

He will always be remembered by his professional friends and pupils, by his fellow-neurologists, and especially by that group of physicians with hobbies, known as the Charaka Club, of which he was one of the founders and in which lifelong friendships are begotten and ties made that are only severable by death.

In the published volumes of the Charaka Club, the following contributions by Dr. Dana will give an idea of his activities outside of his special field of neurology and so fix in the minds of his friends the catholicity of his interests: Vol. I, "The Cult of Aesculapius" and "The Evil Spoken of Physicians"; II, "The Medicine of Horace"; III, "When Apollo Strikes the Lyre"; IV, "The Costume of the Ancient Greek Physician"; V, "Military and Civil Surgery Among the Ancient Romans" and "Eminent Physicians: a Statistical Study"; VI, "Ursinus, the Father of Opothrapy" and "Sonnet to Clio (as Muse of Historical Medicine)."

FREDERICK PETERSON

RECENT DEATHS

PROFESSOR ALBERT SPEAR HITCHCOCK, principal botanist in charge of agrostology in the Bureau of Plant Industry, died suddenly of heart failure on December 16. He was returning from Europe, where he had spent four months in studying grass collections. He was seventy years old.

DR. E. HERSHEY SNEATH, for thirty-four years a member of the faculty of Yale University and since 1912 until his retirement in 1923 professor of the philosophy of religion and religious education, died on December 20 at the age of seventy-eight years.

PETER Z. CAVERHILL, chief forester of British Columbia for the past fifteen years and connected with forestry work in Canada since 1912, died suddenly on December 8 at the age of fifty-one years.

SIR RICHARD GLAZE BROOK, director of the National Physical Laboratory at Teddington, England, from 1899 to 1919, and chairman of the Aeronautic Re-

search Committee from 1908 to 1933, died on December 16. He was eighty-one years old.

Nature reports the death on November 30 of J. D. Cormack, regius professor of civil and mechanical engineering in the University of Glasgow, aged sixty-five years, and of Professor J. E. A. Steggall, emeritus professor of mathematics at University College, Dundee, in the University of St. Andrews, on November 26, aged eighty years.

MEMORIALS

ACCORDING to *Nature*, a representative Oxford gathering met in the Divinity School on November 20 to do honor to the memory of Robert Hooke, of Christ Church, who was born three hundred years ago. Dr. R. T. Gunther, reader in the history of science, presided. The warden of New College gave an address on the earliest "Oxford Movement," that resulted in the formation of the Royal Society and, in particular, on the activities in science and art of Hooke and Christopher Wren in London during the reign of Charles II. Accounts were read of Hooke's activities in geology and other subjects. The dean of Christ Church recalled some of the admirable qualities which Hooke showed as a man. He afterwards opened an exhibition devoted to Hooke's work, arranged by Dr. Gunther in one of the rooms of the Old Ashmolean Building. Professor F. Soddy had had prepared many models to illustrate different modern applications of Hooke's joint.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association reports that physicians from nineteen countries met recently at Poppi (Arezzo province) to honor the memory of Dr. Francesco Folli, who was the first to employ blood transfusion. Born at Poppi in 1624, this physician, in his publications "Recreatio physica" (1665) and "Dialogo sulla cultura delle vite" (1670) explained his idea of transfusing the blood of young and healthy persons to old or sick persons and described the instruments needed for the intervention. The commemorative address was delivered by Professor Pazzini, of the University of Rome.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED IN ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

A NEW dictionary of letter symbols and abbreviations, the "language" of engineers and scientists, will be undertaken by a committee of the American Standards Association, it has just been announced.

Rapid coinage of new words and terms, and the adoption of many foreign words and phrases in the various fields of engineering and the sciences, demands

a new compilation of standard usage, according to the committee.

In spite of their great ramification, engineering and science are becoming more and more integrated and those working in one field find that lack of abbreviations or confusion in their use restricts and hampers their work.

The Committee on Symbols and Abbreviations has been reorganized and will begin at once the intricate