

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

most valuable for physicists who expect to enter the research, development or engineering branches of industrial organizations. In this study the requirements of a large number of industries were considered with the result that a permanent national council on applied physics was established.

Training in applied physics is expected to be especially valuable in the electrical, optical, chemical, textile, paper, printing ink, aircraft and automobile industries, as well as in oil production and refining, geology and geophysics, acoustics and metallurgy. Physical principles, for example, will enter into the development of economical railway trains, prefabricated houses, air-conditioning, the preservation of food, the processing of plastics, which include glass, rubber, paint and composition moulding materials, color photography, television and many others.

Students in the new courses in applied physics will devote more time to chemistry, metallurgy and the fundamentals of electrical and mechanical engineering. The course supplements rather than competes with the long-established course in pure physics, which goes farther into the speculative aspects of science. Thus there will be no sharp distinction of staff, subjects or students between the two fields of study, for under the new plan students will be able to follow their inclinations and aptitudes in one direction or the other through proper selection of their elective courses.

The Eastman Laboratories of Physics and Chemistry and the Spectroscopy Laboratory, one of the largest in the world, will be open to the students in this course.

THE LAST WEEK OF THE HARVARD TERCENTENARY CELEBRATION

The final exercises of the Harvard Tercentenary celebration were in progress during the week beginning on September 14. Three of the graduate schools held tercentenary programs. The Medical School opened a two-day program of symposia and demonstrations on Monday; the celebration of the School of Dentistry was held on Tuesday. The Graduate School of Business Administration held sessions on Wednesday and Thursday; a special dinner on Wednesday of the alumni was addressed by Paul Reynaud, formerly Finance Minister of France.

The formal celebration of the tercentenary opened on Wednesday afternoon with an official reception in Sanders Theater of five hundred and fifty-one accredited delegates from universities and learned societies. The Associated Harvard Clubs met on Thursday morning, when Dr. James B. Conant, president of the university, and Professor Samuel Eliot Morison,

historian of the tercentenary, reported on the package of alumni letters recently found in the Widener archives, which was sealed by President Josiah Quincy in 1836 with instructions that it should not be opened for a hundred years.

Dr. Bronislaw Malinowski, professor of anthropology at the University of London, was the orator, and Robert S. Hillyer the poet, on Thursday evening at a meeting of the Harvard chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. Hermann Hagedorn also read an ode to Harvard during the day's ceremonies.

The tercentenary exercises, including the conferring of honorary degrees on scientific men and scholars who took part in the Tercentenary Conference on Arts and Sciences, a Latin oration, an address from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the reading of a poem by John Masefield, poet laureate of England, will take place on Friday morning. In the afternoon President Roosevelt will speak before the Alumni Association of the university.

Concerts were given by the Boston Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Sergei Koussevitzky, on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The 1936 Harvard football team went through an exhibition drill on Thursday and in the evening the banks of the Charles River were floodlighted for a water pageant of the history of the university. The program on Friday morning will be held on the western side of the Harvard Yard. It is expected that 15,000 people will be present.

RECENT DEATHS

DR. JAMES BEEBEE BRINSMADE, professor of physics and chairman of the department at Williams College, died suddenly on September 13 at the age of fifty-two years.

DR. JAMES M. ANDERS, formerly professor of clinical medicine in the Graduate School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania, died on August 29 at the age of eighty-two years.

DR. ERNEST B. LYTLE, associate professor of mathematics in the University of Illinois, who was granted the Ph.D. degree by Yale University in 1908 and who has been connected with the University of Illinois since that time, died on September 5 at the age of sixty-one years.

BARON BERKELEY GEORGE ANDREW MOYNIHAN, emeritus professor of surgery at the University of Leeds, chairman of the British Medical Advisory Board, died on September 7 at the age of seventy years.