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OBITUARY

ARTHUR J. WEED

ARTHUR J. WEED, of the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, died suddenly on April 15. His interest in seismology was developed at the Weather Bureau, where, as a mechanic, he did the principal work of construction on the Marvin seismograph. Later he built an inverted pendulum seismograph and installed it at the Rouse Physical Laboratory of the University of Virginia where it has continued in operation to the present time and furnished useful data on many earthquakes.

Mr. Weed also designed the Weed strong motion instrument of which eleven have been installed by the Coast and Geodetic Survey in various places in California.

Mr. Weed had the remarkable record of having attended every one of the widely scattered meetings of the Eastern Section of the Seismological Society of America, which have ranged from Ottawa, Canada, to Columbia, South Carolina. He also attended the last meeting of the Seismological Society of America at St. Louis, Mo. At the time of his death he was treasurer of the Eastern Section of the Seismological Society of America.

In the passing of Mr. Weed, the science of seismology has lost one who has given much thought to instrumental problems, an active worker and a true friend.

N. H. HECK

AGNES POCKELS

AGNES POCKELS died on November 21, 1935, at the age of seventy-three years.

Born in Venice in 1862, of German parents, in a period when the ordinary avenues of higher education

were hardly accessible to a woman, the lively interest in science which she early developed was forced to seek its outlet in self-education mainly by the aid of books. At the age of nineteen she made her first important experiment in the observation of surface phenomena and in the following year devised the simple means of measuring the relation between surface tension and surface area which has become a most important scientific tool in the hands of such investigators as Lord Rayleigh, I. Langmuir, R. Marcein and N. K. Adam. She published fourteen papers, the first in 1891, the last in 1926, dealing with surface tension, the spreading of liquid films and the angle of contact. In 1931 the Kolloid Gesellschaft awarded her the "Leonard Prize" and the Technische Hochschule of Braunschweig awarded her the degree of "Dr. Ing. E. h." Her life work has been described by Professor Wo. Ostwald in the *Zeitschrift*, vol. 58, page 1 (1931). Her achievements have earned the admiration of all those who have had occasion to learn of them.

HARRY EAST MILLER

RECENT DEATHS

ALBIN HERMANN BEYER, since 1920 professor of civil engineering at Columbia University, died on April 19. He was fifty-five years old.

DR. ALBERT MOORE BARRETT, professor of psychiatry at the University of Michigan and director of the Michigan State Psychopathic Hospital, died on April 2 at the age of sixty-four years.

DR. THEODORE CLINTON TAYLOR, associate professor of organic chemistry at Columbia University, died on April 20 at the age of forty-four years.