Considered from one point of view, we may think of the heritage of man as represented in three elements—the sun, the earth and our machinery for use and development of knowledge. The earth with its story is the objective of the geologist. Upon it must concentrate the most intense study that human intelligence can plan. By definition the geologist becomes conservator of great natural resources upon which life and the future of mankind will in large measure depend. Conservation is not *disuse*—but *which* use shall we permit. Within its program research may well come to have the highest place, with premium placed not alone on discovery of the situation in which a substance is found. The way to use the material to full advantage will also be recognized as of enormous human value.

Recently we began to discover that certain of our biological resources which might soon vanish may be replaced. The reproduction or the synthesis of that which forms the solid earth we have yet to learn. Geology must draw on all knowledge to build its broad foundation even wider. So chemistry and physics and geology will unite to locate and to devise the economic exploitation and the best human use of a wide range of substances of inestimable value to man. In another direction geology and agriculture see the study of erosion and sedimentation as an essential phase of research relating to future use of the arable lands of the world.

And, last of all, among the sciences geology bears responsibility as teacher in a field which is always spread before us in daily life. To some the earth's face never ceases to be flat, and so flat-minded they remain. To others the hills and valleys, through the story of history and building and beauty they present, open a vision of realities which lifts us far above the pettiness of things which in the routine of the day may tend to trouble us.

OBITUARY

TOSHIKI MORISHITA

ON July 2, 1929, occurred the death of Dr. T. Morishita, who for two and a half years had been connected with the Yale University department of bacteriology as an assistant and research student engaged in a study of dental bacteriology and pathology. He had been suffering for several weeks from a respiratory disturbance which did not appear serious and which until a few days before his death promised complete recovery.

Dr. Morishita was born in Japan in 1896. He obtained his early education in the Tono High School, and in 1914 entered Tokyo Dental College, from which he graduated in 1918. For several years after graduation he practiced dentistry in Japan. His yearning for scientific research related to problems of dental decay became a passion, and in 1922 he relinquished his profession and sailed for America to prepare himself further for scientific dental research. He entered the Toronto Dental College, receiving the degree of D.D.S. in due course.

After having engaged in special research work in McGill and Harvard Universities, where he further laid an excellent foundation for his work as an investigator, he became intimately associated with the division of general bacteriology of Yale University, where for over two years he prosecuted his research feverishly and without serious interruption until his untimely death.

Dr. Morishita's chief interest was centered in natural dental decay, and more particularly the influence of high acid producing and tolerating (aciduric) organisms which he found to be so intimately connected with initial and progressive caries. The first report of this painstaking work appeared in the *Journal of Bacteriology* for September, 1929. It was the author's intention to follow this paper with four or five contributions, for which sufficient data were rapidly accumulating. These records are now in the possession of the laboratory, and it is hoped that they may be built up into at least one or two additional manuscripts and published under Dr. Morishita's name.

Dr. Morishita was particularly well qualified as an investigator in the field of scientific dental research. He was brilliant in the conception and execution of his complex problem. He was ceaseless in his devotion to his work, and had attained a degree of success in his chosen field which promised a bright future.

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RECENT DEATHS

DR. EDWIN W. ALLEN, chief of the office of experimental stations of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, died from heart disease on November 11. Dr. Allen was in Chicago to attend the meeting of the Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities. He was to have given a memorial address on his predecessor, the late Dr. Alfred C. True. Dr. Allen, who was born in 1864, entered the service of the Department of Agriculture in 1890 and was assistant director of the office of experiment stations from 1893 to 1915, when he became chief of the office.