

told thousands of people living to-day who but for his work would undoubtedly have succumbed to that malady in childhood. Productivity has been the keyword of his career. Notwithstanding long hours of classroom and laboratory work with medical students, and still longer hours of meditative vigil, painstaking experimentation and patient analyses of research, he has a large bibliography to his credit representing significant contributions to leading scientific journals throughout the years. In addition he has published certain text-books that have proved to be perennially authoritative. Many of the leading bacteriologists of the country owe their training to him; indeed few there are of eminence in that field who have not at some time come under his tutelage.

Dr. Park has long been an active member of leading societies in the fields of his scientific interests in this country and abroad, and has served as president of the Society of Experimental Pathology, and the American Public Health Association. Various medals of distinction have been bestowed upon him, as well as foreign decorations and honorary degrees by four universities.

For his service as a teacher, scientist and public benefactor and for the personal qualities that have endeared him to all, the Council of New York University is enduringly grateful; and in granting him leave of absence for a year, to be followed by retirement with the designation of professor emeritus, they would express their great admiration, appreciation and affection and wish for him throughout the remainder of his years continued usefulness, and the comfort and happiness he so richly deserves.

INVESTIGATIONS OF TROPICAL STORMS BY THE U. S. WEATHER BUREAU

ACCORDING to a statement made by Dr. W. R. Gregg, chief of the U. S. Weather Bureau, an attempt will be made during the next hurricane to obtain accurate information in regard to the details of the various processes of a tropical storm. About 100 small very light instruments that automatically record conditions in the air through which they are borne have been prepared. Balloons will carry them up into one of the tropical storms that usually pass over part of the southern United States between the first of July and the middle of November.

If the "eye" of the storm—the calm area, sometimes 10 miles in diameter, in the center of winds that blow at velocities up to 200 miles an hour—passes over one of the special observation stations, the instruments will go up at about 15-minute intervals. Ordinarily they will be released every $1\frac{1}{2}$ to every 3 hours, the interval depending on the path and the speed of the storm. These factors will determine also whether one, two or all three stations will take part in the program.

The instrument to be used for the observations—devised several years ago by a Belgian meteorologist—weighs only about $1\frac{1}{4}$ ounces and keeps an accurate record of conditions aloft. It fits into a little box either of thin aluminum sheet or of fabric doped with

aluminum paint to make it waterproof and give a highly reflecting surface as a protection against the sun. A trap at one end lets any water from clouds or rain that may enter the box escape without touching the recording elements.

The instruments will be released at three special stations—Maxwell Field, near Montgomery, Ala., and Jackson, Miss., by the Weather Bureau, and Augusta, Ga., by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which is cooperating with the government in this study. The forecaster for the Eastern District of the Weather Bureau, at Washington, D. C., will give the signals for the release of the instruments and will set their schedules.

The instrument is tied at the intersection of three bamboo sticks placed at right angles to each other and attached to a small spherical balloon inflated with enough hydrogen gas to make it rise at the rate of 650 to 800 feet a minute. The light bamboo framework acts as a parachute in retarding the fall of the instrument when the balloon bursts—about 10 to 20 miles above the earth. When the balloon bursts contact is broken and no records are made during the descent. Breaking the contact at the time of the release, as well as jarring that might confuse the records on the plate, is prevented by attaching the instrument to the balloon with a rubber cord, which takes up the vibration as the balloon is launched.

Five pieces of red cloth attached to the bamboo framework are designed to attract the attention of passers-by to the fallen instrument. A tag offering payment for the return of the recording device to the Weather Bureau Station at Boston, Mass., is also attached. At Boston the glass plates will be removed and read under a microscope.

COURSES IN APPLIED PHYSICS AT THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

A NEW group of courses in applied physics designed to meet the growing demand for workers with special training for the application of physics in the solution of industrial problems has been announced at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology by Professor John C. Slater, head of the department of physics. The new course begins this autumn and is in charge of Professor George R. Harrison, director of the research laboratories of experimental physics, who has been appointed director of applied physics.

President Karl T. Compton, who as chairman of the National Science Advisory Board studied the possibilities of applying the knowledge and discoveries of science in industry, is also chairman of the American Institute of Physics, which after a study of several years has suggested the type of training that will be