

N-4—**American Roentgen Ray Society.

President, Leopold Jaches; *secretary*, E. P. Pendergrass; *council representative*, Donald Childs.

N-5—Onondaga County Medical Society.

N-6—Syracuse Academy of Medicine.

The program of Section N and its associated and invited societies promises to be much better than usual. Sessions will begin on Tuesday afternoon with a program arranged by Section N and will continue through Friday morning.

Sessions of the American Society of Bacteriologists are planned for Thursday morning and afternoon and Friday morning.

The program of the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine will consist of sessions devoted to miscellaneous contributed papers and to other sessions for the reading of papers by invited speakers.

It is planned also to have an authority on public health deliver one of the general evening lectures and to devote a session to the history of medical science in its relation to public health. These sessions are planned to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Syracuse Department of Public Health. A cholera epidemic was directly responsible for the founding of this institution.

O. *Agriculture*.

O-1—Section O of the Association.

Vice-president, J. H. Gourley; *retiring vice-president*, C. G. Williams; *secretary*, P. E. Brown.

O-2—**American Society of Agronomy (Northeastern Section).

Secretary, M. H. Cubbon.

Section O plans meetings on Tuesday devoted to symposia on "Land Use." It is proposed to consider the task of putting the different classes of land to their proper uses, to focus attention to the idle land

situation and to develop a better understanding of the whole subject of land in its relation to human affairs. Special reports will be presented on the results of Land Economic Surveys that have been in progress in several states during the past decade. Among the speakers will be Dr. Jacob G. Lipman, Dr. G. F. Warren, Dr. Henry G. Knight, Dr. Charles L. Roper, Dr. E. P. Weaver, Dr. Joseph S. Illick, Mr. Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Mr. L. R. Schoenmann. The session on Tuesday morning will be held jointly with Section E (Geology and Geography). The American Society of Agronomy will hold meetings in Geneva on Wednesday and in Ithaca on Thursday. Dr. U. P. Hedrick will deliver an address at Geneva on Wednesday morning on the subject, "Fifty Years of Research at Geneva." Following a tour of the laboratories, papers will be given by H. J. Conn, R. W. Hofer, H. B. Tukey, M. T. Munn, C. B. Sayre, J. G. Horsfall and Richard Wellington. At Ithaca addresses will be given by Cornelius Betten, T. L. Lyon, J. A. Bizzell, R. A. Emerson and R. G. Wiggans. Following an inspection of the field experiments of the departments of agronomy and plant breeding at Cornell a picnic supper will be held at Enfield Glen.

Q. *Education*.

Q-1—Section Q of the Association.

Vice-president, S. A. Courtis; *retiring vice-president*, Ernest Horn; *secretary*, W. L. Uhl.

Section Q plans to hold a number of sessions devoted to discussions of general education problems by men of national prominence. Dr. Edward L. Thorndike, Dr. J. G. Needham, Dr. E. R. Hedrick and others have indicated that they will participate in these discussions. Dr. Thorndike will deliver a general evening lecture using the title "The Psychology of Capital."

OBITUARY

JOHN WESLEY YOUNG

FROM time to time we are called upon to take an inventory, and to adjust ourselves as best we can to new and unexpected circumstances.

Such a necessity arose when, on February 17, 1932, the notice was flashed across the country that John Wesley Young was dead.

He was born at Columbus, Ohio, November 17, 1879, but spent much of his childhood and early youth, 1889-1895, at Baden Baden where his father was American consul. His mother, of French and German ancestry, was born in Paris. Probably these facts account for the linguistic skill and felicity of the

son. He graduated from Ohio State University in 1899, and then went to Cornell University where he completed his work for the doctorate in 1903, but on account of illness did not take his examination until 1904. While at Cornell he was not only an excellent student, but participated eagerly in various activities, especially in the newly founded graduate club, and had a wide circle of friends, from various walks of life. He was assistant at Cornell, 1902-1903; instructor at Northwestern, 1903-1905; preceptor at Princeton, 1905-1908; University of Illinois, 1908-1910, and was made head professor at the University of Kansas, 1910. The following year he was called

to Dartmouth College, where he continued throughout his life.

The main feature of Young's activity was the breadth of his interest. He was receptive and sympathetic to any appeal that was genuine and sincere, had no respect for pomp and display, and was helpful and cooperative in every honest endeavor.

The main contributions may be divided into three general categories, (a) research, (b) teaching, (c) organization. (a) His first interest was in groups, but rapidly widened to include geometry and particularly foundations of mathematics. The most important are (1) his thesis on automorphic functions, (2) General theory of approximations by functions involving a given number of arbitrary parameters, the (3) Fundamental concepts of algebra and geometry (Macmillan, 1911), and the monumental work on Projective Geometry (Ginn and Company, 1910) with Professor Veblen, besides a number of other important articles in various mathematical periodicals. (b) In the teaching of mathematics he was always intensely interested and active; besides his uninterrupted support of the Mathematical Association of America as member of the council, vice-president and president, he was chairman of the National Committee on Mathematical Requirements. This work took much of his time and energy for eight years and resulted in the appearance of a volume of 650 pages which will exercise a profound influence on the teaching of elementary mathematics for many years. In this connection he also exercised a helpful influence as editor of mathematical texts for two important publishers. He also served as chief examiner in mathematics for the College Entrance Examination Board for two years, and cooperated in several far reaching innovations. (c) During the last few years the financial status of the Association and of the American Mathematical Society has demanded a great deal of careful study. Professor Young was appointed chairman of the Committee on Funds for both organizations and had already brought considerable order and system into the situation and had plans for future development that promised definite relief.

An active and fruitful service of over a quarter of a century has closed, and a cherished personality has become a memory. May those who are still active receive sufficient inspiration from his efforts to continue with the same endeavor.

VIRGIL SNYDER

RECENT DEATHS

GEORGE SYLVANUS MOLER, professor emeritus of physics at Cornell University and co-builder of the

first commercial dynamo operated in the Western Hemisphere, died on May 20. He was eighty-one years old and had retired from active service in 1917.

DR. THOMAS H. GRONWALL, associate in physics at Columbia University, author of many papers on mathematics and the applications of mathematics in engineering and physics, died on May 9, in his fifty-fifth year.

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM BARCLAY PARSONS died on May 10, at the age of seventy-three years. Dr. Parsons was a member of the engineering staff in charge of the construction of the Panama Canal and was the builder of the Cape Cod Canal. He had been chairman of the board of trustees of Columbia University since 1917. He was also a trustee of the New York Public Library and of the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

DR. CHARLES W. RICHMOND, associate curator of birds at the National Museum, died on May 17, at the age of sixty-three years.

HARRY H. BARROWS, assistant chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, died suddenly on May 3.

DR. R. BISHOP CANFIELD, since 1904 chief otolaryngologist of the University of Michigan Hospital and authority on the surgery of the ear, nose and throat, has been fatally injured in an automobile accident.

DR. JOHN R. MINEHART, dean of the School of Pharmacy of Temple University, Philadelphia, died on May 10, at the age of forty-four years.

THE death is announced at the age of forty-four years of John Berdan Charlesworth, research associate in African ethnology at the Peabody Museum of Harvard University. Mr. Charlesworth held the Anthony Wilkins Memorial Studentship of the University of Cambridge. Under his fellowship, and jointly for the Peabody Museum, Mr. Charlesworth had completed a two years' intensive study among the Basukuma, a Bantu tribe in Tanganyika Territory, Africa, south of Lake Victoria. It was on the return journey from this research that he died at sea of black-water fever. His collections and notes will go to the Peabody Museum.

THE death is announced of Sir W. Watson Cheyne, past-president of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and consulting surgeon to King's College Hospital.

THE death is announced at the age of seventy-nine years of Charles Debierre, professor of anatomy at the Lille Medical School.