

## OBITUARY

### WILLIAM EMILIUS PRAEGER

WITH the sudden death of Dr. Wm. E. Praeger on August 13, the State of Michigan lost one of its well-known and distinguished biologists. Until his retirement as professor emeritus in 1934 at the age of seventy-one years, Dr. Praeger for twenty-nine years was head of the biology department at Kalamazoo College. During these many years he exerted a great influence alike in civic affairs and in various academic fields. The writer, as a close associate of Dr. Praeger, first as instructor in the department and later as his successor, always found him a loyal and good friend, his presence ever keenly inspiring.

Dr. Praeger's scientific affiliations were numerous; they included being a fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a life member of the American Genetic Association, an honorary associate of the American Ornithological Union and a member of the Ecological Society. He also was counted among the oldest members of the Michigan Academy of Science and served that organization as president in 1911. He had been a member of the Michigan Schoolmasters' Club since 1906, having been its president in 1921. Dr. Praeger was a graduate of the University of Illinois and of Chicago. He was born and received his early education in Ireland. Living there he has a sister, Rosamond, who is a well-known Irish sculptress

and painter, and a brother, R. L. Praeger, who is professor of botany at the University of Dublin.

FRANCES DIEBOLD

### RECENT DEATHS

EDWARD WESTON, distinguished for his invention and development of electrical measuring instruments of precision, chairman of the board of the Weston Electrical Instrument Company, died on August 20 at the age of eighty-six years.

DR. CHARLES GILBERT CHADDOCK, professor emeritus of diseases of the nervous system at St. Louis University, died on July 20 at the age of seventy-four years.

WILLIAM JOHN SQUIRELL, head of work in field husbandry at the Ontario Agricultural College, died as the result of an automobile accident on July 25. He was fifty-six years old.

DR. H. A. D. JOWETT, manager of the Wellcome Chemical Works at Dartford, England, died as the result of an automobile accident on August 10, at the age of sixty-six years.

DR. PIETRO ROMUALDO PIROTTA, professor of botany in the University of Rome, died on August 4 at the age of eighty-three years.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### THE BLACKPOOL MEETING OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION

IN the issue of *SCIENCE* for May 15 there was given a forecast of the Blackpool meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, to be held from September 9 to 16. The issue of *Nature* for August 15 contains some further details in regard to the meeting. Public lectures have been arranged as follows:

- "The Scope of Photography," Dr. Olaf Bloch.
- "Science and the Glass-house Industry," Dr. W. F. Bewley.
- "Who Were the Greeks?" Professor J. L. Myres.
- "Some Recent Advances in Astronomy," Sir James Jeans.
- "Applications of Science to Poultry Farming," P. A. Francis.
- "Common Shore Animals," Professor C. M. Yonge.
- "Joy in Scientific Discovery," Dr. D. F. Harris.
- "Splashes and What They Teach," Professor Allan Ferguson.

There will be lectures for school children by H. S. L.

Winterbotham on "How Maps are Made" and by D. Seth-Smith, on "Favorites of the London Zoo."

The evening discourses, to be delivered by C. C. Paterson and by Captain F. Kingdon Ward, on "Science and Electric Lighting" and on "Plant-hunting and Exploration in Tibet" are open to members only.

In addition to sectional excursions and the social events that have already been announced, the Mayor and Mayoress of Blackpool (Alderman W. Newman and Miss Newman) invite members to a reception in the Winter Gardens on Thursday, September 10. The head master of Rossall School (Mr. H. G. M. Clarke) will entertain four hundred members at a garden party at the school on Tuesday, September 15. The Rotary Club will hold a luncheon on Thursday, September 10, when the president will address the members and their guests. The official service will be held at St. John's Parish Church on Sunday, September 13, when the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Blackburn will preach the sermon.

Thirty sectional excursions and visits have been arranged, of geological, botanical, antiquarian, engineering and educational interest. Their range in

space is as wide as their range in subject. There are planned a visit to the Amusement Park, an excursion to the Lake District and a visit to the open-air swimming bath hard by, an excursion to Garstang, Furness Abbey and the Southport Sand Dunes, Stonyhurst and Rossall, Fleetwood Fish Docks and the Fylde Farms.

As has been already noted in *SCIENCE*, the address of the president, Sir Josiah Stamp, will be on "The Impact of Science on Society."

#### SUMMER MEETING OF THE PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

THE Pennsylvania Academy of Science held its regular summer meeting at Somerset on Friday and Saturday, August 14 and 15. The program was devoted chiefly to field trips. Members assembled at noon on Friday and were offered a choice of two trips. Dr. E. M. Gress, state botanist, led a group to localities of floral interest. R. W. Stone, of the Pennsylvania Topographic and Geologic Survey, conducted those interested in geology to the Castleman River Gorge. On Saturday the entire group joined in an all-day trip. Of particular interest to the botanists was the opportunity to study swamp-dwelling plants. The physiography of the region was discussed to advantage from Mt. Davis on Negro Mountain, the highest point in the state. Luncheon was served at C.C.C. Camp S-97 near Salisbury, after which a tour of the grounds and buildings was led by the camp officials.

On Friday evening a session was held at the Ferner Hotel, Somerset. President T. D. Cope presided. Papers on phenomena of local interest were read by V. M. Bearer, district forester, Dr. Paul R. Stewart, of Waynesburg College; Dr. E. T. Wherry, of the University of Pennsylvania; M. Graham Netting, Carnegie Museum, and R. W. Stone, Pennsylvania Geologic Survey. A discussion and business meeting followed the presentation of the papers. It was voted that the annual grant-in-aid of the academy should be given to Dr. and Mrs. R. J. Greb for 1936 to be used in their biologic studies.

About forty members attended the field trips. This number was considerably augmented at the evening gathering by local residents, since the program was open to the public.

BRADFORD WILLARD,  
*Press Secretary*

#### THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR TESTING MATERIALS

THE second International Congress of the International Association for Testing Materials will be held in London from April 19 to 24, 1937. The first congress was held in Zurich in September, 1931.

The object of the congresses held by the Interna-

tional Association for Testing Materials is to obtain international cooperation in the study of materials and their testing and to provide facilities for the exchange of views, experience and knowledge with regard to all matters connected with this subject. It is expected that the London congress will be of considerable scientific and industrial importance, particularly in view of the length of time which has elapsed since the study and testing of materials were last reviewed on an international basis.

The proceedings will be based on selected papers which, by invitation of the group presidents appointed by the permanent committee, have been contributed by leading authorities in their respective fields in the principal countries throughout the world. Most of these invitations have been issued and approximately 150 papers have been promised.

The organization of the congress has been undertaken by an Organizing and Reception Committee, which consists of the British Committee of the International Association for Testing Materials and representatives of many leading British technical institutions, scientific societies and industrial organizations. The Executive Committee of the Organizing Committee is composed as follows: Sir Frank Smith, secretary of the Royal Society of Great Britain and secretary of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, *chairman*; Sir William Larke, *vice-chairman*; Sir Harold Carpenter, Sir Alexander Gibb, Dr. H. J. Gough, Sir Nigel Gresley, Sir Clement Hindley and K. Headlam-Morley, *honorary secretary*. Sir William Bragg, president of the Royal Society and director of the Royal Institution of Great Britain, has consented to be president of the London congress.

Participation in the congress will be open to all interested in the study of materials and their testing on payment of the membership fee.

The subjects selected for discussion are divided into four groups dealing respectively with metals, inorganic materials, organic materials and subjects of general importance. The following subdivisions of these groups have been adopted:

GROUP A—*Metals*. (*President*: Professor C. Benedicks, Sweden; *Vice-president*: Dr. H. J. Gough, Great Britain.)

- (1) Behavior of Metals (mechanical and chemical) as dependent upon temperature, particularly in regard to high temperatures.
- (2) Progress of Metallography.
- (3) Light Metals and their Alloys.
- (4) Wear and Machinability.

GROUP B—*Inorganic Materials*. (*President*: Professor E. Suenson, Denmark; *Vice-president*: Director P. K. van der Wallen, Holland.)

- (1) Concrete and Reinforced Concrete.