

professor of dental science and instructor in pathology, Harvard Medical School; Lawrence W. Baker, professor of orthodontia, and Dr. George P. Matthews, instructor in anatomy. Dean Leroy M. S. Miner, of the Dental School, will serve as a member ex-officio of the committee.

The first project sponsored by the committee will be an elaboration of some research work in the effects of nutrition on teeth and their supporting structures, which has been carried on by Professor Howe, collaborating with Professor Wolbach.

The particular problem is as follows, in the general field of vitamin deficiency studies:

1. Extension of studies now in progress on the mode of action of Vitamin C or ascorbic acid to include: (a) testing, with scorbutic guinea-pigs, the activity of products intermediate in the synthesis of ascorbic acid from xylose; (b) the preparation and testing of substances formed by systematic changes in the structure of ascorbic acid; (c) an investigation of the manner in which ascorbic acid is produced by animals which are not subject to scurvy.

2. The study of the effects of inorganic deficiencies and especially the substitution of various elements for calcium in the diet.

3. The study of intercellular materials as solvents in the living animal for diffusible materials introduced into the blood stream at a rate faster than elimination can take place. There is much evidence that sugars diffuse into collagen to a point of equilibrium with the accumulation in the blood stream so that the studies should begin with sugars. It is possible that sugars may play a rôle in calcification of tissues. In any event, an attempt will be made to study calcified tissues, teeth and bone. It is to be anticipated that progress will be slow as the techniques required will have to be worked out.

For this work the committee has received a Milton Fund grant of \$8,000 for the year 1934-35. It will be under the immediate supervision of Professors Howe, Wolbach and Kohler of the committee.

It is proposed to obtain the assistance of a research organic chemist, who will develop the chemical aspects of the problem, under the guidance of Professor Kohler. Dr. Wolbach will supervise the work in the pathological field, while Dr. Howe will continue his general nutritional experiments.

Other projects now in progress deal with dental caries, the most prevalent of all diseases, and with studies of the growth and development of the jaws and teeth.

Since the naming of the Thomas A. Forsyth chair of dental science in 1925, there has been a liaison between research activities of the Dental School and the pathological department of the Medical School. But until the present step there has been no general, official cooperation between the research staffs of the University and of the Dental School.

## RECENT DEATHS

DR. JOSEPH FRANK MCGREGORY, professor emeritus of chemistry at Colgate University since 1929, formerly head of the department since its formation in 1883, died on October 14 of injuries received in an automobile accident. He was seventy-nine years old.

DR. CARL LEOPOLD VON ENDE, head of the department of chemistry at the University of Idaho since 1908, died on October 9 at the age of sixty-four years.

HAROLD DEWOLFE HATFIELD, professor of industrial engineering and head of the department of civil engineering at Rutgers University, died on October 13 at the age of forty-six years.

DR. STUART CROASDALE, mining engineer and metallurgist, of Denver, Colorado, died on October 1 at the age of sixty-eight years.

SIR ARTHUR SCHUSTER, professor of physics at the University of Manchester from 1888 to 1907, secretary of the Royal Society from 1912 to 1920 and foreign secretary from 1920 to 1924, secretary of the International Research Council from 1919 to 1928, died on October 14. He was eighty-three years old.

DR. ROBERT FRANCIS SCHARFF, late Keeper of the Natural History Collections, National Museum, Dublin, and secretary of the Royal Zoological Society of Ireland, died on September 27 at the age of seventy-six years. He wrote on the origin and history of the European fauna, the fauna and exploration of caves in Ireland, the Atlantis problem and the distribution and origin of life in America.

PROFESSOR SIR EDGEWORTH DAVID died at Sydney, Australia, on August 28 at the age of seventy-six years. A correspondent writes: "His death will be a great blow to many of his friends in this country and throughout the world. Sir David was the Antarctic explorer who led the expedition to the South Magnetic Pole; he was in charge of the successful Funafuti boring of the Royal Society to determine the origin of atolls; the teacher of almost every Australian geologist worthy of the name, and altogether one of the finest men that ever lived. He had been working since his retirement to complete his masterpiece, 'The Geology of Australia,' and I am happy to say that a letter which I have from him dated August 1 intimates that the book was finished, but that ill health due to wounds received during the war, where he was chief geologist of the Australian Corps, had been causing a great deal of suffering of late so that he feared his trip to England to place his book in the hands of publishers would perhaps have to be delayed until New Year's."