

seemed to regard a personal obligation as a privilege, and he was rarely conscious that he had more than done his part.

F. C. BROWN

#### RECENT DEATHS

DR. JOHN WHITRIDGE WILLIAMS, professor of obstetrics at the Johns Hopkins University Medical School since 1893 and dean of the school from 1910 to 1923, died on October 22, at the age of sixty-five years.

DR. JOSEPH MERRITT MATTHEWS, authority on textile chemistry and dyestuffs, died in San Diego, California, on October 12, aged fifty-seven years. For

some years Dr. Matthews was professor of chemistry and dyeing in the Philadelphia Textile School.

MR. HENRY LORENZ VIERECK, an authority on the Hymenoptera, was killed in an automobile accident at Loudonville, Ohio, on October 9. Dr. Viereck was fifty years old.

COLONEL JOHN S. A. JOHNSON, professor of applied mechanics and experimental engineering and director of the experiment station at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, was recently found shot to death in his bedroom at his home on the campus. He was fifty-three years old and had been professor at the institute since 1900.

### SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

#### THE NEW FEDERAL CITRUS FRUIT LABORATORY IN TEXAS

DR. HENRY G. KNIGHT, chief of the bureau of chemistry and soils of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, recently announced that a new citrus laboratory of the bureau, for which funds were appropriated by the last Congress, will be established in the citrus-growing territory of the Rio Grande Valley at Weslaco, Texas, on the state-owned land of the Texas State Experiment Station for the study of citrus fruit culls and their by-products.

The selection of a site on the agricultural experiment station grounds at Weslaco was made upon recommendation of Dr. F. C. Blanck, in charge of the food research division of the bureau of chemistry and soils, and Mr. E. M. Chace, of the bureau's fruit and vegetable laboratory at Los Angeles, California, with the approval of Director A. B. Conner, of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.

The chambers of commerce of Weslaco and Mercedes, Texas, have agreed to erect a suitable building for the citrus work of the bureau. In recommending this site for the bureau's by-product work with citrus fruits, the department specialists said: "We feel that the selection of Weslaco is absolutely logical and that it offers special advantages, because of the effective cooperation with the state experiment station which it makes possible and because our work at Weslaco will be located in the center of the citrus-growing territory of Texas."

Director Conner, of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, in commenting on the establishment of the federal work in the utilization of citrus by-products, says: "The location of this proposed laboratory at the substation ought to be mutually advantageous to agencies working in behalf of the citrus industry. With the concentration of both federal and state activities at this one station, it will receive increased recognition as a center of research for the Texas citrus-producing industry."

Dr. Knight states that work will begin on problems of citrus-fruit utilization at the bureau's new laboratory as soon as the buildings are completed and the equipment is installed, and that the first year's work will center largely upon problems of grapefruit utilization. The laboratory, he says, will study the composition of different varieties of Texas grapefruit to learn what stage of maturity is most favorable for preservation. Other studies will center upon utilization of waste from canneries and juice factories, and the feasibility of preparing grapefruit oil, pectin, naringin and other valuable constituents from oil and waste material.

The assistance which similar laboratories of the Department of Agriculture have rendered citrus-fruit growers of California and Florida in solving problems of by-product disposal has led to the extension of this work to Texas, fruit growers of that state having made repeated requests for such aid. Total plantings of citrus in Texas amount to approximately 6,650,000 trees, of which about one half are in bearing. This represents an acreage of about 90,000, with grapefruit accounting for three fourths of the total.

#### PSYCHIATRIC EDUCATION

IN order to meet the growing demand for trained workers in psychiatry and mental hygiene the National Committee for Mental Hygiene has created a new division of psychiatric education, Dr. C. M. Hincks, director of the committee, has announced in a statement sent out by Science Service.

"The dearth of competent psychiatrists is becoming a major issue in human welfare," a committee of the American Psychiatric Association, which has been studying the problem, has concluded.

"It is no longer merely a matter of overcrowded mental hospitals in which the patients receive but momentary attention from the mental specialists. We are confronted by a matter amounting to a national emergency," their report stated.