group of substances is richer as a result of the interest which he aroused and to which he turned as the result of his clinical experience. He knew his limitations, but he knew also how to surmount them. He not only cultivated a field, but he shared its cultivation with his fellows.

This description of a singular man would be incomplete if other aspects of his personality were left unmentioned. Aside from his industry, aside from his scientific insight, aside from his inventiveness, he had an unusual historical sense. Were this side of his interests not known otherwise, it would emerge from reading those chapters in his book on rickets in which he describes the history of this disease. He cared not only for knowledge of the development of ideas (in regard to it), but he charged himself with the collection of the literature of this subject and has by his collection made the library of the New York Academy of Medicine the richer. Those who were privileged to sit with him on the committee of that library were aware of his sensitiveness to the meaning of the march of ideas in the development of conceptions.

He was conscious also of another obligation. As a scientific man, he made the interests of scientific men his personal concern. In this city, in which social intercourse among like-minded men is difficult, he made of his home a center of hospitality, a center for the discussion and exchange of ideas. That the discussions were uniformly elevated and of a high seriousness, the character of the man amply assured.

Wherever on the numerous sides of interest appropriate to the lives of medical men one looks, the death of Alfred Hess marks loss. He touched life in many of its phases; wherever he touched it, he enriched it. Without the opportunity for disciples, his intellectual vigor, his disinterestedness, his pungent personality impressed itself upon his contemporaries.

The Harvey Society is conscious of its loss. To his associates, to his friends, to his family, it expresses its deep sympathy.

RECENT DEATHS

ROBERT HENRY SMITH, professor emeritus of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and for forty-seven years a member of the staff of the department of mechanical engineering, died on December 11 at the age of seventy-one years.

JOHN SABIN ADRIANCE, formerly professor of physiological chemistry at Williams College, died on January 5. He was seventy-three years old.

DR. FREDERIC WILLIAM SEARS, neurologist and professor of nervous diseases in the College of Medicine at the University of Vermont, died on January 2. He was seventy-four years old.

THE death is announced of Dr. Wilhelm Scholz, professor of internal medicine, and of Dr. Oskar Zolte, professor of physiology, both of Graz.

THE *British Medical Journal* announces the deaths of Professor Max Zondek, the Berlin urologist, aged sixty-five years; Professor Joseph Imre, the Budapest ophthalmologist; Dr. Artur Algar, a prominent dermatologist of Vienna, aged sixty-seven years; Dr. Auguste Rickli, head of the Swiss Red Cross, aged seventy years; Dr. Johann J. Jörger, honorary member of the Swiss Society for Psychiatry, aged seventy-two years; Dr. Wilhelm Prausnitz, emeritus professor of hygiene at Graz, aged seventy-two years; Professor Edmund Forster, director of the university nerve clinic at Greifswald, aged fifty-five years, and Dr. G. Lemière, honorary professor at the Lille faculty of medicine.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

EXHIBIT OF THE PHYSICAL SOCIETY, LONDON

THE twenty-fourth exhibition of scientific instruments and apparatus arranged by the Physical Society of Great Britain was held from January 9 to 11 at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, South Kensington.

In the trade section 81 firms showed their latest products. The research and experimental section displayed instruments which have not yet reached the stage of commercial production, and apparatus built for special tests or for research in pure physics. Teachers from universities and scientific institutions demonstrated methods which they have recently devised to illustrate some principle or application of physics.

There was an exhibit of recent applications of light-sensitive cells to the control of industrial processes. Such a cell is employed in a device for applying an even tension to a yarn in reeling. The apparatus comprises a tension leveller and a tension applier. In the tension leveller, small variations in tension in the yarn from the bobbins are made to alter the emission current of a photo-cell. This current is amplified through a gas-filled relay circuit to operate a subsidiary electromagnetic brake.

Another device which is finding fresh fields of usefulness is the cathode ray tube. This contrivance generates a stream of electrons which is rendered visible where it impinges on a fluorescent screen; by electrical or magnetic means the stream can be deflected. It is employed in television, and in the cathode ray oscillo-