fessor of geography at the University of Freiburg, Switzerland, died on August 25, aged sixty-one years.

A CORRESPONDENT writes: Dr. Carl Tigerstedt, professor of physiology of the University of Helsingfors, in an accident while sailing was drowned on June 21. Communications from his widow state that thus far his body has not been found. Professor Tigerstedt had visited America twice, the last time at the International Physiological Congress in August, 1929. The successor to his father, Professor Robert Tigerstedt, he had accomplished a great deal in research in physiology and particularly in nutritional studies in Finland. His loss will be keenly felt by all workers in nutrition.

GIULIO FANO, formerly professor of physiology and head of the faculty of science at the University of Florence and lecturer at the Universities of Madrid and Barcelona, died on September 28 at the age of seventy-four years.

PROFESSOR M. BOGOSLAVSKI, one of the bridge-building engineers of Russia, died at Leningrad on October 8 at the age of seventy-one years. He built the span over the Volga River. In recent years he had been a professor in the Institute of Communications at Leningrad.

DR. AKOS SZALAY, curator of the National Hungarian Museum, has been killed by a landslip while endeavoring to unearth a prehistoric canoe sunk under the embankment of the River Tisza.

MEMORIALS

AT the initiative of the Prime Minister of Norway, J. L. Mowinckel, twelve prominent Norwegians recently handed over to Professor Sem Saeland, rector of the University of Oslo, the sum of 100,000 crowns, about $25,000, for the purchase of "Polhögda," the home of Fridtjof Nansen at Lysaker, near Oslo, with the adjoining land, amounting to some 20,000 square meters. The donors desire that the property shall be kept as a lasting memorial to Nansen. They do not, however, wish his home to be turned into a museum, but rather to be utilized for the activities in which the explorer was interested, to be a residence and place where those activities can be carried on. The heirs of Nansen, who have already presented to the public his library and other possessions of public interest, have expressed their willingness to make over the estate for the purpose mentioned. Designs have been approved by the Soviet authorities for a monument to Fridtjof Nansen to be erected in Moscow.

Nature calls attention to the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Albert Günther, one of the most distinguished naturalists in England in the second half of the last century and for twenty years keeper of the Department of Zoology in the British Museum. To mark the centenary, his son, Dr. R. T. Günther, of Oxford, has prepared a bibliography of his father's writings, which has been published as a supplementary number of the *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* (August).

THE *Scottish Geographical Magazine* reports that in July last a massive stone cairn carrying a bronze tablet was unveiled at Inchnadamph, Sutherland, as a memorial to the two distinguished Scottish geologists, Benjamin Neeve Peach and John Horne. The tablet bears the following inscription: "To Ben. N. Peach and John Horne, who played the foremost part in unravelling the geological structure of the Northwest Highlands, 1883–1897. An International Tribute, erected 1930." Mr. H. M. Cadell presided at the unveiling ceremony, which was performed by Sir John Flett, director of the Geological Survey of Great Britain.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE BRITISH GEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

THE British Geological Survey Board reports that excavations preliminary to the construction of the foundations for the new building adjoining the Science Museum in South Kensington have begun.

In the "Summary of Progress of the Geological Survey of Great Britain and the Museum of Practical Geology for the Year 1929," as abstracted in the London *Times*, the director reports that the position in Exhibition Road is ideal for the purpose, being midway between the eastern wing of the Natural History Museum and the new buildings of the Science Museum. With both of these institutions the new Geological Museum is to have direct connection by means of passages through which the public can travel from one series of galleries to the other. In this way the mineralogical and paleontological galleries of the British Museum and the mining, metallurgical and geophysical galleries of the Science Museum will be in close juxtaposition with the exhibits of stratigraphical geology and economic geology in the Geological Museum, and the combined exhibition will provide a display of objects illustrating the composition and history of the earth's crust that has never hitherto been available in any country.

The work of construction will take at least three years. Although the details of the exterior of the building have not yet been finally settled, it is ex-

pected that the façade will resemble that of the Science Museum in its essential features. The library and offices of the Geological Survey are to be situated at the back of the new museum, with direct access from the exhibition floors and galleries. A large room is to be provided in the library for students, engineers and others who wish to consult geological maps and literature and as the library is in close contact with the science library, the public will find at South Kensington a vast accumulation of periodicals, memoirs and maps on all matters relating to geological science open for immediate reference. The new library will provide abundant space for books and maps, of which the survey has a magnificent collection, and the new offices and laboratories will greatly facilitate research and publication work by the staff.

The space occupied by the new museum is approximately 310 feet long by 105 feet in breadth. The museum in Jermyn-street, which at present does not provide accommodation for the whole of the survey staff, covers an area approximately 12,100 square feet, so that it is less than half as large as the new museum. The exhibition space contains three galleries similar in their general plan to those of the adjacent new wing of the Science Museum. Of these only two will be open to the public, the uppermost gallery being reserved for study and systematic collections to be consulted, especially by research workers. On the ground floor ample space is afforded for exhibits of general geological interest, and the galleries will be devoted to stratigraphy and economic geology.

The survey offices and library, at the back of the new building, occupy about one quarter of the cubic space provided. By this means adequate room will be obtained for the accumulations of geological material for many years, and the reference collections will be in well-lighted galleries accessible both to research workers and to the staff. Laboratory accommodation will be ensured for chemical, optical, petrographical, crystallographic, paleobotanical, geophysical and mineralogical work, which has been sorely needed for many years. It is expected also that certain rooms will be available for research workers who wish to investigate the maps and records or the collections of the survey.

The total floor space is about 135,000 square feet. Of this the survey offices with laboratories and library will occupy 40,000. The exhibition space on the main floor and the first and second galleries is 53,000 square feet. The basement provides 25,000 square feet, which will be used for storage, workshops and accommodation for subordinate staff. The uppermost gallery, reserved for study collections and research, has a floor space of over 16,000 square feet. Of the total floor space about two fifths will be allotted to exhibition of specimens, and of the remainder about one half will serve as offices, library and laboratories and one half as storage for collections.

THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

THE Attorney General has formally passed on the titles of the lands tendered the Department of the Interior by the governors of North Carolina and Tennessee which are to constitute the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Following this action the land has been formally and finally accepted by the government.

National preservation of at least a portion of the most magnificent mountain scenery in the eastern section of the United States has thus been assured. The area covers 158,876 acres. These lands will form a nucleus for a great park with a minimum area of 427,000 acres. The park may be extended to include over 700,000 acres under the act of the Congress authorizing its establishment. Funds to acquire the minimum acreage are available to the States of North Carolina and Tennessee.

Already plans have been made for transferring from the western parks several men thoroughly trained in national-park work and policies, to undertake the protection and administration of the area now in the possession of the United States. This means primarily guarding the forests against fire and the plants, animals and natural formations against damage or destruction. Later, when the entire minimum area of 427,000 acres has been offered to the United States and accepted by the Secretary of the Interior, it will receive full park status. Then the Great Smoky Mountains National Park will be developed along the lines of those in the West. The necessary living and transportation accommodations will be provided, roads and trails constructed, and every opportunity afforded to enable visitors to get the fullest possible enjoyment and use out of the area, consistent with its preservation in its primitive condition for the use of future generations.

The area of the Great Smokies is a vast, unspoiled, primitive region, with spectacular mountains rising upwards 5,000 feet and more from their base. Particularly impressive are the luxuriant forests which clothe the peaks to their very summits. The park will be divided about equally between Tennessee and North Carolina, one great mountain range carrying the state boundary.

The new park will be a boon to the peoples of the highly developed industrial region of the east. It will be within reach of millions of people who, because of time and distance, are unable to take advantage of the