

RECENT DEATHS

EMILE BERLINER, of Washington, inventor of the disc record talking machine and the telephone transmitter, died on August 4. Dr. Berliner was seventy-eight years old.

DR. JAMES ROY ECKMAN, associate chemist in the Bureau of Standards and lecturer in physical chemistry at George Washington University, died on August 1, in his forty-second year.

NORMAN W. METCALF, research associate of the Bureau of Standards, died by suicide on August 2. Dr. Metcalf had been associated with the bureau for a year under a scholarship provided by the Peerless Clay and Minerals Company, through the University of Illinois.

SAMUEL DUNHAM SIBLEY, professor at Syracuse University and engineer with the Solvay Process and Semet Solvay Companies, died on July 20 at the age of forty-nine years. Dr. Sibley's health is said to have been impaired when he was gassed at a chemical plant while helping to save several workmen two years ago.

DR. HARRY C. FRANKENFIELD, flood expert of the U. S. Weather Bureau, died on July 31. Dr. Frankenfield was a member of the Washington Academy of Sciences and the Philosophical Society of Washington.

THE death is announced of Sir Baldwin Spencer, F.R.S., emeritus professor of biology in the University of Melbourne, known for his studies of the wild tribes of Australia.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE NEW BUILDING OF THE LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE

THE new building of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, for which a generous grant was made by the Rockefeller trustees, was recently opened by the Prince of Wales.

According to the *London Times*, it is a building of the severely modern type, varying from five to six stories in height, and occupying a site of 300 feet by 180 feet, with frontages to Gower-street, Keppel-street and Malet-street. The block plan is H-shaped, permitting of north and south courts and dividing the structure into two main divisions. One of the divisions comprises all the rooms required for public use, such as museum, library and lecture theater and the other the accommodation for research and teaching departments, including a series of big and little laboratories, some able to take eighty students, workshops and animal quarters.

The exterior façades are in Portland stone and the courtyard walls in London stock brick. The Keppel-street façade, which overlooks a part of the British Museum, forms the front of the institution, and across it, high up, runs a frieze bearing the names of early pioneers in hygiene and tropical medicine. Balconies of first-floor windows are decorated by gilded bronze insects, typifying the carriers of tropical diseases, and over the main entrance has been carved an adaptation, from the school seal, representing a Greek coin engraved with the figures of Phoebus and Diana, bringing light and health to the distressed inhabitants of a malaria-ridden town in Sicily. Apart from these features, the only other attempts at ornament are in the public rooms, noticeably in the extensive library, panelled in oak, with a door of ebonized ma-

hogany, the work of the Chiswick Guild. Over the doorway is an allegorical design in relief, which is intended to symbolize the work of the school—on the one side the figure of motherhood protecting the infant, and on the other a figure fighting disease in the form of a reptile.

The flooring of public rooms and administrative offices on the ground level is of cork, and teak blocks provide the floorings of laboratories and corridors. Heating coils embedded in the ceilings take the place of the usual steam radiators, and generous window space has been provided in the proportion of 1 sq. ft. to 5 sq. ft. of floor area, except in the laboratories, where the provision is 1 sq. ft. to every 3 sq. ft. of floor space. The architects were Mr. P. Morley Horder and Mr. Verner Ö. Rees.

Dr. Andrew Balfour, in reviewing the history of the building scheme, said that the Rockefeller trustees paid a tribute to the proud position held by Great Britain as the country which had led the way in placing public health administration and legislation on a sound basis. They expressed the hope that the school, while serving national and imperial needs, would also become a center of world-wide influence in training public-health students and research workers, and in furthering research into public-health problems.

Professor W. W. Jameson, director of the public-health division, said that the section of the school dealing with tropical medicine and hygiene was taken over in 1924 as a "going concern," whereas the first course of training in public health would begin in the new building on September 30. It was hoped that the curriculum as now arranged would give students a more comprehensive view of the whole field of public health than had been possible in the past.