

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