OBITUARY

AUGUST F. FOERSTE

THE following minute, honoring the memory of Dr. August F. Foerste, was adopted at a meeting on June 1 of the faculty of Denison University:

In the death of August Frederick Foerste, Denison, A.B., 1887; Harvard, A.M., 1888, Ph.D., 1890; Heidelberg and Paris, 1890–1892; Denison, D.Sc., 1927, Denison University has lost another of her illustrious sons, a man whose work in science is known to paleontologists the world around.

Born at Dayton, Ohio, May 7, 1862, Doctor Foerste received his early education in the public schools of that city. While still a high school student he accumulated an herbarium of over 1,000 species of plants growing within a radius of ten miles of his home, and began collecting fossils at quarries near Dayton—a quest that led him later into fields afar, that made available to him for study fossils in many museums of America and Europe, and that brought him world-wide recognition as a geologist.

Unmindful of the lure of wealth and position, Doctor Foerste served as teacher in the Steele High School, Dayton, from 1893 until his retirement in 1932; his influence upon many generations of students is attested by the honor and respect they have shown him during these years. Since 1932 he has been connected with the United States National Museum at Washington, D. C., carrying on his studies of Ordovician and Silurian fossils. Of peculiar significance is the fact that his first papers appeared in the initial volume of the *Journal* of the Scientific Laboratories of Denison University in 1885, when he was a mature student of twenty-three years, and the page proof of his last paper (published in the April, 1936, issue of the same *Journal*) had passed through his hands the day before his sudden death, which occurred on April 23, 1936.

The faculty of Denison University adopts this resolution of respect honoring the memory of her worthy son, and directs that copies of it be sent to the family of Doctor Foerste and to SCIENCE.

F. J. WRIGHT
W. A. CHAMBERLIN
W. C. EBAUGH

GRANVILLE, OHIO

RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

PROFESSOR ARTHUR AMOS NOYES, since 1920 director of the Gates Chemical Laboratory of the California Institute of Technology, died on June 3 in his seventieth year. Dr. Noyes became assistant in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1887 and was director of the research laboratory of physical chemistry from 1903 to 1920. He was president of the American Chemical Society in 1904 and president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1927.

DR. IRA EUGENE CUTLER, professor of zoology from 1898 to 1934 at the University of Denver and thereafter professor emeritus, died on May 25 at the age of seventy-three years.

Nature reports the death at the age of forty-six years of Professor Harrower, who as professor of anatomy at the King Edward VII Medical College and consulting surgeon at the General Hospital, Singapore, rendered great services to medical education in Singapore, and of Sir Wilmot Herringham, consulting physician to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, vice-chancellor of the University of London in 1912–15, on April 23, aged eighty-one years.

ON the occasion of the visit to Bath on May 16 of the Section of the History of Medicine of the Royal Society of Medicine, Sir D'Arcy Power unveiled a memorial tablet of John Hunter on the wall of 12 South Parade, where Hunter lived in 1785, and Dr. F. G. Thomson delivered an address on some early Bath physicians and their times.

A BRONZE bust of Michael Faraday, by Mrs. Feridah Forbes, has been presented by Sir Robert Hatfield to the Royal Society, which hitherto had possessed a portrait only.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE BRITISH DEPARTMENT OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

THE annual report of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research gives, according to the London *Times*, many indications of the growing importance which British industrial authorities attach to science.

The Advisory Council of the department, the chairman of which is Lord Rutherford, point to a very encouraging response to the offer which the department made last year to research associations of increased government support, provided the associations on their part obtained correspondingly increased contributions from the industries they serve. Negotiations with 13 out of 18 research associations in receipt of financial assistance from the department have been completed, and in every case offers of increased grants on a new basis have been made and accepted.

The Advisory Council states "that the immediate result has been that the association in question, as a whole, are already assured of a 30 per cent. increase in their resources as compared with those they

commanded 18 months ago. With one exception each of these associations now enjoys an income of at least £10,000, the minimum figure which, even in a small industry, we can accept for the income of an association whose future can be considered as assured."

While there is "encouraging evidence of the change being brought about largely by the whole-hearted efforts of enlightened leaders in our great industries," the Advisory Council still finds that the scientific outlook of some industries leaves much to be desired. "Neither in the directorates," it is stated, "nor among the technical and executive staffs is sufficient weight yet given to scientific attainment and experience; and until a radical change has taken place in this respect the position is bound to be that the industries as a whole will remain unable to obtain the full benefit of the results of scientific investigation.

"It is the progressive firms which engage in investigation and research, whether in their own laboratories or by sharing the burden of cooperative effort or in both ways, and these firms reap the benefits. From the national point of view it is vitally important to enlarge the circle of scientifically minded firms."

The report emphasizes the fact that science can be of service in the workshop as in the laboratory, and it is this link between the workshop and the laboratory which is the real essential for the application of advances in scientific knowledge.

The report gives a résumé of industrial advances resulting from the cooperation of science and industry, including an outline of the work of the British Scientific Instrument Research Association.

GRANTS IN AID OF RESEARCH OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

SPECIAL endowment funds give the American Association for the Advancement of Science a limited income which, in accordance with the conditions of the donors, may be used in making small grants to individuals for the encouragement of research. A portion of these funds is now assigned through the medium of the state academies, and the allotment of another part rests with the committee on grants. For the coming year the sum placed at the disposal of the committee on grants is $2,000. The committee has favored recently the use of this fund to aid in the completion of important projects which have been carried to the point where but little is needed to finish the work.

Evidently from a total of such moderate size, individual grants must be narrowly limited in amount, but it has been found that smaller funds are often useful in meeting emergency needs which because of conditions can not be covered by other agencies. Requests for larger sums are beyond the power of the committee to consider. Special blanks may be secured from the office of the permanent secretary, Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C., on which those who desire may make application. It is essential that each application be supported by specific letters from at least two sponsors who are able to speak both of the applicant and of the project from personal acquaintance and are qualified to pass upon the worker and the proposed utilization of the grant. In accordance with action recommended at Boston and approved by the council, grants in aid of publication of research will not be considered under this heading.

The membership of the committee for the current year is as follows: Arthur H. Compton (1937) (for physics), University of Chicago; J. B. Macelwane (1936) (for geology), St. Louis University; Sam F. Trelease (1939) (for botany), Columbia University; Joel Stebbins (1939) (for astronomy), University of Wisconsin; McKeen Cattell (1938) (for medicine), Cornell University Medical College; Moses Gomberg (1938) (for chemistry), University of Michigan; C. C. Little (1937) (for zoology), Jackson Memorial Laboratory; Walter R. Miles (1936) (for psychology), Yale University. The committee prefers that all correspondence be addressed to the permanent secretary and not to individual members. The fiscal year of the association opens on October 1 and closes on September 30 following. All grants not utilized within the year normally revert to the treasury of the association on October 1.

Applications for grants for 1937 must be received at the permanent secretary's office in Washington, D. C., on or before October 30. Reports which are incomplete or late in arrival can not be considered for the year 1937. The report of the committee is laid before the executive committee and the council at the annual meeting in December, and payment of approved grants is made by the treasurer following that meeting. Unused portions of grants should be returned on October 1 of each year.

Publications including results obtained by virtue of the assistance rendered through grants should contain due acknowledgment of the aid furnished by the association. Recipients of grants are expected to make at least one report, which should be filed with the permanent secretary not later than October of the year for which the grant was made. In case completion of the report is delayed, notice should be sent to the permanent secretary's office and a statement of the results obtained in the research should be made at the time the report is filed.

HENRY B. WARD,
Permanent Secretary