

became the greatest of his hobbies. His friends will always remember more vividly their visits to his summer home. There, among his flowers, with the sea almost at his doorstep, he was the perfect host, entertaining, witty and sympathetic.

GREGORY P. BAXTER  
FRANCIS G. PEABODY  
EDWIN H. HALL

### RECENT DEATHS

EDGAR SYDENSTRICKER, scientific director of the Milbank Memorial Fund, died on March 19, at the age of fifty-four years.

DR. JAMES MORRIS PAGE, until his recent retirement professor of mathematics and dean of the University of Virginia, died on March 12, at the age of seventy-two years. He had been connected with the University of Virginia for thirty-eight years.

A. H. HOOKER, technical director of the Hooker Electrochemical Company at Niagara Falls, died on March 9, in his seventy-first year.

DR. WILLIAM H. BERGTOLD, formerly professor of pathology at the University of Buffalo and at the University of Denver, also known as an ornithologist, died on March 19 at the age of seventy years.

DR. C. LLOYD MORGAN, professor emeritus in the University of Bristol, who was the first vice-chancellor of the university, died on March 6 at the age of eighty-four years. Dr. Morgan had filled the chair of geology and biology at University College, Bristol, from 1883 to 1887, when he became principal. He was appointed chancellor in 1910. This post he relinquished after a few months and was then appointed to fill the new chair of psychology and ethics. This chair he held until his retirement in 1919.

THE death is announced of Dr. Ettore Marchiafava, senator and professor emeritus of pathologic anatomy at the University of Rome.

PROFESSOR J. P. KHOMENKO, of Leningrad, known for his work on the Cenozoic paleontology and stratigraphy of the USSR, died on August 7, 1935, on an expedition to Sakhalin Island.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### THE REORGANIZATION OF THE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY

It is planned at McGill University to reduce the time required for the courses in medicine from five to four years, without diminishing the actual time spent in the college. According to the official announcement, the new plan provides that

(1) The minimum period of professional training required by the independent practise of medicine shall be five years including, (a) four years of medical study in the university leading to the degree of M.D., C.M., and (b) one year of internship in an approved hospital or one year of further medical study in the Faculty of Medicine of McGill University or of another medical school approved by it.

(2) A certificate that his medical education is completed and that he is eligible to sit for the examination of a licensing board shall not be issued to any graduate until the university is in possession of satisfactory evidence that he has completed the full requirements.

In a further statement it is pointed out that:

The effect of this action will be to replace the present undergraduate course, which spreads over five academic years of seven and-a-half months each, by a course covering four years, each with a nine-month session and to bring the year of hospital internship within the five-year period of training which is now required before license in 28 provinces and states and which the faculty believes to be a necessary part of every doctor's education. The new regulation provides that this year shall be spent as an interne in an approved hospital, or in further study in

the Faculty of Medicine of McGill University or of another medical school approved by it. It is to be expected that in the majority of cases the postgraduate interne will be chosen, since it is the most direct and most economical pathway to practise. Those who travel this route will be able to accomplish in five years what it now takes six to do and will thus save the cost of tuition, board and lodging for one year.

To those who prefer to devote the fifth year to further study in fields in which they are especially interested, several alternatives are open, since the time may be spent in advanced work along scientific or clinical lines either at McGill or abroad. An opportunity is thus offered to those, for example, who wish to obtain a British qualification and who may spend the graduate year in an English hospital school preparing for the examination of one of the British Licensing Bodies.

With the progress of medical science and an increasing social consciousness of the need for the preservation of health, there is an insistent demand for an even more thorough training than has been required in the past. In its reorganized course the university has aimed at meeting this demand without increasing the long and arduous period of preparation, while actually decreasing the cost to the student.

### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON PHARMACY AND CHEMISTRY OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION ON THE NEW ERGOT ALKALOID

THE Council of Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association has made the following report on the new ergot alkaloid: