

at River Falls Normal School and the University of Wisconsin (B.S. 1896, M.S. 1899, Ph.D. 1906). Some years later he spent a sabbatical leave at Harvard, where he won the degree of D.P.H. (1918). He was a member of several scientific societies, holding the office of vice-president of the Society of American Bacteriologists in 1915.

While still an undergraduate he became interested in bacteriological research, his first paper (in *Zentralblatt für Bakteriologie*) on the "Rise and Fall of Bacteria in Cheddar Cheese," dating from 1897. Thus began a career of scientific production which continued uninterruptedly for nearly forty years, to be terminated only at his death.

Upon his graduation in 1896 he was married to Jacquetta Lee, of Rush City, Minnesota. Later in the summer his scientific talents were recognized by an appointment as director of research in the Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, New York. In the fall he returned to the University of Wisconsin for special study in preparation for his new responsibility. Then occurred an event which was destined to change the course of his life and give direction to a substantial part of his future research, for he was stricken with tuberculosis.

He went at once to New Mexico, where he regained his health, was appointed assistant professor of biology at the University of New Mexico (1897), professor of biology and chemistry (1900) and also acted as director of the Hadley Climatological Laboratory. Here he remained for nine years and engaged actively in varied investigations suggested by his environment. Typical of his publications at this period are: "The Effects of High Altitude on the Blood" and "Bacterial Flora of the Semi-desert Region of New Mexico." Here also he began his work on tuberculosis, which remained a major interest with him through the rest of his life.

In 1907 he was called to the University of Washington as assistant professor of bacteriology, was promoted to associate professor in 1909 and to professor in 1912. Here he published numerous papers in the pure science of bacteriology. He also made extensive studies in the field of his early interest, the bacteriology of foods, especially milk, meat and canned foods. When in 1924, by a gift of \$100,000, the McDermott Foundation for tuberculosis research was created at the University of Washington, it seemed peculiarly appropriate that Dr. Weinzirl should be made its director. This endowment gave him more freedom for research and he, together with his collaborators, began those fundamental studies on the biology of the tubercle bacillus and the desensitization of tuberculous guinea pigs which occupied his chief attention until the end.

His scientific work must be appraised elsewhere. But it may be noted that his published papers, comprising some 45 titles, are distributed about equally among three fields: (a) the pure science of bacteriology, (b) the applied field of sanitary bacteriology and public health and (c) tuberculosis.

Professor Weinzirl was a gifted teacher whose friendly counsel and sympathetic encouragement are remembered by many a grateful student. While carrying a full teaching load, he still found time for public service, holding at the time of his death the positions of secretary of the State Tuberculosis Association, member of the State Board of Examiners for Basic Science and chairman of the Public Health Committee as technical adviser of the State Planning Council. Many of his papers on sanitary bacteriology really belong to the domain of his public service. But perhaps the most valuable contribution under this category is the course which he instituted at the university for the training of laboratory technicians in bacteriology, a work in which he was signally successful and in which he took a justifiable pride.

On the personal side Dr. Weinzirl was a man of beautiful character, sincere, genuine, unselfish. His genial and kindly spirit endeared him alike to his students and colleagues, who mourn him as a friend. By his death the university has lost a painstaking investigator and sound scholar and the state a most useful and devoted public servant.

R. M. WINGER

## RECENT DEATHS

DR. BENJAMIN LINCOLN ROBINSON, emeritus professor of systematic botany at Harvard University and emeritus curator of the Gray Herbarium, died on July 27. He was seventy years old. Dr. Robinson had filled the Asa Gray professorship since 1900; he became assistant director of the Gray Herbarium in 1890 and curator in 1892.

ELBERT W. ROCKWOOD, professor of chemistry, formerly head of the department of chemistry at the University of Iowa, died on July 17 at the age of seventy-five years.

DR. JAMES M. VAN HOOK, professor of botany at Indiana University, died on June 21. He was sixty-five years of age.

DR. LEWIS FUSSELL, a member of the faculty of Swarthmore College for nearly thirty years and professor of electrical engineering since 1920, died suddenly on July 15 at the age of fifty-three years.

DR. HENRY ROBBINS BARROWS, associate professor of education at the New York University School of Education and author of text-books on biology, died on July 16. He was fifty-five years old.

THE death on July 15 at the age of eighty-nine years is announced of John Joy Edson, treasurer of the National Geographic Society for the last thirty-four years.

DR. JOHN JENKS THOMAS, emeritus professor of neurology at Tufts College Medical School, died on July 17 at the age of seventy-four years.

DR. GEORGE MILTON LINTHICUM, professor of colonic diseases at the University of Maryland, died on July 18 at the age of sixty-four years.

WILLIAM MULHOLLAND, chief engineer of the Los Angeles Water Board, known for his construction of the Owens River-Los Angeles Aqueduct and the water system the city built in the last twenty-five years, died on July 22. He was seventy-nine years old.

JAMES MCEVOY, geologist and mining engineer, died on July 19. He was seventy-three years old. Mr. McEvoy was for several years on the staff of the Geological Survey of Canada and was later geologist for the Crows' Nest Pass Coal Company at Fernie, B. C.

PROFESSOR FRIEDRICH AUGUST FERDINAND WENT, professor of botany at the University of Utrecht, died on July 26. He was seventy-two years old.

DR. ALEXANDRE GUÉNIOT, of the French Academy of Medicine, died in Paris on July 16 in his one hundred and third year. He was elected to the Academy of Medicine in 1862. His one hundredth birthday in 1932 was observed with special ceremonies by the academy, and last November all academicians rose when he attended on his one hundred and second birthday.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### THE LONDON MUSEUM OF PRACTICAL GEOLOGY

THE new Museum of Practical Geology in Exhibition Road, South Kensington, London, was opened by the Duke of York on July 3 on the occasion of the centenary of the Geological Survey of Great Britain. The Duke was received by Mr. Ormsby-Gore, first commissioner of works, and Lord Rutherford, chairman of the Advisory Council, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

Mr. Ormsby-Gore said that the Geological Survey of Great Britain was the oldest national geological survey in the world. It was instituted for the purpose of preparing copies of the Ordnance Survey maps geologically colored so as to be of service to science and industry by providing an accurate representation of the geology of Great Britain. The Museum of Practical Geology had developed out of the collection by the survey of specimens of rocks, minerals and fossils, and was first opened to the public in 1841. It was soon found that the importance of the collection warranted the erection of a building designed to display the work of the survey and the application of geology to the arts and industry, and in the year of the Great Exhibition the building in Jermyn Street was opened by the Prince Consort.

During the period of more than 80 years' occupation of the old building the museum had expanded and become cramped by limitation of space. The structural condition of the building deteriorated, until in 1928 the Royal Commission on National Museums and Galleries described the condition as "quite deplorable and indeed dangerous." The new building was commenced in 1929 and was substantially completed in 1933, when it was required for the World Monetary and Economic Conference. The cost of the building

was some £220,000, and a lease of the Crown site of the old premises had been granted at a rent which considerably exceeded the interest on the capital sum expended on the new building.

The arrangement of the museum was in accordance with the best modern museum practice. The gallery or exhibition space, on three floors, had been treated with simplicity of form and finish in order that the interest of visitors might be concentrated on the exhibits. The maximum intensity of natural light had been secured and special consideration had been given to the provision of the most modern forms of artificial lighting. A top floor would be devoted solely to research by the staff of the survey and by students. The building had been designed by an architect on the staff of the Office of Works, Mr. J. H. Markham. The Duke of York made the dedicatory speech.

### THE MINNEAPOLIS MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

THE council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at the recent Minneapolis meeting, a full account of which was given in the last issue of *SCIENCE*, adopted the following minute:

At the close of the third Minneapolis meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, which is the ninety-sixth meeting of the association, the Council of the Association desires to acknowledge and place on record its indebtedness to the many institutions, organizations, groups and individuals that have aided so effectively in promoting the success of this meeting. Among these are: the regents, the president, the faculties and departments of the University of Minnesota; the Mayo Foundation and the Mayo Clinic, at Rochester; the Minnesota State Medical Association; the local committee