

described by Dr. Llewellyn G. Hoxton, head of the school of physics, third occupant of the chair originally held by Rogers. Dr. Samuel W. Stratton, chairman of the board of the Massachusetts Institute and former president, will deliver the address in which Rogers's contributions to the institute are described. The tablet is to be installed beneath an oil painting of Rogers which was done in 1881 and which hangs at present in the Cobb Laboratory. This painting was one of the few things saved when the former laboratory burned to the ground. It suffered only slight damage.

THE building for geology at the University of Missouri has been named George C. Swallow Hall in honor of George Clinton Swallow, first professor of geology in the university and first state geologist of Missouri. Dr. Swallow went to the university in January, 1852, as professor of chemistry, geology and mineralogy. In 1853 he was appointed state geologist, resigning from the university faculty. Later he returned to the university as professor of agriculture. A monument in the Columbia Cemetery, where he was buried, calls him the "first professor of geology, chemistry and agriculture, and the first dean of the College of Agriculture in the University of Missouri, and the first state geologist of Missouri." The monument was erected by the Boone County Historical Society in 1928.

A SCHOLARSHIP has been founded at University College, Southampton, by friends of the late Dr. Alex Hill, in recognition of the distinguished services rendered by him as principal of the college. Previously Dr. Hill had been professor at the Royal College of Surgeons, and master of Downing College, Cambridge.

A MEMORIAL address of the character and work of the late Sir H. Baldwin Spencer was delivered on October 31 in the museum by Mr. T. K. Penniman, president of the Anthropological Society of the University of Oxford.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association reports that a bronze portrait bust of Louis Pasteur, through the will of Dr. Arthur C. Hugenschmidt, a friend, who died in Paris last year, has been sent to the University of Pennsylvania. The bust was first placed on public view in the school of medicine, October 10, when a two-day celebration commemorating recent progress in medicine was opened. Dr. Hugen-

schmidt, dentist to Pasteur, was presented with the bust by Madame Pasteur.

THE council of the senate recently reported to the University of Cambridge on a proposed James Clerk Maxwell centenary celebration. A committee of eminent men of science and others have suggested that the university should celebrate the centenary of his birth, which occurred on June 13, 1831. The suggestion has been approved and it is recommended that the centenary should be celebrated on October 1 and 2, 1931.

### RECENT DEATHS

DR. GUSTAVE MAURICE BRAUNE, since 1922 dean of the school of engineering at the University of North Carolina, died on November 26, at the age of fifty-eight years.

DR. JOHN L. TILTON, professor of geology at West Virginia University, died in his classroom on November 17. He was sixty-two years old.

HARRY CHAPMAN WARDELL, curator of industrial science in the Rochester Municipal Museum of Arts and Sciences, died on November 18.

DR. RICHARD MOLDENKE, consulting metallurgist, formerly of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey and of the Michigan College of Mines, died on November 17, at the age of sixty-six years.

THE death is announced in a Reuter message from Wellington, New Zealand, of Robert Julian Scott, emeritus professor of engineering at Canterbury College, who was head of the School of Engineering from its foundation in 1889 until he retired in 1923. Professor Scott was sixty-nine years old.

THE deaths are announced of M. Philippe Glangaud, professor of geology at Clermont-Ferrand, member of the section of mineralogy of the Paris Academy of Sciences, and of M. Emile Godlewski, honorary professor of physiological botany at Cracow, correspondent in the section of rural economy.

CAPTAIN OTTO SVERDRUP, the Scandinavian explorer, died at Copenhagen on November 26, at the age of seventy-six years. He was a close associate of the late Dr. Fridtjof Nansen.

DR. SCHEVIAKOFF, the Russian zoologist, especially known for his work on the Protozoa, died at Irkutsk on October 18.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### PANEL OF EXPERT TRANSLATORS

THE Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux, of which Sir Joseph J. Thomson is

president, announces a scheme whereby the association will act as intermediary between translators and users by establishing a panel of translators possessing the

double qualifications of proficiency in one or more languages and expert knowledge of one or more subjects.

A translator who wishes to be registered on the panel is required to answer a questionnaire (which can be obtained by application to the secretary of the Association), which is framed so as to provide the association, in addition to necessary particulars, with full information regarding the applicant's qualifications, linguistic and technical. Applications are considered by a board, whose decision is final. In certain cases the board may require the applicant to submit to a test. As a rule only individuals are eligible for registration, but commercial translating bureaus may apply for registration in respect of full-time employees, or by satisfying the board of their ability to undertake high-class specialized work.

An applicant may apply to be registered for any foreign language and for any number of foreign languages, but a high standard will be required by the board. A "fair" knowledge of a language will not be accepted, except in special circumstances, for example, where, without possessing a general knowledge of a language, an applicant has special knowledge of some technical terminology in it.

An applicant may apply to be registered for any subject and for any number of subjects, provided that these are sufficiently specialized. What is meant by "sufficiently specialized" can not be closely defined. Broadly speaking, the "commoner" the language the higher will be the degree of specialization required. An applicant fully qualified in a "rare" language, such as Chinese, Hungarian, or Turkish, might be accepted with little or no specialized knowledge of any subject. Applicants must use their judgment in this matter and give as much information as possible. If in doubt they may, before completing the questionnaire, send in an inquiry as to whether their subject is likely to be acceptable to the board. All branches of knowledge—science, law, the arts, etc.—come within the scope of the scheme.

The panel should include translators living in any part of the country and applications are considered from those living abroad. Part of the value of the scheme to users is that, in cases where time is an important factor, it may be possible to put them into touch with a suitable translator living in their own locality. On the other hand, when the question of time is less serious and the subject-matter particularly difficult it may be worth while to send the work abroad.

Included in the panel are those who are prepared to act as interpreters. The need for this kind of assistance arises frequently when interviews take place between English people and foreign visitors. Often

they know no language in common or their knowledge is not good enough to enable them to discuss technical matters.

The panel is a private register belonging to the association, and it will not be published. To members of the association the service is available without charge. To others a charge is made in respect of each name and address given. Once the association has served the purpose of effecting the introduction, which may establish a permanent connection of value to both parties, its interest in the matter ends.

#### THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PURE AND APPLIED CHEMISTRY

M. CHARLES LORMAND, of Paris, contributes to *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry* an account of the tenth conference of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, held in Liège from September 14 to 21, and of particular significance in that it became truly international. The German chemists, who at the preceding conference at The Hague had been invited to join the union, in the meantime had formed in Germany a federation of chemical groups. This federation sent to the Liège conference an important delegation composed of the most distinguished German chemists.

The union decided this year to suspend the activities of its committees, which had been censured for their concentration solely upon administrative work. Certain committees had been dissolved because of these criticisms. They will now, however, resume their full activity in the more extensive field of the congresses which they will call together.

This year a series of reports on sugars was placed in the order of the day. The president of the scientific committee of organization of the union, Professor Délépine, had asked several representative chemists to give reports, followed by discussions, on the results they had achieved in this field. The series of conferences which was thus held in Liège included all aspects of our present knowledge of the chemistry of sugars, starch and cellulose. Gabriel Bertrand, in the first report, gave the present status of our theoretical concepts of the constitution of sugars, and, in the course of the three days which followed, Messrs. Haworth, S. Hudson, T. M. Lowry, Smith, A. Pietet, Karrer, H. Pringsheim, H. Mark, Emil Heuser and Ettore Viviani reported in succession on the structure of sugars, the relation between the constitution of sugars and their rotatory power, the constitution of starch and of polysaccharides, molecular weights and the use of X-rays in the study of structure, the constitution and properties of cellulose and lastly on the constitution and physical properties of artificial silk.