RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. HERMAN SCHLUNDT, chairman of the department of chemistry of the University of Missouri, died on December 30 at the age of sixty-eight years.

DR. LAWRASON BROWN, of the Trudeau Sanitarium, Saranac Lake, N. Y., a leading specialist on tuberculosis, died on December 26 at the age of sixty-six years.

DR. EMMET RIXFORD, surgeon of San Francisco, past president of the American Surgical Association, died on January 2. He was seventy-two years old.

MISS CARLOTTA JOAQUINA MAURY, formerly paleontologist for the Brazilian government and from 1912 to 1915 professor of geology and zoology at the Huguenot College of the University of the Cape of Good Hope, died on January 3 at the age of sixty-four years.

DR. GEORGE ALFRED BUCKMASTER, emeritus professor of physiology at the University of Bristol, previously professor of veterinary physiology at the Royal Veterinary College, London, died on December 21 at the age of seventy-eight years.

Nature reports the death of Henry Crowther, formerly curator of the Leeds Museum, on November 29, aged eighty-nine years; of Dr. A. Lodge, formerly professor of pure mathematics in the Royal Indian Engineering College, president of the Mathematical Association in 1897–98, aged eighty-three years, and of Dr. D. S. Macnair, known for his work in analytical chemistry, an inspector in charge of the scientific and technical instruction under the former Science and Art Department, on November 27, aged seventy-six years.

A MONUMENT to the memory of the late Professor Emile Roux, director of the Pasteur Institute of Paris, was unveiled at his birthplace, Confolens, on November 14, when the present director, Dr. Louis Martin, delivered an address.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE JAPANESE RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRY AND LABOR

THE Japanese Research Institute of Industry and Labor, supported by the Japan Science Association, is reported in the *Journal* of the American Medical Association to have decided to equip various buildings for its research work in Tokyo at a cost of 1,102,000 yen.

The institute has laboratories, a library, a museum of industry and labor, a school of industry and labor and assembly halls. There will also be laboratories for study of the prevention of occupational diseases. Equipment will be provided for the study of both the physical and the spiritual conditions necessary for efficiency in labor. It is pointed out that "however much industry is mechanized, it will be impossible to cease employing human muscular labor; furthermore, human muscles will be required to work more speedily and to be more delicate and enduring."

In these laboratories the training of muscles along these lines is to be the subject of research. An instrument is to be furnished to investigate the various phases of biologic electricity which accompany muscular exertion. In the laboratory for investigating fatigue, the chief studies will relate to nerve control. The rehabilitation of the disabled and the deformed will be undertaken by the most modern methods. The cost of living and the wages paid for labor are to be subjects of investigation. Factory sanitation and the development of the laborers' physique will be studied.

The chief of the institute will be Dr. Y. Teruoka, formerly chief of the Kurashiki Labor Research Institute, now adviser to the central government on labor problems.

THE FLOATING EXPEDITION OF THE U.S.S.R. IN THE ARCTIC OCEAN

ROTATION of the ice floe on which four Russian scientific men are drifting in the Arctic has forced Jenya Fedorov, meteorologist of the expedition, to give up measurements of magnetic variations, according to the report made to Science Service by Tass, the Soviet news agency. A radio message from I. Papanin, chief of the group, reads, "But it does not affect the other observations, in general; our specialists Shirshov and Fedorov have to work under very difficult conditions."

On May 21 Papanin sent over the radio an account of the scientific work accomplished since the expedition landed on the ice floe at the North Pole two hundred days before. It is as follows:

> We have thoroughly studied the path of the ice floe from the North Pole to the coast of Greenland. We measured the depth of the ocean at 15 points and made hydrological soundings at 26 points, having taken samples of water at each point from 15 to 25 various depths.
>
> We made several series of observations for the study of the direction and the speed of the submarine currents. Our hydrological work finally established the existence of a sufficiently abundant organic life in the central part of the Arctic Ocean.
>
> During our stay on the ice floe we have made more than 100 astronomical observations. These will make it possible to trace precisely the entire path of the drift and to learn the laws governing the movement of the ice floes in the Central Polar Basin.
>
> In general, our program of scientific observations has been extensive. We hope that 35 definitions of magnetic elements, 13 observations on gravitation, several series

of observations of the electric condition of the atmosphere will not prove useless.

We are aware that our regular meteorological observations are received with great interest by scientific institutions on the mainland. We note weather changes every two hours and send the results four times a day to the south.

We watch the Polar Ocean attentively. We have gathered substantial scientific material and many scientists will now obtain reliable data on the entire area of our drift from the North Pole to the final point.

Describing the taking of soundings, Papanin reports that members of the expedition use a rope to connect the small sounding tent to their camp so as not to lose time looking for it in the Polar night. He says: "Along this rope we travel safely in any weather. Without this it would be rather difficult to find one's bearings in a snowstorm. Once Krenkel and I lost our way and while being within a few steps of our tent, we could not find it for quite a long time."

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMONWEALTH FUND

THE report of the Commonwealth Fund which has just been issued announces that during the year two gifts had been made by Edward S. Harkness, president of the fund. These gifts bring the total endowment of the fund to the sum of $50,000,000. The first gift of $3,000,000 is to be used initially in support of the rural hospital program, thus releasing income from the original endowment for other philanthropic purposes of the fund. The provision for this special program may be said to mark the definite continuance by the fund, after extended experimentation, of the organization of community hospital service in small towns and surrounding rural areas as an important aid to health. The second gift, of $5,000,000, is intended for the present to provide increased income for grants to medical research and to certain phases of medical education.

In addition to grants previously made that are being continued, the following new grants have been made during the past year:

To Irvington House, Irvington-on-Hudson, New York, for the bacteriological and clinical study of rheumatic fever in children, with special reference to the possible rôle of the hemolytic streptococci.

To Harvard University Medical School for the production and shipment, under the direction of Dr. Hans Zinsser, of an immune serum against typhus fever to be tested in epidemic areas in the Balkans and North Africa.

To the Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, for the comparative study of certain virus infections as a further step toward better knowledge of the virus of trachoma, and for testing methods of treatment suggested by the work already done on this virus.

To the New York University College of Medicine for the study of such functional disturbances as pre-eclamptic toxemia, eclampsia, and the pernicious vomiting of pregnancy, and of communicable infections associated with childbirth and abortion.

To the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health for a longitudinal study of the incidence of certain chronic diseases in a limited community.

To the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine for a study of the nature and mechanism of virus infection of the central nervous system in poliomyelitis.

To Harvard University Medical School for a group of studies on clinical and immunological phases of poliomyelitis.

The Commonwealth Fund Fellowships for British students this year include for the first time three fellows appointed from the Home Civil Service of the British Government. Only men of mature years already well established in the government service are eligible for appointment. They will come to America, as do the service fellows from outlying parts of the British Empire, for technical study directly connected with their field of work, but will spend the year traveling wherever their inquiries may lead them and will not be attached to any university.

THE COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

A GIFT of $180,000 has been made by the Martha M. Hall Foundation to the Columbia University School of Medicine, to be applied to new laboratories for graduate medical education, the construction of which has just been completed. Three additional gifts amounting to $47,250 have been announced.

The Martha M. Hall Foundation, of which James Jay Morgan is president, was founded by the will of Miss Martha M. Hall in memory of her father, William Henry Hall, "for the benefit and advancement of public and private charitable and scientific objects and purposes."

The appropriation supplements grants of $290,000 from the Commonwealth Fund toward the building program, and $50,000 from the Josiah Macy, Jr., Foundation toward the research and teaching program. "Better, rather than more, physicians" is the aim of the program, which provides for continued education of physicians in practice and adequate training of specialists, and affiliates many hospitals of the metropolitan area.

The new addition, comprising ten stories on the former six-story extension of the west wing of the building of the School of Medicine at 168th Street and Fort Washington Avenue, will be occupied within the next few weeks by research laboratories for graduate students working in the basic medical sciences of anatomy, physiology, pathology, bacteriology and