

already then eighty years old, at once entered into a lively correspondence with the lad, sending him books and mineral specimens and doing all he could to encourage the boy's scientific interest. When the young man graduated from his school he asked as his graduation present enough money to enable him to travel east and to go to New Haven and pay his respects to his old friend. It was a tribute that must have warmed Dana's heart.

Another typical instance of unselfish service must be related. After the war some of the older mineralogists and their families living in Vienna were in desperate circumstances. Recalling his student days in that city, Dana on his own initiative solicited small contributions from American mineralogists and transmitted the funds thus obtained to Vienna. He continued this self-imposed task until the end. The Vienna Academy sent this greeting to him on the occasion of his eightieth birthday:

We recognize you as the master and leader of American mineralogists, and we of Vienna may rightfully claim Edward S. Dana as one of ourselves. Since 1873 bonds of personal friendship have been formed between you and a number of physicists and mineralogists in Vienna. . . . With this circle of friends you have kept faith during one of the saddest times which Vienna and Austria have ever experienced. When the State was finally unable to protect Austrian scholars of world-wide fame and their families from bitter need, you have remembered your friends and with the courage of a kind heart, have been one of the first to collect funds for their support. We all think of you with lasting gratitude.

That in itself alone forms a monument that will endure.

WILLIAM E. FORD

RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

JOSEPH ALLEN JOHNSON, chief engineer of the Buffalo, Niagara and Eastern Power Corporation, in 1934 president of the Institute of Electrical Engineers, died on October 5. He was fifty-three years old.

DR. JOSEPH PETERSON, professor of psychology at the George Peabody College for Teachers, died on September 20 at the age of fifty-seven years.

HAROLD WARD DUDLEY, biochemist of the British Medical Research Council's Laboratories at Hampstead and from 1924 to 1930 one of the editors of *The Biochemical Journal*, died on October 3 at the age of forty-seven years.

THE death is announced in *Nature* of Professor A. Guntz, professor of applied chemistry at the University of Algiers and correspondent of the Academy of Sciences, Paris.

HOWARD CROSBY WARREN, founder of the department of psychology of Princeton University, is commemorated by a plaque recently installed in the vestibule of Eno Hall, the laboratory erected largely through his efforts and generosity. The plaque, designed by Harriet Hyatt Mayor, of Princeton, and presented by Mrs. Warren, carries a brief biographical inscription and a relief portrait of Dr. Warren. From the year after Dr. Warren's graduation until his death in 1934 he was a member of the Princeton faculty. When psychology became a department separate from philosophy in 1920, Dr. Warren was chosen as its first chairman. Four years earlier he had become director of the first psychological laboratory, then in Nassau Hall. He had become associated with the *Psychological Review* in 1900 and was its senior editor from 1910 until his death. Before he died he brought near to completion a dictionary of psychology on which he had worked for many years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS TO PREVENT SOIL EROSION

A TWO-YEAR search for grasses and other plants that will resist drought in the Great Plains has ended, and the work of testing hardy varieties from Asia is now being carried out by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. On September 21 the department terminated the expedition in North China headed by Professor Nicholas Roerich.

Since the spring of 1934 the department has had three groups of plant collectors in Asia gathering seeds of grasses and other plants which might some day protect the Great Plains against the effects of drought and erosion. H. G. MacMillan and J. C. Stephens made some collections in Manchuria in 1934, and a seven months expedition under the direction of H. L.

Westover and C. R. Enlow scoured Russian Turkestan. The Roerich expedition spent the 1934 collecting season in the Hingan Mountain region of Manchuria, and the current season on the edge of the Gobi Desert in Inner Mongolia.

The 1934 collecting season yielded 2,242 lots of seed and planting stock, including 798 grasses, 555 legumes and 889 miscellaneous items. Westover and Enlow sent back 2,124 lots of seed; MacMillan and Stevens 98 lots of seed, and last season the Roerichs collected 20 lots. The extent of this season's collections by the Roerich expedition is not yet known.

The seeds collected in 1934 were planted in various nurseries and greenhouses throughout the western part of the United States. It is too early to determine the ultimate value of these collections, since each collection

was small, and it is necessary to increase the quantities for ample testing. Also, most of these plants are slow growing and require several years of investigation under various soil and climatic conditions before any of them can be recommended to growers. At present, however, preliminary observations indicate that some will be of value.

At Mandan, North Dakota, some introduced species of wild rye and related grasses are growing well, as are some forages. At Pullman, Wash., several of the wheat grass species appear to be desirable and a wild barley is the most promising importation as regards vigor, erosion control and drought resistance. At Cheyenne, Wyo., various species of the grasses are outstanding. Similar native species, however, which have been collected in large numbers in the past two years appear to be as satisfactory as any introduced species. At Tucson, Arizona, various introduced species of grasses, in nursery tests, are said to be promising for sand binding, lawns and forage production.

SUMMER AT THE GRAY HERBARIUM

THE *Harvard Alumni Bulletin* remarks that the summer at the Gray Herbarium was saddened by the death, after a protracted illness, of the curator, Benjamin Lincoln Robinson, Asa Gray professor of systematic botany. Although suffering from physical weakness, Dr. Robinson continued his studies until a short time before his death, hoping to bring to completion a monographic paper on his chosen group, plants of the *Eupatorium* tribe of the Compositae. The manuscripts will be organized and later published.

M. L. Fernald, Fisher professor of natural history, who has taken over the curatorship of the herbarium, spent much of the summer in Cambridge, working on a revision of Gray's "Manual." He also made three trips into southeastern Virginia—the first with Ludlow Griscom, of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, the second with Mr. Griscom and Bayard Long, of the Academy of Sciences of Philadelphia; the third with Mr. Long and Professor J. M. Fogg, Jr., of the University of Pennsylvania. The extensive collections being assembled from eastern Virginia are peculiarly significant.

Charles A. Weatherby, assistant curator, went to Amsterdam in August as representative of the herbarium at the International Botanical Congress. He will prolong his stay in Europe in order to study the types of American species in the herbaria of the Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark, France and England.

Lyman B. Smith, senior assistant at the herbarium, spent several weeks in Belgium and France, studying the types and critical specimens of the *Bromeliaceae*, the large tropical family including the pineapple and Spanish moss, a group upon which Dr. Smith has become an authority. He has brought back about 250 photographs of types and some technical sketches.

Milton Hopkins, assistant, spent part of the summer studying the material in the herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden, in *Arabis*, a genus on which he is specially working.

Stuart K. Harris, continuing his study of *Solidago*, the goldenrods, visited special areas in the Southern Alleghenies.

In June and July, Professor A. S. Pease, accompanied by E. C. Ogden, photographic assistant to the curator, continued in the interest of the herbarium botanical explorations in the region of the upper Great Lakes.

Ernst C. Abbe, now of the University of Minnesota, spent a portion of the summer at the herbarium, completing for publication his report on the geographic and geological history of the flora of Labrador, the results of his collections for the herbarium on the 1931 expedition of Alexander Forbes.

The summer "vacation," as a matter of fact, is the busiest season at the herbarium. The botanists in the university then find time for uninterrupted study, and specialists from other institutions frequently consult the material. Among those who worked at Harvard last summer were: Dr. Lyman Benson, of Stanford University; S. F. Blake, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington; Professor J. H. Ehlers, of the University of Michigan; Professor N. C. Fassett, of the University of Wisconsin; Professor Evelyn Fernald, of Rockford College; Professor Fay Hyland, of the University of Maine; Professor C. Leo Hitchcock, of the University of Montana; Professor Olga Lakela, of the University of Minnesota; Professor Wayne E. Manning, of Smith College; Professor Philip A. Munz, of Pomona College; Professor C. W. T. Penland, of Colorado College; Professor Harold W. Rickett, of the University of Missouri; Professor Rieckert St. John, of the University of Hawaii, and Dr. J. R. Swallen, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington.

Two botanists from the Netherlands, Dr. J. G. Ten Houten and A. Schoenmakers, of Utrecht, who are making a protracted study of the vegetation of eastern North America, have used the Gray Herbarium as a base to which they returned at intervals to care for their collections and in other ways utilize its facilities.

FREDERICK WEBB HODGE ANNIVERSARY PUBLICATION FUND

IN December of 1886, Dr. Frederick Webb Hodge joined the Hemenway Southwestern Archeological Expedition to Arizona, and began a career in anthropology which will reach its fiftieth anniversary in 1936. The occasion is to be marked by the creation of the Frederick Webb Hodge Anniversary Publication Fund, under the guidance of the following sponsoring committee: H. B. Alexander, Franz Boas, Herbert E. Bolton, Fay-Cooper Cole, Carl E. Guthe,