

teacher and an organizer and administrator of very great capacity. He passed away on October 26, 1937.

Dr. Fantham had a distinguished university career and held the degrees of M.A. Cantab. (Christ's College) and D.Sc. London (University College). He was a fellow of University College, London.

From 1904 onwards, Dr. Fantham was continuously engaged in university work. He held academic positions in the Universities of London, Cambridge and Liverpool and did war service as parasitologist, first with the Western Command and then in Egypt, Salonika and Malta, until he was invalided. In 1917 he became the first professor of zoology and comparative anatomy in the new University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, which post he held from 1917 to 1932. He built up a magnificent department and research school there. He served on the senate of the university, and was four times elected annually as dean of the faculty of science—no small tribute to his ability and integrity—and served for one year on the council of the university. In 1932 he became Strathcona professor and head of the department of zoology at McGill University. Under his guidance and inspiration, the zoology department attracted many students, and its numbers more than doubled. Recognizing the unique opportunity afforded by the numerous lakes and rivers for research in freshwater biology, he developed that work and soon had a number of students keenly interested therein.

Throughout his career, Professor Fantham devoted much time to research, and his many papers on parasitic protozoa, on soil protozoa, on eugenics, heredity and race admixture are well known. Practically every branch of protozoology is the richer from his contributions. He was a most consistent, logical and meticulous worker, who never spared himself. He had published over one hundred research memoirs, as well as books and magazine articles.

He was twice vice-president of the Royal Society of South Africa, was grand president of the South African Association for the Advancement of Science in 1927 and South Africa Medallist in 1931. He was one of the few non-medical fellows of the Royal Society of Medicine, was a fellow of the Zoological Society of London, the Cambridge Philosophical Society, Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, American Society of Parasitologists, Ameri-

can Association for the Advancement of Science, vice-president of the Eugenics Research Association and corresponding member of the Société pathologie exotique of Paris. While he was in Canada, he was a regular attendant at the meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and much appreciated this opportunity of meeting his fellow zoologists.

Dr. Fantham was much beloved by his students wherever he taught. He never spared himself on their behalf, and his home and library were always at their disposal. He was an artist of far more than average ability, a good speaker and public lecturer, very musical and with extremely wide interests. His fellow scientists mourn his early passing, which has left a gap that can not be filled.

RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. GARDNER CHACE ANTHONY, dean emeritus of the Engineering School of Tufts College, died on November 28 at the age of eighty-one years.

PROFESSOR JOSÉ COMAS Y SOLA, director of the Fabra Observatory of the Academy of Arts and Sciences in Barcelona, died on December 2 at the age of sixty-nine years.

SIR CHARLES BRIGHT, London, an authority on telegraphy, died on November 20 at the age of seventy-three years.

THE death is announced of Dr. Ludwig Plate, who was the successor of Haeckel as professor of zoology at Jena and director of the Phyletic Museum. He had made extensive journeys to South America, the West Indies and Ceylon.

SIR GEORGE LEE, engineer-in-chief of the British Post Office and president of the British Institute of Electrical Engineers, unveiled on November 24 a mural tablet at the house where Alexander Graham Bell was born at 16 Charlotte Street, Edinburgh.

THE Physical Institute of the Moscow State University held on November 14 a memorial session for Lord Rutherford, who died on October 19. Professor Kapitsa, a member of the Academy of Sciences of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, who was a close collaborator for fourteen years, gave an address on his memories of Lord Rutherford.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

RESEARCH IN THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

ACCORDING to an article entitled "Facts and Figures of the American Chemical Industry," published by *Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering*, during the

current year chemical manufacturers have spent \$20,000,000, and chemical process industries several times this amount for research. It is pointed out that research in this field is of unlimited benefit in serving the public welfare, not alone in promoting health with