

agriculture of the University of Cambridge, died on November 6 at the age of sixty years.

DR. KARL VON DEN STEINEN, director of the Berlin Ethnological Museum and professor of ethnology in the university, died on November 6 at the age of seventy-four years.

A CORRESPONDENT writes: "Dr. Edwin Le Fevre, assistant bacteriologist in the food research division of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, died suddenly while at his work on October 25. Dr. Le Fevre entered the government service in 1909 in the old Bureau of Chemistry, carrying out bacteriological inves-

tigations pertaining to the enforcement of the federal food and drug law. He specialized in the field of fermentations and won for himself a wide reputation as an authority on the manufacture of pickles and sauerkraut. Dr. Le Fevre was sixty-nine years of age, and at the time of his death was actively engaged in research work on the deterioration and preservation of food products. Many of his studies have been reported in the form of government bulletins which have enjoyed a wide distribution, and it is with deep regret and sincere appreciation that his coworkers take up the work where he left off."

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

ACTIVITIES OF THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

THE report of the Rockefeller Foundation for 1928 shows that a total of \$21,690,738 was expended during the year. The principal outlays, as enumerated by President George E. Vincent, were as follows:

Contributed to the development of medical sciences through provision of funds for land, buildings, operation or endowment for eighteen medical schools in fourteen countries.

Provided for the support of Peking Union Medical College.

Made minor appropriations for improving pre-medical instruction in China and Siam, for operating expenses of seventeen hospitals in China, and for laboratory supplies, equipment and literature for European medical centers which are still feeling the after-effects of the war.

Through small grants assisted certain departments of medical schools in France, Italy and Ireland which offer exceptional facilities for graduate study.

Continued to contribute toward the advancement of the biological sciences in institutions in four countries.

Assisted the development of professional public health training in eight schools and institutes in seven countries and in twelve field training stations in the United States and abroad.

Gave aid to fifteen nurse training schools in ten countries.

Helped Brazil to combat a new outbreak of yellow fever.

Continued studies of yellow fever on the west coast of Africa.

Took part in malaria control demonstrations or surveys in six of the American states and in eighteen foreign countries.

Continued contributions toward the emergency budgets of eighty-five county health organizations in seven states of the Mississippi flood area.

Aided the governments of twenty-one countries in fighting hook-worm disease.

Gave funds to organized rural health services in 191 counties in the United States and toward state super-

vision of such services in fourteen states, as well as assisting in local health work in twenty-three foreign countries.

Aided in the establishment or maintenance of certain essential divisions in the national health services of twenty-three foreign countries and in the state health departments of nineteen American states.

Provided, directly or indirectly, fellowships for 802 men and women from forty-six different countries, paid the traveling expenses of sixty-one officials or professors making study visits in the United States or abroad and provided similar opportunities for 127 nurses and other public health workers.

Contributed to the work of the health organization of the League of Nations through the support of international interchanges of public health personnel and the development of a world-wide service of epidemiological intelligence and public health statistics.

Lent staff members as consultants to many foreign governments.

Made surveys of health conditions or of medical and nursing education in five countries.

Collaborated with the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in field studies of respiratory diseases and verruga peruana.

Assisted in mental hygiene projects in the United States and Canada, in demonstrations in dispensary development, research and teaching in hospitals and clinics in New York City, and in numerous other undertakings in public health, medical education and allied fields.

LECTURES BEFORE THE MAYO FOUNDATION

THE last of the series of lectures on physiology and physiologic chemistry by eminent European professors of these subjects was presented at the Mayo Foundation on October 8. The series has included the following:

July 18.—E. Waldschmidt-Leitz, German Technical School, Prague, "The structure of proteins in the light of enzymatical research."

July 25.—Torsten L. Thunberg, professor of physiology, University of Lund, "Dehydrogenases and their uses in biochemical analyses."

- July 29.—E. Lequeur, professor of physiology, University of Amsterdam, "Sex hormones."
- Aug. 1.—G. v. Anrep, lecturer in physiology, University of Cambridge, "Conditioned reflexes."
- Aug. 8.—M. v. Frey, professor of physiology, University of Würzburg, "Physiology of the special senses."
- Sept. 9.—Bernhard Fischer, professor of pathology, University of Frankfurt a. M., "Gas treatment of malignant tumors."
- Sept. 13.—Kurt Felix, Second Medical Clinic, Munich, "The oxidation of uric acid in the animal body."
- Sept. 16.—Joseph Barcroft, professor of physiology, University of Cambridge, "Hemoglobin."
- Sept. 17.—Joseph Barcroft, "The spleen and the circulation."
- Sept. 26.—Z. A. Orbeli, professor of physiology, Medical Institute, Leningrad, "Studies on the function of the sympathetic system."
- Sept. 27.—George V. Volborth, professor of physiology, State University of Kharkov, Ukraine, "Conditioned reflexes."
- Oct. 1.—Friedrich Verzar, professor of physiology, University of Debreczen, "The hormonal regulation of the number of red blood corpuscles."
- Oct. 3.—Leon Asher, director of physiological institute, Berne, "New facts on the physiology of the thyroid gland."
- Oct. 4.—Leon Asher, "The action of specific diuretics and the secretion of urine under physiological conditions."
- Oct. 7 and 8.—Karl Thomas, director of the physiological institute, Leipzig, "Metabolism of food and tissue protein."

SYMPOSIUM ON AIRCRAFT MATERIALS OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR TESTING MATERIALS

At the annual meeting of the American Society for Testing Materials, which will be held at Atlantic City from June 23 to 27, 1930, a symposium on aircraft materials is planned, to which will be devoted two sessions. The committee on papers and publications has secured the cooperation of an advisory committee which will assume responsibility for securing the papers and authors. This committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. H. C. Knerr, consists of the following:

- H. C. Knerr, chairman, consulting metallurgical engineer, Philadelphia, Pa.
- E. P. Warner, editor, *Aviation*, McGraw-Hill Publishing Company, Inc.
- National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics*: Dr. G. W. Lewis, Washington, D. C.
- Bureau of Aeronautics, U. S. Navy Department*: Commander R. D. Weyerbacher, manager, Naval Aircraft Factory, U. S. Navy Yard, Philadelphia, Pa.

Army Air Service: J. B. Johnson, chief, material section, Air Corps, Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio.

U. S. Department of Commerce: Major Clarence E. Young, chief, aeronautics branch, U. S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C.

U. S. Bureau of Standards: H. L. Whittemore, chief, engineering mechanics section, VI-5; Dr. H. S. Rawdon, senior metallurgist.

Guggenheim Foundation: Dr. Alexander Klemin, consulting engineer, School of Aeronautics, New York University.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology: Dr. J. S. Newell.

Aircraft and Engine Manufacture: Harold Backus, materials engineer, Berliner-Joyce Co., Baltimore, Maryland; Captain H. C. Richardson, director of engineering, Great Lakes Aircraft Corporation, Cleveland, Ohio; T. P. Wright, chief engineer, Curtiss Aeroplane and Motor Corporation, Garden City, L. I., New York; R. R. Moore, metallurgist, Wright Aeronautical Corporation, Paterson, New Jersey.

Materials Manufacture: Dr. R. S. Archer, director of research, Aluminum Company of America, Cleveland, Ohio; Dr. J. A. Mathews, vice-president and metallurgist, Crucible Steel Company of America, New York City.

It is expected that perhaps twelve to fifteen papers will be secured, each definitely limited in size so as to constitute essentially a résumé and summary of existing knowledge on the subject covered. The symposium will be confined to the consideration of materials entering into the engines and structure. It is expected that much information of value to the aircraft industry will be developed.

ASTRONOMERS CARRYING ON RESEARCHES AT THE HARVARD OBSERVATORY

FOUR astronomers have recently arrived at the Harvard Observatory for longer or shorter stays to carry on researches. In making this announcement the observatory made public a list of five visitors who have recently left after pursuing researches with the aid of the observatory staff.

Dr. J. S. Plaskett, director of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, Victoria, B. C., has arrived to spend two or three weeks. He is a special student of the rotation of the galaxy, and has in his charge the second largest telescope in the world—the property of the government of Canada. Dr. Plaskett is the father of Professor H. H. Plaskett, of the Harvard Observatory.

Professor Svein Rosseland has been called as lecturer in cosmic physics for one year. He is director of the University Observatory at Oslo, Norway, and is one of the leading men of Europe in theoretical astrophysics. He is lecturing in astronomy 11, a theoretical course in cosmic physics.