

a gracious host. He gave many interesting small dinners and could cook on occasion. He took infinite pains to help good work, but for pretense and bad work his criticisms were devastating.

A. F. WOODS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

#### RECENT DEATHS

JAMES M. WHITE, professor of architectural engineering and supervising architect of the University of Illinois, died on February 6, at the age of sixty-five years.

SAMUEL ANTHONY GOLDSCHMIDT, chemist, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Parsons Ammonia Company, died on January 29, at the age of eighty-four years.

DR. RONALD STEELE SADDINGTON, an assistant on the scientific staff of the Rockefeller Institute, died at the Rockefeller Institute Hospital on February 4, of an illness contracted three weeks ago while studying herpes. He was twenty-nine years old.

SAMUEL W. PHILLIPS, in charge of the erosion station of the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils of the

U. S. Department of Agriculture at Zanesville, Ohio, was shot and killed by a burglar in his home on January 23. Mr. Phillips was in his thirty-ninth year.

SIR J. ARTHUR THOMSON, emeritus professor of natural history at the University of Aberdeen, died on February 12 at the age of seventy-two years.

SIR DANIEL MORRIS, scientific adviser in tropical agriculture to the British Colonial Office, previously from 1898 to 1905 imperial commissioner of the West Indies Department of Agriculture, died on February 9 at the age of eighty-eight years.

SIR FREDERIC G. HALLETT, secretary of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund and formerly secretary of the conjoint board of the British Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, died on February 6. He was seventy-two years old.

THOMAS ALFRED COWARD, the British ornithologist, died on January 30, at the age of sixty-six years.

AUGUSTIN MESNAGER, civil engineer, vice-president of the Paris Academy of Sciences, died on February 6. He was seventy years old.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

#### INTERNATIONAL VITAMIN STANDARDS

THE international standards for vitamins A, B ( $B_1$ ) and D, which have been allotted to this country, have been received by Dr. E. M. Nelson, Protein and Nutrition Division, Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. These standards are made available to investigators in the United States through the generosity of the Health Organization of the League of Nations. Application blanks for obtaining the standards, which will be distributed for scientific purposes, can be obtained from Dr. Nelson. These standards were designed for the sole purpose of enabling investigators to express vitamin potency in units of universally accepted value. The quantities distributed are suitable only for assay with small laboratory animals, such as rats, pigeons and mice. In order to make the best use of these primary standards it is suggested that investigators give consideration to the possibility of making suitable secondary standards through the use of the material distributed.

Allotments of international standards have been deposited with Dr. E. Fullerton Cook, chairman of the U. S. Pharmacopoeia Revision Committee, 43rd Street and Woodland Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for distribution for research purposes and for the standardization of a U. S. Pharmacopoeia reference cod liver oil. The U. S. Pharmacopoeia reference

cod liver oil, a secondary standard for vitamins A and D, is to be available to all applicants at small cost and is intended to serve particularly for establishing new and more desirable definitions for vitamin potency of U. S. Pharmacopoeia cod liver oil. The U. S. Pharmacopoeia reference cod liver oil will also serve as a suitable standard for all products for which claims for vitamins A and D potency are to be made. An announcement concerning this reference cod liver oil will be made by the U. S. Pharmacopoeia Revision Committee.

HENRY G. KNIGHT

#### THE MORRIS ARBORETUM

APPOINTMENTS to the executive and scientific staffs of the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania, at Chestnut Hill, have been announced.

Dr. Rodney H. True, professor of botany and director of the botanical gardens at the University of Pennsylvania since 1920, has been made director of the arboretum. Before going to Pennsylvania he was plant physiologist of the U. S. Department of Agriculture in charge of physiological investigations and also served at various times on the faculties of Radcliffe College, the University of Wisconsin and Harvard.

James Lambert, superintendent of the botanical gardens at the university for a number of years and