

Professor Rice's geological field work, though it includes a report of the *Geology of Bermuda*, was mostly done on the geology of Connecticut. He was asked to revise Dana's *Text-book of Geology* for the fifth edition. From 1903-16 he was Superintendent of the Connecticut State Geological and Natural History Survey and in addition to seeing the various bulletins through the press wrote (with H. E. Gregory) a *Manual of the Geology of Connecticut*. It was for the same Survey that last year he wrote, with W. G. Foye, a *Guide to the Geology of Middletown*. Professor Rice's knowledge of botany, zoology, and geology was wide and accurate. If his original production in geology is less than that of many of his geological contemporaries it should be remembered that for the first sixteen years of his teaching he taught botany and zoology as well as geology, and that more and more in later years his interest was growing in the relations of science and religion. He himself considered that it was in this field that he had done his best and most useful work. He often said that he "would have done more if he hadn't tried to do so much"—and another might add, "and to do it so well."

No account of Professor Rice can be at all satisfactory that does not put first the man, his mental and spiritual traits, rather than the work done; and yet how hard it is to do this adequately! He was small of stature and slight of build; and while not at home in rough outdoor exercise could outwalk most of his students. Perhaps one's first impression of him might be one of seriousness and logical perfection of mental processes. He spoke when he had something to say and while he enjoyed a joke as well as any did not easily make small talk. He had the patience and conscience to make sure of his facts; few caught him napping here. And he had a mind fundamentally orderly and logical. Home training, education and inclination made him a wide and thorough reader, especially in history and the best English prose and poetry, though he was not interested in technical philosophy. His favorite poets were Tennyson and Whittier and one of his published essays was on *Tennyson, the Poet of Science*. Perhaps it was his classical training that gave him his mastery of the niceties of the English language. He read his New Testament in the original Greek throughout life.

Keeness of intellect in Professor Rice was balanced by the depth and intensity of his ethical and religious life. He was a *fair* man, carrying over into every field of his thought the scientific attitude of mind. Everything was seen against a background of moral and religious values and took meaning from that background. His love of beauty in nature was

profound—whether on walking tours in the Alps, or along the shores and in the woods and fields of New England. This last fall in central Ohio he was out almost every afternoon and his joy in the colors of autumn foliage and sunset sky was intense. And to him it was always God's world.

His interest in community educational and religious matters was constant. For some time he was president of the Middletown school board. In recent years he has been a member of the Council of the Connecticut Federation of Churches, twice its president and for a long time its secretary. He has always been interested in temperance and on that ground, among others, was an ardent Hoover man during this last election. When he finally decided not to attempt to go back to Middletown to vote, he made partial amends by sending liberal contributions to the Connecticut State and local Republican Committees and to the Anti-Saloon League.

Professor Rice was a member of the American Society of Naturalists (president in 1891), of the Geological Society of America (vice-president, 1911), and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (vice-president and chairman of Section E, 1905-6). It was a source of regret to him that in the multiplication of organizations in recent decades and the separation of their meetings in time and place from those of the parent society, the American Association, with its emphasis on the common work of science as a whole, should suffer.

L. G. WESTGATE

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### PALEOLITHIC DISCOVERIES IN NORTHERN IRAQ

THE British-American Archeological Expedition in northern Iraq, which is the joint undertaking of the Percy Sladen Fund (British) and the American School of Prehistoric Research, has just closed a most successful season. Miss Dorothy A. E. Garrod, leader of the expedition, has reported to Dr. George Grant MacCurdy, director of the American School of Prehistoric Research, the finding of numerous caves northeast of Bagdad in the region of Sulaimani.

The complete excavation of one cave at Larzi has yielded important results proving that the prehistoric race which lived on the eastern tributaries of the Tigris River during the latter part of the Old Stone Age had a culture practically identical with that of the race living at the same time in central and western Europe—a culture known as Aurignacian, left by the race of Cro-Magnon.

The industrial remains at Larzi are not only typically Aurignacian but also very numerous. The flint

implements are exactly comparable with those from south central France and the Danube valley in Austria; they do not, however, seem to have any close affinities with the contemporary Capsian industry of northern Africa. Another feature is that, near the top of the deposit, the industry grades off into the Mesolithic or Tardenoisian microlithic industry, without passing through the European intermediate stage of the Paleolithic known as Solutrean and Magdalenian.

Through a cable dispatch just received, Dr. MacCurdy is also able to announce that the expedition has explored and partly excavated a great cave that was inhabited by the more primitive and much earlier Neandertal race. The flint implements are like those from the Mousterian caves of central and western Europe. The discoveries in northern Iraq are said to throw much new light on the unity and continuity of Old Stone Age cultures and races so far as both Europe and Asia are concerned and Dr. MacCurdy hopes that they may eventually help to elucidate the problem as to whether the prehistoric current was from east to west or the reverse.

#### THE HEALTH COMMITTEE OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

THE thirteenth session of the Health Committee of the League of Nations was held at Geneva, October 24-31. According to the report of the meeting in the *Journal* of the American Medical Association the only American member present was Dr. Alice Hamilton, assistant professor of industrial medicine, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston. The committee's first work was the adoption of the June report of the malaria commission. The commission emphasized the necessity of acquiring a wider knowledge of malaria and of the parasite of the mosquito, and suggested that each government establish a central permanent organization of workers who would devote their whole time to malaria research. It suggested some general rules for combatting malaria and proposed a number of subjects for research on its epidemiology and a program of research on the use of cinchona alkaloids and on housing in relation to malaria. The health committee of the League of Nations in October adopted plans to organize an international leprosy inquiry, a national center for which has already been set up in Brazil. The reports of the smallpox and cancer commissions were adopted. The subcommittee of experts of the latter commission, which is studying the radiotherapy of cancer, hopes to report soon on the results of radiologic treatment in three important institutions, those at Munich, Paris and Stockholm. The committee decided to place at the disposal of the International

Ophthalmological Society the documentation collected on the subject of the protection of the blind and on trachoma. The committee heard a report on the dengue epidemic in Greece from Dr. W. D. MacKenzie, who had been sent to Greece at the request of the government. The committee authorized its president, Dr. Madsen, Denmark, to name four members to a commission for the revision of the nomenclature of the causes of deaths. The question which provoked the longest discussion before the committee was the request of the council that the health organization of the League of Nations should collect full statistical information regarding alcoholism, giving prominence, according to the data available, to the deleterious effects of the bad quality of the alcohols consumed. As a result of the discussion, it was decided to ask the health services of Finland, Poland and Sweden, which had presented the resolution concerning alcohol to the assembly of the League of Nations, to state what were the particular problems of public health on which they desired international collaboration. During this session of the health committee, for the first time, moving pictures on different aspects of its work were shown. One film was on rural hygiene in India, and another on the Copenhagen Conference of Experts on the Sero-Diagnosis of Syphilis.

#### FELLOWSHIPS IN MEDICINE OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

THE following fellows in medicine of the National Research Council, appointed at the April and September meetings of the Medical Fellowship Board, have begun their fellowship work for the year 1928-29:

Leon H. Collins, Jr., biochemistry and pathology.  
P. Arthur Delaney, pathology.  
Henry H. Dixon, neurology.  
Simon Dworkin, physiology.  
Lawrence S. Kubie, neurology and psychiatry.  
Stephen J. Maddock, experimental surgery.  
Kenneth I. Melville, pharmacology (chemotherapy).  
Valy Menkin, physiology.  
David McK. Rioch, neuro-physiology.  
Herbert L. Ratcliffe, parasitology.  
Matthew C. Riddle, diseases of the blood.  
Harold G. Wolff, neurology (experimental).  
Charles Eugene Woodruff, pathology.

Those whose terms of fellowship have expired during the summer have received the following appointments:

William C. Austin, Ph.D., professor, department of physiological chemistry, Loyola University School of Medicine, Chicago.  
Walter Bauer, M.D., instructor and tutor in internal medicine, Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital.