adopt their motor habits. We have one example of an Englishman raised in Italy and married to a Jewess, who has adopted the mixed quality of Italian and Jewish movements. It is also notable that occupations influence gesture habits. Thus many painters accompany their speech by movements which imitate the motions of the brush in painting. How little stable motor habits are may also be observed in a comparison of the modern repression of gestures in England which seems to have begun shortly before the Victorian era in contrast with the lack of restraint in Elizabethan times.

The problem of the adjustability of behavior may also be established on entirely different lines. We have studied the incidence of psychoses in immigrants and their descendants.[3] Owing to the varying age distribution of the incidence of mental diseases, the data which are commonly used are entirely misleading. Mental disturbances among the young are very rare. Since the native population embraces a large number of children, the immigrants comparatively few, the incidence appears much smaller among the former. It is necessary to know for each psychosis the age distribution of its incidence and to reduce the crude figures accordingly. By doing so it can be shown that there are considerable differences between the two generations. We have carried through this study for Italians, Irish and Germans. It will be seen that, rather unexpectedly, we find a considerable reduction in most cases in the second generation and on the whole an approach to the general American standard. The Irish have a number of peculiarities that deserve special study. The importance of considering the age distribution has been pointed out years ago by Dr. Landman and has been worked out more accurately by Dr. Malzberg. It is worth remarking that the complete exclusion of imbeciles among the immigrants does not seem to have affected the incidence of imbecility among their descendants, although, on account of the lack of a strict definition of imbecility it is difficult to give numerical proof. The number, however, is large and shows how little effect exclusion of an affected group, either by immigration laws or by sterilization, has upon the incidence of partly hereditary diseases.

It seems that these various approaches to the problem show first of all that no race can be treated as a unit, but that in every case the individual must be evaluated according to his own characteristics. It follows, furthermore, that at least so far as the aspects studied are concerned, the descent of the individual plays an insignificant rôle in his behavior, that the organism is so plastic that in its physiological, mental and social behavior it follows the pattern of culture with which he becomes identified.

[3] This work was carried out by Dr. Bruno Klopfer.

OBITUARY

ALFRED McLAREN WHITE

THE North Carolina section of the American Chemical Society adopted on September 25 a minute in memory of Dr. Alfred McLaren White. The minute, drawn up by Edward Mack, Jr., *chairman*, F. H. Edmister and E. C. Markham, reads:

On Wednesday morning, September 23, 1936, in the Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, Alfred McLaren White died of acute nephritis. Dr. White was born at Ann Arbor, Michigan, on July 1, 1904. He received the B.S. degree from Michigan in 1925, the M.S. degree from the University of California in 1926 and the Sc.D. from the University of Michigan in 1928. He served as assistant professor of chemical engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology from 1928 to 1930. In the fall of 1930 Dr. White came to the University of North Carolina as associate professor of chemical engineering, and when this was made a separate division, he became the director. Under the inspirational teaching and guidance of Dr. White, the enrolment of the chemical engineering department increased about fourfold over a period of five years. Always popular with his students, both in the classroom and outside, his interest in them was manifested by his enthusiastic teaching and his participation in numerous student activities. This September he was to take up his duties as director of the chemical engineering work in the University of Virginia.

Dr. White was an associate member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, a member of the American Chemical Society, Sigma Xi and the Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society.

McLaren White was known to many people outside the chemical profession for his versatility and accomplishments. He spent a part of several summer vacations in the Artist Colony on Monhegan Island, and a number of his friends have visible evidence of his ability as an amateur artist. He was also a musician. During his stay in Chapel Hill he was an active member of the Choral Club and the University Concert Orchestra.

The untimely death of Dr. White at the virtual beginning of a promising scientific career is a great loss to both the professions of chemical engineering and chemistry. The North Carolina Section of the American Chemical Society deeply mourns a leader and an ever helpful member. Your committee offers this statement as a resolution to be spread on the minutes of the section, with instructions to the secretary to forward a copy to the family.

ALBERT B. REAGAN

DR. ALBERT B. REAGAN, special professor of anthropology at Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, died on May 30, following a brief illness.

Born in Maxwell, Iowa, in 1871, Dr. Reagan was graduated from Central State Teachers College, Oklahoma, in 1898, was awarded an A.B. degree at Valparaiso University in 1899, A.B. and M.A. degrees at the University of Indiana in 1903, and, majoring in geology, a Ph.D. degree at Stanford University in 1925.

From 1899 to 1934, Dr. Reagan was connected in various capacities with the field service of the Office of Indian Affairs. During these years he carried on ethnological, archeological and geological research in the Southwestern and Northwestern United States, and, from 1926 to 1934, in the Uintah Basin, Utah, where he was employed on the Ouray Indian Reservation. In 1934, Dr. Reagan was appointed to the faculty of Brigham Young University.

Dr. Reagan carried on extensive research, making many important contributions to geology and anthropology. His scientific papers, which number more than 500, were published in numerous scientific journals in the United States and other countries. During his last few years, Dr. Reagan's most important field of research was the archeology of the Pueblo-Basket Maker cultures of northeastern Utah.

J. H. S.

RECENT DEATHS

DR. A. B. CORDLEY, dean emeritus of the School of Agriculture at the Oregon State College, died on November 1 at the age of seventy-two years.

RICHARD CARMICHAEL HOLLYDAY, who retired thirteen years ago as chief of civil engineers for the navy with the rank of captain, died on November 18 at the age of seventy-seven years.

DR. HERBERT NICHOLS, at one time instructor in psychology at Harvard University, died on December 6 at the age of eighty-four years.

DR. FLORENCE RICHARDSON ROBINSON, formerly professor of psychology at Drake University and assistant professor of psychology at the University of Chicago, died on December 4 at the age of fifty-one years. Dr. Robinson was the wife of Dr. Edward S. Robinson, professor of psychology at Yale University.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION AND THE KAISER WILHELM INSTITUTE

The New York Times reports that the Rockefeller Foundation has granted $655,000 to the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute of Germany in fulfilment of pledges made before the Hitler régime came into power.

The grant has been used to establish research laboratories for the study of cellular physiology and for research in pure physics. Dr. Peter Debye, of Holland, who recently received a Nobel prize, is head of the Institute for Physics, which is expected to open within a few weeks.

According to *The Times,* Dr. Raymond B. Fosdick, president of the Rockefeller Foundation, called attention to the fact that in making the money available the foundation was carrying out promises made to the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute prior to 1930. Dr. Fosdick is reported to have said: "The world of science is a world without flags or frontiers. It is quite possible, however, that the foundation would not have made the grant if it could have foreseen present conditions in Germany."

The grant was made by the foundation under direction of its Division of Natural Sciences. Before the Hitler administration assumed power the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute approached the Rockefeller Foundation to obtain the desired allotment of funds. The foundation agreed to provide the money for the ground and buildings for the two laboratories and for part of the equipment. The Kaiser Wilhelm Institute was to provide for continuous upkeep, the salaries of personnel and the rest of the laboratory equipment.

Ground for both establishments was purchased at Berlin-Dahlem, a suburb of the capital. The laboratory for the institute of cellular physiology was completed in 1931, and Dr. Otto Warburg, also a Nobel laureate, was appointed director.

A delay in beginning work on the physics laboratory was caused by the inability of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute to find a physicist who could meet the requirements laid down by the Rockefeller Foundation. Dr. Debye was persuaded to leave his post at the University of Leipzig to become director of the institute.

In the early negotiations between the Rockefeller Foundation and the institute the German Government did not take part. However, after the Hitler government assumed control the German Finance Minister was a party to the discussions. The final payments of the fund were made in May, 1935, after the Minister of Finance had pledged the German Government to the fulfilment of the parts of the agreement for which the institute was responsible.

Several distinguished scientific men have been dropped from the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute since the ascendancy of the Nazi government. Among them were the late Fritz Haber, head of the institute of