always an engaging place for the listener. Many students enrolled for whatever course Dr. Coulter presented and did so in many cases more because Dr. Coulter gave the course than because of the subject. His readiness in use of his extensive and accurate vocabulary and fine phrases enabled him to make difficult matters clear even to those who did not have adequate personal experience on which to base interpretations. To him it was a matter of the greatest importance that speech should be appropriately organized to convey ideas. Vague and "wobbly" statements were not common with him, but clean-cut and picturesque elucidation appeared whenever he spoke. This characteristic gave him one of his most important powers to assist the many graduate students who worked in the department of which he was the guiding spirit. Many articles published by his students are far better than they could have been without his help, and many are in print which could scarcely have appeared without his criticism.

At a testimonial of appreciation a volume was presented to Dr. Coulter on the occasion of his seventieth birthday by those who had received their doctor's degrees under his supervision. The volume consisted of the bibliographies of publications by these students.

More than two hundred of Dr. Coulter's students have contributed to the endowment of the John M. Coulter research fellowship which was established before Dr. Coulter's death and is administered by the department of botany of the University of Chicago. In addition to this testimonial and through the efforts of a committee organized by admiring friends who were not Dr. Coulter's students, testimonials of appreciation had been provided and were to have been presented to Dr. Coulter at the last New York meeting of the American Association. Though he had been advised of this forthcoming additional expression of admiration and affection from his colleagues, his death, on December 23, 1928, made it necessary for the testimonials to be presented to other members of his family.

Statements regarding the life and work of Dr. John M. Coulter appear in SCIENCE for February 15, 1929, in the *Botanical Gazette* for March, 1929, and in the *University of Chicago Magazine* for March, 1929.

OTIS W. CALDWELL
HENRY C. COWLES
WILLIAM CROCKER
L. R. JONES
R. A. HARPER

RECENT DEATHS

DR. CHARLES WILLIAMSON RICHARDSON, professor emeritus of laryngology and otology of George Washington University, and a member of the board of trustees of the American Medical Association, died on August 25 at the age of sixty-eight years.

PROFESSOR W. H. PERKIN, research chemist, Waynflete professor of chemistry at the University of Oxford since 1912, and fellow of Magdalen College, died on September 17 at the age of fifty-nine years. Before going to Oxford Professor Perkin had been for twenty years professor of chemistry at Victoria University, Manchester.

THE death is announced of Dr. Wilhelm Brandt, professor of botany and pharmacognosy at the University of Frankfort.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM

ACCORDING to the London *Times* a large number of important objects have been added, during the past six months, to the collections of the Science Museum, South Kensington. In the entrance hall there was until recently a copy of the locomotive Rocket of 1829, constructed for Mr. Henry Ford by Messrs. R. Stephenson and Co., for his museum at Detroit. This has now been withdrawn for shipment to America. At the foot of the main staircase the rotation of the earth will shortly be demonstrated by a pendulum, suspended from the roof of the museum, as in Foucault's experiment. In the collection illustrating radio-telegraphy accurate copies of the original apparatus used by Hertz, including the oscillators, resonators, prisms and reflectors with which he demonstrated the essential optical properties of electromagnetic waves, are now exhibited. Together with the original apparatus of Sir Oliver Lodge, Signor Marconi and Sir Ambrose Fleming, these copies of Hertz's apparatus form a part of a collection designed to illustrate the growth of radio communication from its earliest beginnings up to the present day.

On the first floor in the collection of early sailing ships a model of an Elizabethan galleon is on exhibition. This has been constructed in the museum from data which were collected by Samuel Pepys and which are now preserved in the Pepysian Library at Magdalene College, Cambridge. The mast and rigging will be added in the autumn. On this floor in the old buildings glass technology is now much more adequately represented; models of glass furnaces of the twelfth and sixteenth centuries, specimens showing stages in manufacture of optical glass, and many other products of the industry are represented. Ad-

ditions of early British ploughs have been made to the collection of agricultural instruments.

On the second floor an Egyptian astronomical instrument dating from about 600 B. C. for determining the hours of the night has been added to the time measurement collection. In the astronomical gallery on the third floor a series of illuminated transparencies is being arranged to show selected photographs of the sun and moon, nebulae, star clusters, comets and of solar eclipses. The collection illustrating photography has been arranged in a gallery on the same floor, where a series illustrates the development of photography from the earliest years down to the present day. A group of objects shows the evolution of the home cinematograph.

THE NEW YORK SKIN AND CANCER HOSPITAL

WHILE announcing the decision of the Board of the New York Skin and Cancer Hospital to sponsor a public appeal for $5,000,000, with which to improve and enlarge the institution, Dr. Ancell H. Ball, president of the hospital, reports the purchase of the grounds and buildings of its neighbor, the Lying-In Hospital, at Seventeenth Street and Stuyvesant Park, as a part of a program of expansion and increased facilities.

The purchase was made possible by the decision of the Lying-In Hospital to merge with the New York Hospital and remove to the medical center to be established on the upper East River. The institution resulting from the merger is the New York Hospital-Cornell Medical College Association. The changes announced are scheduled to be made sometime in 1931.

Mr. Ball made public the following statement:

For a number of years the New York Skin and Cancer Hospital, the oldest institution of its kind in the country, and the second oldest of its kind in the world, has been seriously hampered in every department of its work, particularly by lack of clinical space for its steadily increasing volume of service to the poor and by inadequate laboratory facilities for its activities in cancer research. In 1928 alone, 150,000 treatments were given in our Out-Patient Cancer and Skin Clinics, or 44 per cent. of the total number of visits to the nine largest skin clinics in greater New York.

During the last twenty years the hospital has been obliged to annex eight brick dwellings and two store properties to serve as auxiliary buildings. The majority of these are linked by a series of dark and tortuous passages which create a serious fire hazard. The general physical plan of the institution, as it is constituted at present, confronts us with every conceivable kind of problem with regard to lighting, ventilation and sanitation.

Our staff has labored valiantly, both in the clinical and the laboratory departments, but there is a limit to what can be accomplished in the face of such physical handicaps. The institution, which has more than demonstrated its effectiveness as a front line unit of attack in the warfare of science upon humanity's greatest scourge, deserves and must be given the very best of accommodations and facilities.

A considerable sum will have to be spent for improvements and additional new equipment. However, when the necessary renovating work is done, our bed capacity will have increased from 92 to 300, we shall have one operating amphitheater and four operating rooms of modern design as against the single operating suite now in use, and there will be sufficient space and excellent ventilation and lighting under one roof for the clinics and research laboratories which are now so inconveniently and unscientifically distributed throughout the neighborhood.

The needs of the hospital to be presented to the public are as follows:

Purchase and remodeling of Lying-In Hospital property		$1,750,000
Furnishings and new equipment		500,000
Radium and Emanation Plant		290,000
Research		1,000,000
Charity Endowment		1,200,000
Maintenance:		
1929	$ 60,000	
1930	100,000	
1931	100,000	
		260,000
Campaign objective		$5,000,000

THE POPULARIZATION OF CHEMISTRY

AN endowed program, utilizing the women's clubs throughout the country to educate the public to an understanding of chemistry and its function in national defense, was officially adopted on September 12 by the division of chemical education at the semi-annual meeting of the American Chemical Society meeting in Minneapolis.

The final session considered a non-technical syllabus of study courses for the women's clubs, expressly designed "to make chemistry understood by those outside it and to give that newness of vision and awakening of interest which come from a knowledge of what chemistry is doing and may do for us."

The program of popular study courses, officially adopted, opens with the romance of chemistry; points out the impossibility of naming any three things of importance with which chemistry is not involved; explains that the human body is a chemical factory, what makes some water hard and other water soft, how soap is made, the use of nitrogen and potash for fertilizer and the importance of sufficient sources of supply and compares the chemical elements in cotton with those in silk.