

Under this is the inscription: "Erected by his fellow-employees of the Baltimore City Health Department, 1930."

IN the presence of relatives and friends, among whom were members of the faculty and many former students, a portrait of the late Dr. Henry P. Talbot, dean of students from 1921 to 1927, was recently shown for the first time in the office of Dean H. E. Lobdell, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Dr. Talbot, whose death occurred in 1927, was a professor in the department of chemistry at Technology from 1892 to 1927, and he was head of the department from 1901 until 1922. The portrait was painted by E. Pollak-Ottendorff, of Boston. It is a gift to the institute from a group of former students, and its title plate bears this legend: "As *alumnus*, teacher, and administrator for forty years, he gave conscientiously and unselfishly of his brain and heart to the upbuilding of the institute."

At the annual meeting of the Michigan Section of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, held at Ann Arbor on November 11, the following memorial to Herbert H. Dow, founder of the Dow Chemical Co., was adopted: "The death of a leader brings to our minds a feeling of pride over his achievements as well as grief at our loss. It is with these mingled feelings that we pay tribute to the memory of Herbert H. Dow, recognized the world over as a brilliant leader in the field of chemical manufacture, but known to us also as a sincere and helpful associate and friend, willing to give freely from his store of knowledge and experience. We extend our deep sympathy to the family, and to those who labored so intimately with him in the great plant which will stand as a monument, not of dead stone, but of living service continuing as it did in his life time."

THE College of Physicians of Philadelphia held a meeting on October 23 to commemorate the anniversary of the birth of Galen, called the founder of experimental physiology. Ninety-three of the ninety-eight Galen publications, the property of the college library, were on exhibition. The meeting was ad-

ressed by Drs. William H. Welch, Charles W. Burr, Burton Chance and Giuseppe Franchini, of Bologna, Italy.

PROFESSOR ALBERT EINSTEIN made an address before the Prussian Academy of Sciences on November 26, in commemoration of the three hundredth anniversary of the death of Johann Kepler.

RECENT DEATHS

JAMES H. EMERTON, an authority on spiders, illustrator of scientific books and constructor of zoological and anatomical models, died on December 5 in his eighty-fourth year. From 1906 to 1919 Mr. Emerton was secretary of the New England Federation of Natural History Societies. He was a brother of Professor Ephraim Emerton, of Harvard University.

WILLIAM PENN RICH, botanist, for twenty-one years secretary and librarian of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, died on November 30, at the age of eighty-one years.

PROFESSOR ALFRED ELY DAY, professor emeritus of natural sciences at the American University of Beirut, Syria, died on December 3.

DR. ERNEST ELLSWORTH SMITH, a specialist in experimental medicine and clinical pathology and president of the Medical Association of Greater New York, died on December 5 at the age of sixty-two years.

THOMAS G. GERDINE, engineer in charge of the Pacific division of the U. S. Geological Survey, with headquarters in Sacramento, has died at the age of fifty-eight years.

HEINRICH GUSTAV ADOLF ENGLER, long professor of botany at the University of Berlin and director of the botanical garden and museum, died on October 10, at the age of eighty-six years.

THE death is announced of Dr. Rudolf Disselhorst, professor of comparative anatomy at the University of Halle.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE LIBRARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INCREASED appropriations made possible the addition of 16,563 books, pamphlets and maps to the Library of the U. S. Department of Agriculture in the fiscal year 1929, according to the annual report to Secretary of Agriculture Hyde, of Miss Claribel R. Barnett, librarian. This was 2,209 more than the number added the previous year. On June 30 the

library contained 218,038 volumes on agricultural and scientific subjects and was receiving 4,080 periodicals. It receives 128 daily newspapers. More than 268,000 books and periodicals were circulated in this period. In addition to the main library, branch libraries are maintained in the various bureaus of the Department of Agriculture, dealing with the subjects of special interest to these bureaus.

In cooperation with the land-grant college and ex-

periment-station libraries, the library issues a mimeographed publication, *Agricultural Library Notes*. Under a cooperative arrangement between the department and the editors of *Biological Abstracts*, the latter has opened a branch office in Washington and has been assigned office space in the main library. An increase of \$5,000 in the library appropriation was also secured to make possible an increase in the library accessions in the field of biology. Dr. F. V. Rand, who is in charge of the Washington office of *Biological Abstracts*, reports that as a result of this cooperation, about 850 serial publications which have not hitherto been available are now being covered in the abstracting work. Other cooperative bibliographical projects are being carried on by the branch libraries, particularly with institutions and associations. The library of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics is cooperating with the Bureau of International Research and the American Country Life Association; the library of the Bureau of Entomology with the Association of American Economic Entomologists; the library of the Forest Service with the National Research Council; the library of the Bureau of Plant Industry with the Wild Flower Preservation Society, and the library of the Bureau of Public Roads with the American Association of State Highway Officials.

In cooperation with the division of bee culture investigations, a list of publications on apiculture contained in the library has been issued as No. 21 in the series of "Bibliographical Contributions" of the library. The bibliography on rural standards of living, prepared in the library of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics the past year, was published recently. The fourth Index to the Literature of American Economic Entomology, covering the years 1925-1929, prepared by the librarian of the Bureau of Entomology, is now in press.

BLIGHT RESISTANT CHESTNUTS FROM THE ORIENT

R. KENT BEATTIE, a plant explorer who has been searching the domains of the Formosa head-hunters and the forests of Korea and Japan for blight-resistant chestnuts to plant in American forests, has returned to Washington. Mr. Beattie is a forest pathologist of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

During two and a half years Mr. Beattie collected about 250 bushels of chestnuts of native strains, and scions of about 90 cultivated varieties. He shipped these nuts and scions to Washington as fast as he collected them and the Department of Agriculture planted them in its forest nursery at Glendale, Maryland, to test their resistance to blight and their adaptation to the climate and soil of a new homeland. These plantings produced about 250,000 seedlings.

Last spring the department placed 73,000 seedlings grown from Mr. Beattie's 1928 collections with foresters and experiment stations in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio and Michigan for testing.

Pathologists and foresters hope that blight-resistant chestnuts eventually will be established throughout the chestnut-growing states, where blight is rapidly depleting the stands of native chestnut. The American chestnut is still the source of more than 50 per cent. of our vegetable tannin. Tests by the department show that the Japanese chestnut is an equally good producer of tannin. Mr. Beattie reached Japan in the summer of 1927. He visited the areas of Japan where the chestnut grows and arranged with official foresters, representatives of the Imperial Household, agricultural cooperative marketing associations and chestnut growers to ship nuts to him at Tokyo or Yokohama. After gathering chestnuts from every accessible region of Japan, Korea and Formosa, Mr. Beattie made a return trip around more than half of the globe, gathering information about the chestnut and related trees.

THE DE LAMAR LECTURES

THE list of De Lamar Lectures in Hygiene this session at the School of Hygiene and Public Health of the Johns Hopkins University is as follows.

"The Rôle of the Anaerobic Bacteria in Human Pathology," Dr. M. Weinberg, professor at the Pasteur Institute, Paris, October 21.

"The Serotherapy of Medical and Surgical Infections Caused by Anaerobic Bacteria," Dr. M. Weinberg, professor at the Pasteur Institute, Paris, October 22.

"The Economic Aspects of Medical Care in this Country," Dr. Willard C. Rappleye, director of study, Commission on Medical Education, New Haven, Connecticut, November 4.

"Acid-fast Bacteria: Their Relation to Disease and the Need for Better Preventive Measures," Dr. William Charles White, chairman, Medical Research Committee of the National Tuberculosis Association, November 25.

"Recent Progress in Yellow-fever Research," Dr. W. A. Sawyer, associate director International Health Division, Rockefeller Foundation, December 9.

"The Epidemiology of Poliomyelitis," Dr. W. Lloyd Aycock, assistant professor of preventive medicine and hygiene, Harvard Medical School, January 6.

"Factors influencing Vitamin Distribution in Foods," R. Adams Dutcher, professor of bio-chemistry, Pennsylvania State College, January 27.

"Venereal Diseases," Dr. Thomas Parran, Jr., commissioner of health, State of New York, March 3.