American Geophysical Union.

Further information regarding the eastern section may be obtained from N. H. Heck, temporary secretary-treasurer, U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, Washington, D. C.

WORK OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL ON THE ATMOSPHERE AND MAN

AT its meeting in New Haven on March 7, 1926, the committee reviewed the progress which had been made on several specific researches which the committee initiated several years ago. Plans were made for further development of the data on daily mortality in New York City in relation to weather elements, for the period 1883 to 1888. The analysis which the committee has directed to be made during the ensuing summer may lead to important and definite conclusions in respect to the association between the several conditions of the atmosphere and human mortality. Plans were also reviewed for presenting the essential facts of certain investigations which were made for the committee by representative manufacturing establishments on the effect of indoor and outdoor air conditions on industrial efficiency.

Consideration of these latter records led the committee to suggest that graduate schools of the universities should delegate a number of specific researches within this field to qualified students. There is an evergrowing interest in the effect of atmospheric conditions on health, mortality and efficiency. The interest in problems of ventilation, lighting and in other effective control of indoor conditions was never so strong as it is at the present time. The committee hoped that it might be feasible to pool the interest of hygienists, physiologists, meteorologists and statisticians at the present time, and to present a research program which would unify the many specific endeavors now under way. The public health workers, through the American Public Health Association, have also shown a revived interest in the subject. Economic geographers, industrial hygienists, hospital administrators, psychologists, physicians in general practice and many other groups have