

friends and acquaintances, and subscriptions in any amount are invited.

*Industrial and Engineering Chemistry* reports that the debt of modern science and industry to Karl Wilhelm Scheele, distinguished Swedish chemist and discoverer of glycerol, was recognized at the annual meeting in Chicago on December 11 of the Association of American Soap and Glycerine Producers, representing the leading soap manufacturers of the country. The association sent to Crown Prince Gustaf Adolf, honorary member of the Royal Academy of Sciences of Sweden, a message felicitating him on the part played by his country in the development of glycerol products. December 19 marked the one hundred and eighty-seventh anniversary of Scheele's birth, and 1930 marks the sesquicentennial of his discovery.

THE London correspondent of the *Journal* of the American Medical Association writes: "Sir Patrick Manson, who died in 1922, established the principle of the insect transmission of disease, and at the international medical congress held in London in 1913 he was acclaimed the father of tropical medicine. In 1907, with the help of Cantlie and others, he founded the Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, of which he was the first president. Among its fellows, now numbering 1,500 of many nationalities, are those most distinguished in tropical medicine. Its work is hindered by lack of suitable premises. The society has decided to found a home and name it after Manson, to whom at present there is no memorial. The fellows and some friends have subscribed \$30,000 toward the purpose and are appealing for \$100,000 to which they believe that many outside the small professional circle of tropical medicine who know of Manson's labors as a leader of medicine and one of the world's benefactors will desire to subscribe. His great work began in Amoy in 1877 with his demonstration that the filaria of elephantiasis is transmitted by certain mosquitoes. This was no chance discovery but the result of labor done in isolation. So his conviction that malaria was transmitted by mosquitoes was no inspired guess but was founded on his long critical watching of the malarial parasite in human blood and led Ross to the final victory.

Donations will be gratefully received by the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine, 11 Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London, W 1."

#### RECENT DEATHS

DR. FLETCHER BASCOM DRESSLAR, professor of school hygiene in the Peabody College for Teachers, died on January 19, at the age of seventy-one years. Dr. Dresslar had been president of the Tennessee Academy of Sciences.

PHILIP NORTH MOORE, consulting geologist and mining engineer, president of the American Institute of Mining Engineers in 1917, died on January 20 at the age of eighty years.

STEPHEN TYNG MATHER, who was director of national parks in the Department of the Interior, died on January 22 at the age of sixty-two years.

DR. CAROLINE A. BLACK, who had been twelve years on the faculty of Connecticut College, latterly as associate professor of botany and chairman of that department, died on January 19 at Cincinnati, Ohio, of spinal meningitis. She was taken ill when returning from the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting at Des Moines.

HUGH LONGBOURNE CALLENDAR, professor of physics at the Imperial College of Science, London, died on January 23, at the age of sixty-six years. He was distinguished for his work in connection with the measurement of the heat radiation of steam at high pressure. Dr. Callendar was professor of physics at McGill University from 1893 to 1898.

MAJOR PERCY ALEXANDER MACMAHON, F.R.S., the distinguished English mathematician, died on Christmas Day at his residence at Bognor, at the age of seventy-five years.

DR. DE FERRANTI, electrical engineer, inventor and manufacturer, died on January 14 at the age of sixty-five years. Dr. Ferranti was a past president of the British Society of Electrical Engineers. He was awarded the Faraday Medal of the Institution of Electrical Engineers in 1924, and was elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1927. The University of Manchester gave him the honorary degree of D.Sc. in 1911.

### SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

#### COMMISSIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

IN its report of the congress *Nature* states that during the session a series of meetings was held in connection with the various international commissions, the work of which is an important feature in the life of the congress. In the end, several commissions had to be reconstituted, one new commission and one sub-

commission were established, while of the previous bodies, one (iron ores) was dissolved, so that the Congress now has the following commissions: Prix Spendiarioff (awarded to Dr. L. T. Nel, geologist on the Geological Survey of the Union of South Africa), Palæontologia Universalis, Lexicon de Stratigraphie, Glaciers, L'Homme Fossile, Croûte Terrestre, Géophysique et Géothermique, Carte de l'Europe, Carte