

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 fulfillment 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 fulfillment 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

electro-chemistry, and Dr. Richard Goldschmidt, who is now professor of zoology at the University of California.

### A FRAUDULENT ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

THE following communication, signed by Dr. Stephen Duggan, director of the Institute of International Education, appears in *SCHOOL AND SOCIETY* for last Saturday:

A letter signed by Professor Arsenio des Santos Barboza, secretary director of the Academia de Ciencias e Artes at Rio de Janeiro, has been sent to a number of scientific men and scholars in the United States inviting them to become members of the society. The letter addressed to a chemist follows:

As homage to your great technical merits and in gratitude to the services you have contributed to teaching in America, the Congregation of this Academy resolved to confer you a Diploma of Doctor in Chemistry, in *Honoris-Causa*.

We know that the United States is to-day the world's largest producer of chemical commodities and without boasting, the United States now can lay claim to a greater chemical industry than that possessed by any other country. I would be very happy to see you among us and I would also appreciate picture of yourself.

This Directions has confirmed this acts of high justice and has conferred you the Gold Medal of Merit.

Any further reply you may care to send, it will be warmly appreciated and I want to thank you for the kind attention given to this letter.

The communication given below was enclosed in the letter.

Just a few lines to let you know that the cost of graduation with a Diploma, credential and the Gold Medal of Merit is \$10.00 (ten dollars) minimum.

If you can to send some donatif and books written by you for the patrimony of this academy have the kindness to satisfy, I will be very thankful.

No Bill payable on order: SEND AMERICAN BANK NOTES, BY RETURN OF POST.

### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF THE WEATHER BUREAU

DR. W. R. GREGG, chief of the Weather Bureau, in his annual report for the year ending June 30, points out that an unusually cold winter over most of the country, followed by unprecedented floods in the East, severe drought between the Appalachian and Rocky Mountains, bad dust storms in the Midwest, and destructive tornadoes in the Southeast, brought heavy demands for extra service to the U. S. Weather Bureau. These demands were met with special surveys, forecasts and warnings. The hurricane warning system along the South Atlantic and Gulf coasts was strengthened and the meteorological service for airways was somewhat expanded. At the same time further research work was planned to "enable it to contribute its full share to the development of the nation's economic and social life."

Despite its restricted facilities, the Weather Bureau

advanced its air-mass analysis investigations and the application of the results to daily forecasting. In response to public demand, it is studying and appraising the possibilities of all known methods of long-range forecasting. Without a knowledge of general weather trends that have existed over a great many years, Mr. Gregg explains, it is impossible to draw a pattern that will show the forecaster what may be expected within a month, a week, or even a few days. To this end, weather conditions in the United States and in foreign countries have been surveyed in an attempt to discover relationships between the weather abroad and that at home.

The increasing need for accurate information on conditions in the upper air has inspired the invention of several recording instruments. Those showing most promise of being immediately available are one for getting to the ground radio signals of temperature, humidity and pressure; one for finding and indicating the position of the abnormally warm layer of air several thousand feet above the earth that precedes by several hours the formation of fog; and a better ceiling light projector for ascertaining the height of a cloud layer. Further tests are necessary, however, to prove the trustworthiness of these devices.

The compilation and summarizing of more than 5,000,000 marine weather observations made in all parts of the oceans from 1880 to 1933, and never worked up before because of lack of tabulators, went forward this year as a WPA project. The information obtained will be valuable to navigators of the seas and of the air. It will serve also as the basis for studies of world weather in connection with crop weather and with weather preceding floods. This, in turn, will aid the bureau in improving its forecasts for farmers and its flood warning service.

Of interest to mariners also is the study of mirage at sea, completed this year. The findings—to be printed in the Pilot Charts of the Hydrographic Office—show that refraction phenomena occur not only in local regions where the atmosphere is undisturbed, but over larger areas along the boundary lines of oceanic cyclones and anticyclones. They show further that atmospheric conditions producing fog may produce mirage as well.

### THE SUMATRA EXPEDITION OF THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY AND THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

AN expedition, under the joint auspices of the National Geographic Society and the Smithsonian Institution, to the jungles of Sumatra, to collect alive wild animals of the Far East for the National Zoological Park in Washington and to make a collection of geo-