ment it can make. Or, the reaction of this tissue is in excess of what it should be or is below what it should be; we will, therefore, introduce this chemical agent in an attempt to modify the reaction to a point where it will at least not be harmful and may be of definite value in the process of biological adjustment. Pharmacology is of particular importance in the medical curriculum and assumes a most significant place in it since it takes for its advancement biochemical, physiological and pathological understanding and carries them through its applied outlet to the bedside in an attempt, by the use of certain chemicals, to modify the untoward symptoms of disease, to facilitate recovery from disease and, with increasing certainty, to eliminate the cause for the departure of the individual from a balanced state of life.

There was a time when the medically minded biologist had, in a measure, to forsake reason and act with what was called common sense, and it was. This occurred when he entered the hospital or found himself at the bedside of a patient other than in a hospital. This is no longer the case. The training of the premedical years and in the medical curriculum permits the one type of reasoning with the same limitations, which become less with each year, to be used now, whereas it at one time could only be used in the laboratory, at the bedside, whether that bedside happens to be in the elaborately appointed private pavilion of a hospital or in the humblest home. Scientific understanding as truth undergoes no modification as a result of situations and circumstances. The modern medical man and woman are therefore no longer healers by chance in a haphazard fashion. As individuals with personality, through training of a general and broadly biological character they have become biologically minded physicians who see it as their function to ascertain the cause for physical and psychical maladjustments and to institute such measures, if possible of a natural order, to readjust to their environment, whatever that environment has to be, individuals who have been forced to depart from it. Such a life is a sound life, for it deals with and lives in nature through reason. It is a happy and useful life, for it gives itself that others may find themselves in a related, balanced fashion which slowly but certainly leads to perfection of the body and through mind to the understanding on the part of such a body of values which are real, durably satisfying and which, in the end, become both lost and found in beauty.

> . . . There's magic all around us
> In rocks and trees, and in the minds of men,
> Deep hidden springs of magic.
> He that strikes
> The rock aright, may find them where he will.

OBITUARY

ARTHUR BROOKS CLAWSON

ARTHUR BROOKS CLAWSON, widely known for his work on plant poisoning of live stock, died at his home in Washington, D. C., on June 30, of cerebral thrombosis. He was born in Green Lake, Wis., on June 18, 1878, and was educated at Ripon College, the University of Michigan and the University of Wisconsin. He taught biology at Lake Forest College, Illinois, for two years and joined the staff of the Bureau of Plant Industry in 1909. He became associated with the group investigating stock poisoning by plants, then an activity of that bureau and spent the remainder of his life in that field, finally taking charge as physiologist, Bureau of Animal Industry, in 1930. He was in charge of the Experiment Station at Salina, Utah, maintained by the latter bureau for the study of stock-poisoning plants, and at the time he was taken sick was on the Utah deserts studying the disease known as bighead. He published a number of papers on the subject of plant poisoning, including papers on larkspurs, loco weeds, lupines, cyanogenetic plants, milkweeds and Senecio among others. He was easily the foremost American authority in this field and enjoyed the confidence of live-stock breeders, to whom he was of constant assistance. He had nearly finished his work on bighead in sheep and had for the first time demonstrated that certain plants are responsible for this serious condition, which annually causes large economic losses to breeders.

Quiet and unassuming, he was indefatigable in pursuing his researches and possessed an unusually complete knowledge of the western stock ranges and practises in live-stock raising. He was a member of the Washington Academy of Sciences, the Biological and Botanical Societies of Washington, Illinois Academy of Science, Wisconsin Academy of Science and Sigma Xi, and was a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

J. F. C.

CHARLES DWIGHT MARSH

BIOGRAPHICAL facts concerning eminent men of science are too often lost to posterity through failure of those who have such facts to preserve or record them. This is true not only of the usual biographical details but also of the equally important but more evasive particulars of a man's personality—what others thought of him, what were his aspirations and bents and what he was to the world and to his community as well as to his scientific colleagues. Even