

stuff that gives mankind its saints and its martyrs. But he was a saint without seriousness, and he could have gone to martyrdom, without a murmur of self-pity, as part of the day's work.

For his was a casual greatness!

He pursued the most painstaking research as if he were playing a game. He brought to his tasks that gaiety of spirit which authentic greatness can afford. His spirit never surrendered that incorrigible playfulness which so often marks men of power. He brought laughter into the laboratory, for there was about him that deceptively careless air which creative spirits have as they go about their business.

But there was toughness to the fiber of his mind!

He was a teacher who scorned the tyranny of the text-books, and he did not think it impertinent to doubt the authorities. Each morning he met the universe with a question. His was the creative heresy of an insatiable curiosity. The cleansing winds of the critical spirit swept freely and forever through his mind.

He belongs to the apostolic succession of the great pioneers of research—Pythagoras, Aristotle, Archimedes, Copernicus, Galileo, Harvey, Newton, Lavoisier, Dalton, Faraday, Helmholtz, Darwin, Pasteur, Gregor Mendel and Einstein, for, like them, he was an adventurer into the unknown to whom research was an intellectual passion rather than an institutional ritual, to whom creative thinking was more important than elaborate equipment, and for whom there was no barricaded frontier between pure and applied science.

In an age when scholars all too often hasten to publish even before they prove their findings, he was content to let his greatest work speak for itself, for perhaps the most illuminating fact of his career is that he never published so much as a word about his part in the discovery, definition and defeat of that "hidden hunger" from which man and beast might die while eating their fill.

In an age smitten with the passion for publicity, he forgot himself into immortality!

And in the midst of the sickness of an acquisitive society, his spirit remained unsullied even by legitimate personal considerations!

Scholar of a great university!

Servant of a great state!

Shy benefactor of mankind everywhere!

Laughing saint of science!

Being dead he yet speaks!

GLENN FRANK

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

RECENT DEATHS

DR. DANIEL A. K. STEELE, dean of the College of Medicine and head of the department of surgery of the University of Illinois, from 1882 to 1917, died on July 19, aged seventy-nine years.

FREDERIC DUNN BELL, until last year chairman of the board of directors of the Lederle Antitoxin Laboratories of New York, and secretary of the New York Tuberculosis and Health Association, died on July 17.

MAJOR T. F. CHIPP, assistant director of the Botanical Gardens, Kew, died on June 28.

TRUMAN P. GAYLORD, vice-president of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, East Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, formerly assistant professor of electrical engineering at the Armour Institute of Technology, died suddenly on July 5 at the age of sixty years.

HERBERT TOMLINSON, F.R.S., formerly principal of the South-Western Polytechnic at Chelsea, England, known for his work on the properties of matter, died on June 12 at the age of eighty-six years.

Nature reports the death on April 16 of Miss Anne L. Massy, known for her work on the pteropods and cephalopods.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY

ACCORDING to a report in the London *Times*, numerous fellows of the Royal Botanic Society attended a recent meeting at the Royal Botanical Gardens to hear a statement which foreshadowed the dissolution of the society at the end of the year in consequence of the decision of the Treasury not to renew the lease of the gardens. While the break-up of the society in its present form seemed to be regarded as inevitable, hopes were expressed that the gardens might yet be preserved, and Colonel T. C. Moore, M.P., who has been in recent touch with Mr. Lansbury on the ques-

tion, was co-opted a member of the council. The First Commissioner of Works, he said, had given him an undertaking that if any proposition could be made which would bring a more democratic influence to the gardens and yet make it possible to run them without loss it would be given favorable consideration.

Mr. C. C. Hoyer Millar, who presided, said that the lease of the gardens would expire on April 5 next year. He described the long struggle of the council to retain them, and expressed their deep regret that efforts to obtain a new lease had been of no

avail. Mr. Lansbury, while reminding them that the Treasury had decided several years ago that as all the various leases in the park expired, they were not to be renewed, was sympathetic, but said he failed to see how the decision could be reversed, though personally he would be glad if some arrangement might be made for the society's work to be continued.

There appeared to be no alternative but the dissolution of the society. Other sites outside London had been suggested, but the revenue had largely decreased since the Treasury's decision was made public, many fellows had resigned, and the depressing economic position and heavy taxation had caused the cessation of several important and remunerative functions. Expenditure had been curtailed as much as possible, but the fall in receipts made it impossible to cope with the position. Arrangements were being made to dispose of the stock of plants in the conservatories and houses, the contents of the library and museum, and the furniture in the fellows' rooms and offices.

In reply to a question about the present financial position of the society, the chairman said that they had £1,365 in the bank, and that expenses last year averaged £500 to £600 a month. They could not tell exactly how long they could carry on, but there was little chance of it being longer than December 31.

Colonel Moore outlined proposals for the retention of the society with fresh support from the public, a membership which would carry certain rights of admission to the gardens, a general charge of 3d. for the admission of the public, and the institution of two free days a week. He suggested that they should carry on to the end of the year and see that nothing was done to handicap the consideration of the proposed scheme. Mr. Greenwood, who for many years was the honorary treasurer of the society, regretted that Colonel Moore had not put his views before the council earlier, but said that if such a scheme as had been outlined could be carried out, all the fellows would be content.

EXPENDITURES OF THE U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

THE U. S. Public Health Service has expended in the drought states thus far \$389,000 of the \$2,000,000 drought relief health fund appropriated by the last Congress, according to a statement July 16 by the service.

In all probability this fund already has served to prevent serious outbreaks of disease in certain areas. The amount expended has been apportioned among 16 needy states, and allotments during the present fiscal year ending June 30, 1932, probably will be made to 20 states.

States in the dry area are doing their utmost to

keep up their share of the expenses of maintaining health conditions in stricken districts, although many of them have been forced to obtain aid from the Federal Government. Numerous local health units probably would have been forced to suspend operations from lack of funds, if this help from the National Government had not been forthcoming.

The Public Health Service is using the utmost care in administering the \$2,000,000 set aside for drought health relief. States calling for money are required to budget each item that they claim they need, and must show why they are asking for federal funds. Other Federal Government units have furnished information upon which the service partially has based its policies in administering the fund.

A total of \$1,551,000 available for the fiscal year 1932 has been allotted to the states. This amount is what remains of the \$2,000,000 fund less the money already expended, and less \$60,000 for administrative expenses and a small reserve to meet extreme emergencies.

The amounts already expended in the states (A), the amounts allotted for distribution before the end of this fiscal year (B), and the totals for each state out of the entire drought relief fund (C) are as follows:

	A	B	C
Alabama	\$ 15,295	\$ 53,370	\$ 68,665
Arkansas	74,155	155,916	230,071
Georgia	11,689	64,600	76,289
Illinois	16,719	48,405	65,124
Indiana	2,079	48,600	50,679
Kansas		26,892	26,892
Kentucky	32,025	266,801	298,826
Louisiana	26,660	66,810	93,470
Mississippi	21,238	124,639	145,977
Missouri	21,295	138,900	160,195
Montana	2,790	10,000	12,790
North Carolina		42,676	42,676
Oklahoma	20,201	75,680	95,881
Pennsylvania	25,343	16,379	41,722
Tennessee	56,278	89,247	145,525
Texas	22,733	130,266	152,999
Virginia	13,195	83,972	97,167
West Virginia	18,507	108,537	127,044
Total	\$380,202	\$1,551,690	\$1,931,892

RESEARCH FOUNDATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

THE Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation has presented to the board of regents of the University of Wisconsin a report reviewing the results of its work during the first five years of its existence.

The foundation, the first of its kind inaugurated at a university, was incorporated on a non-profit sharing basis on November 14, 1925, and had as its