war is a blessing, it is not a matter for argument, but a case for confinement in a hospital for the insane. Within limits we know what we want and can use the methods of science to get it. Psychology, not less than other sciences, perhaps more than any one of them, is concerned with problems of human welfare. The nation, the family, schools, churches, courts, prisons, armies, navies—these are all institutions which aim by emotional and rule of thumb methods to alter individuals and to control their behavior. When we have knowledge and understanding concerning institutions and individuals and learn how to apply knowledge and understanding for their betterment, it will be the product of a science of psychology.

There may be worse ills on earth than wars, a more desirable good than friendship among the peoples of the world; but an international gathering is particularly concerned with these things. The Seventh International Congress of Psychology held at Oxford in 1923 was the first scientific congress after the war to which all nationals were invited on equal terms; we welcome to the present congress with special pleasure psychologists from Soviet Russia. The United States has taken a Quaker engineer for its president; we have set up a symbol of peace and scientific progress in an industrial democracy. In the words given by our great poet to Columbus for his prayer to God, as "full of woe . . . a batter'd, wreck'd old man . . . he took his way along the island's edge":

Haply the swords I know may there indeed be turn'd to reaping tools,
Haply the lifeless cross I know, Europe's dead cross, may bud and blossom there.

OBITUARY

GEORGE RUSBY KAYE

1866–1929

GEORGE RUSBY KAYE, until recently a member of the Indian Education Department at Simla, India, and well known for his memoirs on early Hindu mathematics, died suddenly of heart failure at Tunbridge Wells, England, on July 1, 1929. He was born at Leicester on November 9, 1866, and most of his active life was spent in India. He was for a time vice-principal of the Allahabad Training College, and in 1904 became bureau assistant to the director-general of education. In 1910 he became registrar of the Education Department and in 1915 was appointed curator of the Bureau of Education. He also held the post of secretary to the Central Advisory Board on Education, and in recognition of his work in the educational field he was awarded the Kaisar-i-Hind gold medal in 1921. He retired from the Indian service in 1923, but was soon thereafter appointed to carry on the cataloguing of manuscripts in European languages in the India Office Library, London.

It was, however, for his work in the history of Hindu mathematics and astronomy that he will best be known. He was a careful student of the Sanskrit classics in this field, and among his memoirs were "Indian Mathematics," a historical sketch (1915), "The Astronomical Observatories of Jai Singh" (1918), "A Guide to the Old Observatories" (1920), "Astronomical Instruments in the Delhi Museum" (1921) and "The Bakhshālī Manuscript" (1927). He also wrote on the two Aryabhattas and numerous other topics relating to Hindu science.

Mr. Kaye aroused a great deal of opposition on the part of Hindu mathematicians because of his conclusions that the early writers were dependent solely upon the Greeks and showed little originality except in the framing of fancifully worded problems. In fact, he clearly belonged to that school which asserts that pure mathematics never flourished in the Far East except as it adapted the theories of the West. Nevertheless, India is indebted to him for this very opposition, for it encouraged her scholars to study sources more thoroughly than before and to seek to base their claims upon more substantial foundations than mere tradition.

The best known of Mr. Kaye's contributions is his study of the Bakhshālī Manuscript, published as volume 43 of the Archeological Survey of India. This appeared only two years before his death and represents a painstaking examination of the internal evidence leading to a closer approximation to the date of the work than had been theretofore possible. It is too early to know the reaction of Sanskrit scholars to his conclusions, but in any case he has set them forth in such a logical fashion as to present a clear issue. No doubt the evidence in rebuttal, in the argument for an earlier date, will be assembled with equal care.

Mr. Kaye left a widow, a son, who has recently entered the India army, and two daughters.

DAVID EUGENE SMITH

NAOMASA YAMASAKI

NAOMASA YAMASAKI died at his home in Tokyo on July 26 of this year after a long illness at fifty-nine years of age. He was professor of geography and head of the Geographic Institute in the Tokyo Imperial University, a member of the Imperial Academy of Sciences, the Imperial Earthquake Commission and the Japanese National Research Council and foreign

member of the Gesellschaft für Erdkunde at Berlin. He was the representative of the Japanese National Research Council on the International Committee on the Oceanography of the Pacific and the chairman of the Japanese Committee on the Oceanography of the Pacific.

Professor Yamasaki was the foremost geographer in Japan. Although his interests in geography were broad, he himself specialized in physiographic subjects, especially the effects of earthquakes in modifying topographic features. His investigations were of a high order of excellence and his results were skilfully presented. Besides his scientific attainments, Professor Yamasaki was a connoisseur in many, if not all, of the different branches of Japanese fine arts and he was considered one of the foremost living masters of classical Japanese. Personally Professor Yamasaki was a most delightful man, a companion of inexhaustible resources for entertainment. He possessed extraordinary capacity for organization and for getting groups of men to work together harmoniously. As an indication of the regard and affection in which he was held the words of one of the distinguished younger men of Japan may be quoted, "We feel as if we had lost our father in the scientific world."

In the death of Professor Yamasaki not only have his family, his numerous friends and Japanese science suffered a great loss, but also international science, for he was one of the leaders in international scientific cooperation in the Pacific.

T. WAYLAND VAUGHAN

RECENT DEATHS

GEORGE ALFRED GOODENOUGH, professor of thermodynamics at the University of Illinois, died on September 30 at the age of sixty-one years.

DR. FRANK HURLBUT CHITTENDEN, for more than thirty-eight years connected with the entomological work of the Department of Agriculture, died on September 15 in his seventy-first year.

PROFESSOR L. H. COOKE, professor of mine surveying at the Imperial College of Science and author of many improvements and inventions relating to surveying instruments, died on August 23.

Nature reports the death of Mr. Arthur Berry, O.B.E., vice-provost of King's College, Cambridge, author of a "Short History of Astronomy" and of many mathematical papers, on August 15, aged sixty-six years, and of Anthony Collett, author of "The Heart of a Bird" and other natural history books and a member of the staff of the London *Times*, on August 22, aged fifty-two years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE IMPERIAL MYCOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

THE second Imperial Mycological Conference for the prevention of diseases of tropical and sub-tropical crops within the British Empire was opened on September 23 at the Imperial College of Science, South Kensington. The first conference was held in 1924, when it was decided to hold one every five years.

According to the report in the London *Times*, Lord Buxton, chairman of the committee of management of the Imperial Bureau of Mycology, Kew Green (the organizers of the conference), presided, and was accompanied by the director of the bureau, Dr. E. J. Butler, F.R.S. The delegates represented the Dominion Governments of Canada, Commonwealth of Australia, Irish Free State, New Zealand, Southern Rhodesia and India, and the governments of Barbados, British Guiana, Ceylon, Fiji, Gambia, Gold Coast, Jamaica, Nyasaland, Sierra Leone, Straits Settlements, Federated Malay States, Tanganyika, Trinidad and Uganda. Others present were Dr. H. R. Briton-Jones, of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, Trinidad, and Major R. O. Archibald and Mr. R. E. Massey, who attended in the capacity of experts loaned by the government of the Sudan.

Lord Buxton, opening the conference, stated that a new building for the use of the bureau was being erected at Kew, at a cost, with fittings, of £12,000. A grant of £8,000 had been made by the Empire Marketing Board, and the balance was drawn from the bureau's reserves, built up by Dr. Butler. An admirable site had been obtained near the Royal Herbarium, Kew, which gave the bureau the advantage of being able to rely on the cooperation of Dr. Hill, director of Kew Gardens, and his staff.

A paper giving a summary of plant protection regulations in the dominions and colonies was prepared by the Imperial Bureau of Mycology. It showed, according to the *Times*, that most of the dominions and colonies had taken measures to exclude specified plants, either completely or from certain places only. In a few cases all plants from certain places were excluded. Most governments provided for the compulsory examination of all plant imports, or their fumigation against insects. In a few cases, examination on arrival was restricted to certain specified plants. In practically all cases where there was inspection at the port of arrival, plant packings were also treated or destroyed. Internal plant protection measures ordinarily included the appointment of inspectors, with powers to enter and inspect the crops and usually to prescribe treatment on lines which were