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 burgler 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

a graduate of Kew Gardens in London, has been named superintendent of the arboretum, and the position of head gardener has been filled by the appointment of John Tonkin, who was head gardener under Miss Morris. James O'Neill, who also was in the employ of Miss Morris, will be custodian. A secretary, whose appointment will complete the executive staff, will be named later.

Four members of the faculty of botany have been appointed to the scientific staff. They are Professor Harlan H. York, pathologist; Associate Professor Edgar T. Wherry, ecologist; Associate Professor Conway Zirkle, geneticist, and Assistant Professor John M. Fogg, Jr., taxonomist.

Dr. York will carry on research investigations in connection with plant diseases, with particular reference to trees. Prior to becoming a member of the university faculty, Dr. York served as expert in charge of the research program in the forestry project of the New York State Department of Conservation.

As ecologist, Dr. Wherry will direct the study of plants in their relation to soil and atmospheric conditions and the relation of plants to each other in mixed plantings.

Dr. Zirkle, who is a former member of the research staff at Harvard University, will be associated chiefly with special studies of the reproductive processes in higher plants, particularly with reference to the processes concerned in inheritance.

Dr. Fogg will be in charge of the identification and grouping of the plants in the arboretum on the basis of their botanical relationship. It is the intention to assemble at Compton the most complete herbarium of woody plants that it is possible to collect from all parts of the world.

In addition to the executive and scientific staff, the organization of an advisory staff, which will include a landscape architect, a zoologist, a chemist and an engineer, has been recommended by the committee on administration of the arboretum, of which Dr. George Wm. McClelland, vice-president of the university in charge of the undergraduate schools, is chairman. The members of the advisory staff will be designated by the respective deans or department heads, subject to the approval of the committee on administration.

THE PROPOSED EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

WE are permitted to print the following memorandum addressed on January 7 by Dr. Wilbur, Secretary of the Interior, to Horace M. Albright, director of the National Park Service:

With the help of Dr. Fairchild and Judge Ritter, president of the association, and through the kindness of Mr. Henry L. Doherty, I was taken to Cape Largo, then by water through the Keys to Cape Sable, then to the mouth of the Shark River, up the Shark River through the Ten Thousand Islands to Everglades, and then along the Tamiami Trail, both west and east. The map of which I was sent a copy was most helpful. When additional copies are available, I should like to have them sent to Messrs. Doherty, Ritter and Fairchild.

This area has outstanding qualifications for national park status. It should be maintained as a water or marine park and a wide area should be taken in. Every effort should be made to keep this a primitive area. I think roads should not be built through it, but that the road which now goes down to the Middle Beach and the Cape Sable area, should be improved, and this region should be the southern entrance to the park. The northern entrance should be at Everglades. All visitors to the remote areas of the park should go by water. As few trails as possible should be built. These can be of simple construction, using elevated planks. This would avoid the mud with the change in tides, snakes, etc.

The protection of the park can be brought about by rangers with small boats, and by an autogiro. It is evident that the proper development of this park will not be costly and that the cost of its control and management can be kept down to figures that will be largely met by the usual reasonable entrance fees.

I need not describe the beauty of the mangrove forests, the unusual opportunities for education and inspiration as well as recreation, the marvelous bird flights, etc. These have been amply covered before.

The one thing that worries me most is the maintenance of a fresh-water supply into the upper reaches of the Shark and other rivers so that there will be no encroachment of salt-water. Such encroachment would destroy the most unique qualities of the park. This means that a wide area to the north must be kept in a virgin condition and that no cross canals interfere with the general drainage of water from Lake Okeechobee south.

It seems to me to need prompt action by Congress, so that large funds for the purchase of these lands can be obtained from private or state sources, and so that there will not be too many small areas to purchase. There is a tendency to bring into production land that should be allowed to remain in its primitive condition.

IN HONOR OF DR. ELIHU THOMSON

PRELIMINARY plans have been announced for a dinner on March 29, at which leaders in science, engineering and industry will honor Dr. Elihu Thomson, the distinguished engineer and inventor, upon the occasion of his eightieth birthday. The dinner is to be held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, of which Dr. Thomson was acting president from 1920 to 1922, and of which he is a life member of the corporation.

International in its significance, the dinner will bring together distinguished representatives of the electrical industry, to which Dr. Thomson has made so many important contributions, leaders from educa-