and entire willingness to submerge himself in the larger interests for which he worked, yet the world of science did not fail to recognize his great contributions to knowledge, and the noble, self-disciplined, unspoiled character which kept his mind open and his judgment unbiased.

He was the recipient of honorary degrees from Michigan, Rutgers and Western Reserve Universities; of the gold medal awarded by the American Institute of Chemists for noteworthy and outstanding contributions to chemistry; and the Conné medal for outstandingly meritorious chemical service to medicine.

On his sixtieth birthday his former students from far and near gathered to do him honor; presented his portrait to the university; and filled, with papers on important branches of science in which they are recognized authorities, a special number of the *Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine,* which was dedicated to him.

He was a member of the National Academy of Sciences; research associate of the Carnegie Institution of Washington; past-president of the American Physiological Society, of the Society of Biological Chemists and of the American Institute of Nutrition; and an officer of several other scientific and professional organizations; member of the Council of Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association and of its Committee on Foods, and of many other boards, commissions, committees and councils; and, as well, he was official adviser on scientific research to the United States Department of Agriculture as well as unofficial but none the less influential adviser and trusted councilor of innumerable organizations and individuals in the field of pure science, the professions of medicine, dietetics and home economics, and in the world of practical affairs especially as bearing upon the food industries. He had so thoroughly established both the habit and the reputation of well-balanced scientific judgment that his advice was much sought in many difficult problems; and as a result of the self-discipline of a life-long devotion to science he could share the confidence which others felt that his judgment would remain unbiased whatever the economic interests involved.

That he did not need to isolate himself from the world of affairs in order to maintain his intellectual integrity; that his institution, while recognizing and prizing his scientific productivity, yet constantly drew heavily upon his time for administrative functions because his wisdom and justice were so highly esteemed by those who knew him best; that he continued to give such generous service in so many directions even after, as he told me some years ago, he "had discovered the importance of the principle of the conservation of the individual"; that while often over-busy his considerateness was never-failing; that he personified the principle of *noblesse oblige* and was held by his students in a literally ineffable esteem: were these the results of merely fortuitous "gifts" of separate scientific and spiritual qualities to the same man? One ventures to hope that there is more than coincidence here. His example, with the evidence of his inspiring and enduring influence, suggests that as science outgrows the over-confidence and the too-mechanical point of view of the past three or four generations, the cultivation of the true spirit of science may minister directly to the growth of those qualities of character which have made Dr. Mendel's life and work at once a service to the whole human race and a personal inspiration to all who were privileged to know him.

HENRY C. SHERMAN

REGINALD GORDON HARRIS

DR. REGINALD G. HARRIS, director of the Biological Laboratory of the Long Island Biological Association since 1923, died on January 7, 1936, at the Huntington Hospital of pneumonia. Dr. Harris was born in Medford, Massachusetts, on July 18, 1898, the son of Benjamin R. and Adella (Wilder) Harris. His father was a Baptist clergyman of Massachusetts and his mother came from Vermont—thus Dr. Harris was a product of Puritan New England.

Under Dr. Harris's administration, the Biological Laboratory advanced from the status of a summer school of biology to a leading center of research in biophysics and physiology. The most striking feature of the work of the laboratory in recent years has been the series of symposia on quantitative biology in which have cooperated chemists, physicists and mathematicians with biologists. The results of these symposia are published in three large volumes which have been called for by leading libraries and learned men of all civilized countries.

The success of Dr. Harris's work depended largely upon certain prevailing personal traits. Among these were a love of travel in the wild, not merely for travel's sake but to meet peoples of primitive culture. These he met on such terms that they became his fast friends. While at Darien looking up "White Indians" he and his wife were invited to sojourn on an island from which whites had hitherto always been rigorously excluded. He studied at the University of Algiers, he traveled across South America, collecting rare insects, he traveled in Panama, Brazil, Peru, Yucatan, Guatemala, Colombia.

His broad imagination gave rise to new ideas and his administrative ability enabled him to realize them. Thus, his was the great idea of bringing together the physicists, chemists, mathematicians and biologists for exchange of ideas in their fields where these sciences make contact. This idea appealed to the supporters

of the laboratory and was developed during three summers at Cold Spring Harbor with great practical results.

During his administration he ran the business of the laboratory smoothly, not only as director but also as assistant treasurer and assistant secretary. His administrative ability appealed to business men of means. He was able to meet the wealthy contributors to the work of the laboratory as easily as he could meet primitive peoples in their natural countries. With nothing human was he out of contact.

Personally, he was slender, lithe, with a walk that was alert and springy. Having a direct approach, he inspired confidence and loyalty. With his active and understanding mind he could lead discussion on almost any biological paper that had been delivered. His presentation of the needs of the laboratory before the board of directors was a model, not too detailed to bore, but enough to interest the intelligent listener. He got the board to become biologically minded. His fine presence and agreeable manners excited such confidence that he was unusually successful at the difficult task of securing support for the laboratory in time of depression.

C. B. D.

RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

PROFESSOR ROBERT FLETCHER, since 1871 until his retirement in 1918 with the title emeritus director of the Thayer School of Civil Engineering at Dartmouth College, died on January 7 at the age of eighty-eight years.

MISS ANNA MARGUERITE PABST, junior bacteriologist at the National Institute of Health of the United States Public Health Service, died on Christmas Day from meningococcus meningitis. For the last five years she had been taking part in studies being done in the institute on this disease. On December 17, while she was immunizing a rabbit in order to prepare a serum for laboratory use, the animal jumped and some of the culture she was injecting spurted into her eye. She became ill suddenly on December 21 and died four days later.

DR. F. B. ALLAN, professor of organic chemistry and dean of the faculty of arts at the University of Toronto, died on January 9 at the age of sixty-eight years.

DR. CARL W. FISHER, who had been in veterinary practice in San Mateo, Calif., for the past thirty-four years, died on November 26. A correspondent writes: "During the years of his practice Dr. Fisher achieved success not only in the treatment of diseases but particularly in disease prevention. His success in developing and maintaining herds free from infectious diseases has long been recognized. The efficiency and sincerity of his work is held in high esteem by his veterinary colleagues throughout California."

A MEDALLION has recently been affixed to the house at Confolens in the Department of Charente, in which the late Dr. Emile Roux, the director of the Pasteur Institute of Paris, was born.

A MEMORIAL exhibition was opened on December 20 at the Science Museum, London, which will last till April 19 to commemorate the bicentenary of the birth at Greenock on January 19, 1736, of James Watt, the engineer and inventor. Many objects are shown, including three original beam engines, two of which were erected in Soho Manufactory in 1777 and 1788, respectively, and the third in London in 1797, and various original experimental models, including the separate condensers of 1765 which led to his most important contribution to the development of the steam engine. The Garret Workshop, where Watt frequently worked from 1790 till his death in 1819, and which was moved with its contents from Heathfield Hall, near Birmingham, to the Science Museum in 1924 for permanent preservation, will be on view. A large number of drawings, some by Watt himself, have been lent by the Birmingham Public Libraries Committee and form a detailed survey of the progress in steam-engine design from 1775 to 1800, the period of Watt's partnership with Boulton. There are also numerous portraits of Watt, Boulton and their scientific friends which have been lent for the occasion by the National Portrait Gallery, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Royal Society, the City of Birmingham Art Gallery and others.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE KAISER WILHELM SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

THE Kaiser Wilhelm Society for the Advancement of Science, Berlin, celebrated on January 11 the silver jubilee of its foundation by the German emperor twenty-five years ago.

In an account of the proceedings given by Otto D. Tolischus, correspondent of *The New York Times*, it is stated that the society has now 675 members; it controls thirty-four separate institutes, in which research is carried on by 1,100 investigators.

The official celebration opened with a reception by Dr. Julius Lippert, State Commissar for Berlin, in the City Hall, followed by a festive jubilee session in Harnack House. At the reception the Hitler bodyguard band provided music and Dr. Lippert in ad-