

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.

Of the 160,000 physicians in the United States today, somewhat over 40,000 are specialists in the various branches of medicine. Of these only 1,600 are psychiatrists, or one in twenty-five. In other words, there are a hundred times as many doctors in physical as in mental medicine, the committee pointed out. This is out of all proportion to the magnitude of the problem of nervous and mental disease. Half of the hospital beds of the country are occupied by patients suffering from mental disease, and there are many more not in hospitals.

The new division of psychiatric education will center its work largely around the medical schools, with a view to attracting more medical students to this branch of medicine and to giving those who plan to engage in other specialties or in general medicine instruction which will better equip them for dealing with such problems of mental health as will inevitably arise in their work.

The director of the division will be Dr. Ralph A. Noble, of Sydney, Australia, and associated with him will be Dr. Franklin G. Ebaugh, director of the Colorado State Psychopathic Hospital.

#### THE NINTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PURE AND APPLIED CHEMISTRY

THE Ninth International Congress of Pure and Applied Chemistry is to be held under the patronage of the Government of the Spanish Republic in Madrid, from April 3 to April 10, 1932. It will be twenty years since such an international congress has been held, the eighth having met in Washington and New York in 1912.

According to a statement in *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*, the National Council of the Spanish Federation of Chemical Societies, upon which the Spanish Society of Chemistry and Physics, the Society of Spanish Mining Engineers, the National Union of Chemical Experts, the Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Oceanography and the National Chamber of Chemical Industries are represented, is the body which is affiliated with the International Union and which has the responsibility for the details of the congress. The honorary president is J. R. Mourello, vice-president of the Academy of Sciences and professor emeritus of the School of Arts, University of Madrid; the president, O. Fernández, professor of the University of Madrid, member of the Academy of Sciences, and dean of the Academy of Pharmacy; the general secretary, E. Moles, professor of the University of Madrid, and of the National Institute of Chemistry and Physics, as well as president of the Spanish Society of Chemistry and Physics.

The rules which will govern the congress are in part as follows:

I. The object of the Ninth International Congress of Pure and Applied Chemistry is to further the progress of pure chemistry and all its applications, as well as to strengthen relations between chemists the world over.

II. Any person professing interest in any one or more of the objects of the congress may enroll as a member.

III. The membership of the Ninth International Congress of Chemistry shall be divided into three categories, *viz.*:

(a) *Honorary Members*: All members of the Committee of Honor and of Patronage, the official delegates of the Spanish government and of the governments of other countries.

(b) *Supporting Members*: All persons who individually (whether payment be made in joint accounts or in any other manner) pay the minimum amount of 250 gold pesetas.

(c) *Active Members*: All who pay the general fee of 50 gold pesetas. The application for membership shall vouch for the applicant's agreement to all the rules and regulations of the congress. All members shall be entitled to receive all publications *in extenso*, to take part in the sessions of the congress and to receive copies of the daily newspaper which will be published, as well as a separate issue of all the summaries of the communications and documents referring to the congress, including the final report on the proceedings. Members shall also be entitled to attend the receptions and festivities in connection with the congress, unless otherwise indicated on the program, which will accompany the identification cards.

IV. Tickets at 15 gold pesetas each will be issued for ladies wishing to accompany the members of the congress. They will be granted the same privileges as members except that they will not be allowed to take active part in the sessions, or receive publications.

V. The congress will be divided into the following groups, each of which will have a section on pure, and one on applied, chemistry; Group 1, physical and theoretical chemistry; Group 2, inorganic chemistry; Group 3, organic chemistry; Group 4, analytical chemistry; Group 5, biological chemistry; Group 6, teaching and economics. The executive committee is authorized to increase the number of sections as the need of the congress may demand.

#### THE HENRY BURCHARD FINE HALL OF MATHEMATICS

THE Henry Burchard Fine Hall of Mathematics was dedicated at Princeton University on October 22.

The hall has been erected at a cost of \$500,000 in memory of the late Professor Fine, who organized the