

## RECENT DEATHS

DR. CHARLES RUSSELL BARDEEN, since 1904 professor of anatomy and since 1907 for twenty-eight years dean of the University of Wisconsin Medical School, died on June 12 at the age of sixty-four years.

DR. WILLIAM THOMAS MAGRUDER, professor of mechanical engineering emeritus at the Ohio State University, died on June 21. He was seventy-four years old.

DR. ROBERT H. HUTCHINSON, JR., associate professor of the Department of Otolaryngology in the New York Post-Graduate Hospital Medical School, died on June 21 at the age of fifty-six years.

DR. J. G. ESTES, professor of mathematics at North

Carolina State College, was killed on June 1 when his plane crashed at the Raleigh airport.

A CORRESPONDENT writes: "B. F. Loomis, of Anderson, Calif., died on June 11 at the age of seventy-eight years. He was known principally for his photographic recording of the eruptions of Lassen Peak from 1914-17. His own version of the eruptions was published in a well-illustrated volume under the title 'Pictorial History of Lassen Volcano.' Mr. and Mrs. Loomis donated the equipped buildings and the grounds for the museum in Lassen National Park."

DR. JULIUS BEREND COHEN, professor of organic chemistry at the University of Leeds from 1904 until 1924, died on June 10 at the age of seventy-six years.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

## OXFORD UNIVERSITY OBSERVATORY

A CEREMONY of inauguration of the new solar telescope took place on June 11 at the University Observatory, Oxford, in which Sir Arthur Eddington delivered an address on "The Physics of the Sun." This instrument, according to the *London Times*, has been provided by the university in order that the observatory may have equipment adequate for the study of some phase of modern astronomy, which is to be taken to mean the study of the physical nature and constitution of the stars as distinct from their positions, distance, brightness and distribution which had been the work of the previous directors, Professor Pritchard and Professor Turner. The present occupant of the Savilian chair of astronomy and director of the observatory, Professor H. H. Plaskett, interprets this as calling for the study of the sun, the nearest of the stars, as a beginning, and has designed this solar equipment for investigation of the problems of the sunspots, low temperature areas and the magnetic fields surrounding them, and the rotation of different surface zones of the sun.

The instrument, made by the firm of Sir Howard Grubb Parsons Company, of Newcastle, with optical parts by Adam Hilger, of London, is essentially a small tower stationary telescope with five silver on quartz mirrors, the first of them which receives the light being a plane coelostat mirror 16 inches in diameter, while the effective concave mirror is 12 inches. The result of the total combination is a stationary image of the sun about 8 inches in diameter that will be studied by means of a prism spectroscope, specially chosen in preference to a grating, that will give a high resolving power. Advantages claimed for the instrument are first its compactness, secondly the fact that the mirrors are of quartz which has a coefficient of

expansion one twentieth that of ordinary glass and would therefore give a small deformation of the image compared with other mirrors, and thirdly the large size of the prisms of the spectroscope. The astrographic catalogue work that has been in hand for many years at the University Observatory is proceeding under Mr. Bellamy and, though there has been no addition to the permanent staff, graduate members of the university and others have been engaged in research work in astrophysics at the observatory during the past year.

## THE DAVID DUNLAP OBSERVATORY

THE David Dunlap Observatory, which was officially opened on May 31 in the presence of a group of world-famous astronomers, is the gift of Mrs. Jessie Donalds Dunlap to the University of Toronto in memory of her husband, David Alexander Dunlap. The observatory is under the directorship of Professor C. A. Chant, head of the department of astronomy at the university, who, during the past thirty years, has trained the majority of Canadian astronomers and to whom is largely due the present interest in astronomy throughout Canada.

The Dunlap Observatory is situated on a slight rise fifteen miles north of Toronto at an altitude of 800 feet above sea level. The grounds of the observatory consist of 179 acres which will later be developed into a park. The observatory buildings include the administration building of white stone surmounted by three copper-covered domes and, 50 yards to the north, the large 61-foot dome. The latter houses the chief instrument of the institution, a 74-inch reflector by the Sir Howard Grubb Parsons Company. This telescope is at present second only to the Mt. Wilson 100-inch. The main mirror is a disk of Pyrex, 76 inches in diameter and just over a foot thick, cast by the Corning