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-

dressing the society spoke of it as "the general staff of German science in our peaceful campaign for the spiritual, cultural and material development of our people."

At the "festive session" Professor Max Planck, president of the society, reviewed its work and two scientific papers were read by members. The session was attended by representatives of the government, party and army as well as of industry and science, but of the Cabinet members only Baron von Neurath, Foreign Minister, and Dr. Hjalmar Schacht, Minister of Economics, were present. To Chancellor Hitler was sent a telegram saying:

> Science and business stand loyally by the German Reich that you created, knowing that only under your leadership and the protection of the armed forces can they perform useful work.

To this Chancellor Hitler replied with greetings and best wishes. Bernhard Rust, Minister of Education, regretted he could not be present but also sent good wishes and promised to attend the jubilee banquet.

The *Times* states that in his review Professor Planck expressed sincere thanks to the government for recognizing the society's importance and furthering and protecting its work, but in opposition to the collectivist tendencies displayed by National Socialists he also proclaimed the independence of science and the liberty of the individual investigator whose tasks, he insisted, could not be performed by state institutions.

He said:

> New scientific ideas never spring from a communal body, however well organized, but only from the mind of the individual, divinely inspired research worker, who wrestles with his problems in lonely thought and concentrates all his powers on the single point, on which for the moment he focuses his entire world.

Mr. Tolischus continues:

> Professor Planck also announced a congratulatory telegram had been received from the former Kaiser and that thanks had been wired to him in return. Likewise, he paid tribute, among others, to the late Professor Fritz Haber, Nobel Prize winner and inventor of the synthetic nitrate process that enabled Germany to carry on during the war, but whom the National Socialist anti-Jewish campaign drove into exile and suicide, and to the late Franz von Mendelssohn, another Jew, who was the society's treasurer until his death in June of last year.
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> For, contrary to the general impression, the Kaiser Wilhelm Society has refused to introduce the "Aryan clause," whereby even small-town tennis clubs have to expel their Jewish members. The society has lost quite a number of Jewish members and collaborators, of whom Professor Haber was and Dr. Albert Einstein now is the most famous.
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> But the society prides itself on the fact that it never expelled anybody and that its losses were never due to any action of its own, but to forces beyond its control. As a matter of fact there are still many scientists of Jewish antecedents working with the society, for whom it is a haven of refuge after their expulsion from German universities.

THE ADAM SEYBERT MINERAL COLLECTION

THE first mineral collection formed in America, made in the 1790's by Dr. Adam Seybert of Philadelphia, has been put on exhibit in the Free Natural History Museum of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. This "beginning of mineralogy" in the United States contains 1,725 specimens of rocks and crystals, and is shown in the original cabinet built for it by Dr. Seybert, and as he arranged it.

The exhibit is doubly interesting because it also marks the beginning of the academy, the oldest institution of its kind in this country, which was founded a hundred and twenty-four years ago. On the evening of January 25, 1812, the six founders met in John Speakman's apothecary shop. In anticipation of the organization of the academy, Mr. Speakman had purchased the Seybert collection for $750, a large sum in those days. Shares of $20 were issued to reimburse him for the expenditure, and the effort to pay off this indebtedness helped to keep the academy group together.

Soon after the formal organization of the institution on March 21, 1812, a small room was hired over a milliner's shop at 121 North Second Street. There the collection was installed as the feature of the new museum, and Dr. Gerard Troost, first president of the academy, delivered a course of lectures on mineralogy.

Dr. Seybert was America's first mineralogist. While a student in Paris and Göttingen, he had accumulated a fine mineral collection, into which he incorporated the specimens described in his catalogue of some American minerals which are found in different parts of the United States. This catalogue is included in the exhibit.

Some idea of the importance of this pioneer collection may be gained from the fact that a few years prior to its purchase for the academy, Benjamin Silliman, newly appointed professor of chemistry and natural history at Yale College, had journeyed by stage-coach from New Haven to see the Seybert collection. On arriving in Philadelphia he engaged lodgings at Mrs. Smith's, whose house, occupying the triangle at Dock and Walnut Streets, was frequented by Connecticut members of the congress and by Robert Hare, Horace Binney, John Sargent, George Vaux and Elihu Chauncey.

Silliman had brought with him, in a small candle