

DR. GEORGE FREDERICK KUNZ, mineralogist, expert in gems, and vice-president of Tiffany and Company, New York, died on June 29, in his seventy-sixth year.

MISS ADELAIDE AMES, research assistant at the Harvard College Observatory, was drowned in Squam Lake, Laconia, New Hampshire, on June 27.

A CORRESPONDENT writes: "Mr. Maximo Ramos, of the Bureau of Science, Manila, died of malaria at Buayan, Cotabato Province, Mindanao, at the age of fifty years, on May 11, while engaged in field work. Mr. Ramos served as botanical collector for the Bu-

reau of Science for over thirty years, and the extensive duplicate series of his enormous collections have been distributed to botanical institutions all over the world. Few individuals in any country have prepared such extensive series of herbarium species as has Mr. Ramos."

JOHN WALTER GREGORY, professor of geology at the University of Glasgow and head of a British scientific mission studying Andean geological formations, was drowned on June 2 when his canoe capsized in the Urubamba River. Dr. Gregory was sixty-eight years old.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

DR. W. C. MENDENHALL, director of the U. S. Geological Survey, has given a statement to a representative of the *U. S. Daily* in which he says that in spite of the uncertain means of financing the International Geological Congress, the committee on organization is formulating plans to hold a meeting next year, although it may be a small one. Since 1878, eminent geologists of the world have been assembling periodically in first one country and then another to discuss the mineral resources of the world. It has been the practice for foreign governments to recognize the congress through parliamentary action, and give official sanction and welcome to the delegates from all parts of the world.

Great Britain has been host three times, France twice, while Canada, Mexico, Sweden, Russia, Spain, Belgium and South Africa are among those which have been hosts at one or another time. It was felt by the Americans at the last session of the congress that it was time for this country to be host; hence a proposal to hold the congress here was made.

Because of the economic situation the congress was deferred one year, and the tentative date is now set for the summer of 1933. A bill before congress calling for \$85,000 to cover the costs has been killed; hence official aid can hardly be expected now.

The meeting of world geologists from time to time is concerned with industry and international understanding on world mineral resources. Such resources as coal, gold and similar commodities of international importance have been discussed, and the potential wealth of the world in respect to their future use has been set forth in papers which are the final word on the subject.

At the last congress, gold was the topic under study. The League of Nations called for the published proceedings for purposes of considering the potential

gold supply in respect to studies on currency by one of its committees.

By concentrating on special topics, world facts are assembled and made available. Resources can be appraised and industry can be informed, so that plans for the future in respect to competition and distribution may be worked out intelligently.

The American committee on organization has as its honorary president, Mr. Hoover. In addition to supplying the general secretary, Dr. W. C. Mendenhall, the Geological Survey is also represented by H. G. Ferguson and M. I. Goldman, who serve as assistant secretaries. Honorary vice-presidents of the committee include: The Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Interior, the director of the Geological Survey, the president of the Geological Society of America, the president of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, the president of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, and the president of the Academy of Sciences.

THE TWELFTH BIENNIAL CONCLAVE OF ALPHA CHI SIGMA

THE twelfth biennial conclave of Alpha Chi Sigma, professional chemical fraternity, was held from June 13 to 17 on the campus of the University of Maryland. Convention headquarters were at the Phi Delta Theta House, meetings were held in the auditorium of the chemistry building, the delegates housed in the university dormitories, and meals were served at the Lord Calvert Inn. The largest attendance in the history of the fraternity was recorded.

The conclave was featured by alternating half-day business sessions with half-day pleasure intervals such as trips to Mt. Vernon, Arlington, in and about Washington, Annapolis and the Bureau of Standards. One half day was devoted to sports and a model initiation was conducted by Alpha Rho, University of Maryland, one of the host chapters. A reception, a dance and a banquet were also included.