

second chief of the Philippine Mining Bureau in Manila. As Colonel Burrett, the first chief, was a lawyer and officer in the U. S. Volunteers, Mr. McCaskey was the first technical man to take over the work relinquished by the Spaniards, Abella y Caseriego and Centeno. Although a mining engineer, McCaskey had a keen interest in, and appreciation of, geological investigations in their relations to mining. This writer acknowledges with especial gratitude the debt he owes to his first chief in that difficult field when as a youngster he first faced the unusual task of unraveling the problems of Malayan geology.

In addition to his technical knowledge, Mr. McCaskey was possessed of true culture, gentleness of spirit, which even the most hard-boiled prospector appreciated. Although the son of a famous general of the U. S. forces in the Philippine Islands, McCaskey was essentially a man of peace and scholarly inclinations. These qualities early endeared him to the Filipinos, still chafing under the unavoidable irritations attendant upon the régime of the "Days of the Empire." He and others like him did a tremendous lot in making easy the difficult transition to civil government.

Although Mr. McCaskey's own published writings in the Philippine field were not numerous his great contribution was in making the work of his men as easy and effective as possible under pioneering conditions. He was always more than generous in giving full credit to others.

In spite of the disability which forced him to leave his Philippine labors in 1906, he rendered many years of effective service to the U. S. Geological Survey in Washington.

It was with keen sorrow that this "Old Timer" received word of the passing in southern Oregon of his former "Jefe de Minas," a very fine gentleman.

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RECENT DEATHS

THE death at the age of seventy years has been announced of Dr. Charles Hamilton Ashton, professor of mathematics at the University of Kansas since 1903.

DR. ALFRED A. TITSWORTH, since 1886 a member of the faculty of Rutgers University, for forty-two years as professor of mathematics, died on August 15 at the age of eighty-three years.

DR. RICHARD OLDING BEARD, professor emeritus of physiology at the University of Minnesota, died on August 14. He was seventy-nine years old.

DR. FLORENCE FENWICK died on July 11 at the age of forty-two years. She received her doctor's degree at the University of Michigan in 1922 and was research fellow at Yale University from 1923 to 1928, since which time she has been physical chemist in the Research Laboratory of the U. S. Steel Corporation.

A CORRESPONDENT writes: "Dr. Julia Trueman Colpitts, associate professor of mathematics at Iowa State College, died at Southampton on August 8. She was returning from a visit to Europe, during which she had attended the International Congress of Mathematicians. Miss Colpitts was born at Pointe de Bute, N. B., received degrees at Mt. Allison University and Cornell University, and also studied at Columbia University and the University of Chicago. She had been a member of the faculty of Iowa State College since 1900. A member of Sigma Xi, Phi Kappa Phi and Sigma Delta Epsilon, Miss Colpitts had been national president of the latter organization. She had also been chairman of the Iowa Section of the Mathematical Association of America."

THE sudden death is announced of Dr. Frederick John Freshwater Shaw, director of the Imperial Institute of Agricultural Research, Government of India.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

A RADIO RESEARCH BOARD FOR INDIA

It is stated in *Current Science*, edited at Bangalore, India, by Professor C. R. Narayan Rao, that, at the invitation of Professor S. K. Mitra, a number of distinguished investigators, including representatives of radio research workers from Australia and Canada, met recently in London to consider the question of forming a Radio Research Board for India. Professor Mitra, who was in England to acquaint himself with the latest developments in radio research, in the course of his speech emphasized the need for a coordinate organization with adequate funds at its disposal for conducting radio investigation in India. He said: "There are men available for such work in the

universities, men who by their training are particularly gifted for such type of work. But without the cooperation of government departments, like the Air Ministry, the Meteorological and the Postal Departments, the universities, where alone such work is now being carried on, can not successfully conduct such investigations. The nature of the most helpful cooperation that is necessary is best exemplified by the British Radio Research Board, which maintains a close touch between the various government departments and the universities." Professor E. V. Appleton, King's College, London, supported the need for a board of the type envisaged by Professor Mitra. Sir Frank E. Smith mentioned that various problems such