

believes that when the conservatism that is still rampant has broken down, the name of John K. Small will be ever more highly revered.

J. H. BARNHART

LEO D. WHITNEY

FOLLOWING an illness of but a few days, Leo D. Whitney, assistant agronomist of the University of Hawaii, died on November 7, 1937. Born in Willits, California, on May 11, 1908, he secured his early education in the schools of Santa Rosa, and received his B.S. degree from the University of California in 1933, having majored in agronomy. The next two years were devoted mainly to graduate study in botany. Before completing his work for the Ph.D., however, he was called to the University of Hawaii to undertake special studies on grasses and on taro. He made very valuable contributions to the taxonomy of Hawaiian grasses, listing a number of new species, not before described, from Hawaii. His work dealt especially with economic pasture grasses. He had, at the time of his death, prepared for publication a list of 150 grasses, established on Hawaiian ranges. One of his principal tasks at the University of Hawaii was to attempt to work out a key for the classification of Hawaiian taro varieties. Out of more than 200 so-called varieties, he was able to describe 85 distinct horticultural varieties and to develop a satisfactory key for their identification. He also made a very distinct contribution to the knowledge of Aroids in general through his work on the seeding and mutations of taro. He was a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Botanical Society of America, Hawaiian Botanical Society and a number of other botanical and taxonomic societies.

Mr. Whitney was a conscientious worker, thorough student and sincere friend. His untimely death came

as a severe shock to his many friends and associates, and removed prematurely one of the most promising young agronomists of the present generation.

B. A. MADSON

RECENT DEATHS

DR. HARRY W. TYLER, professor emeritus of mathematics of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, secretary of the American Association of University Professors from 1916 to 1933, died on February 2 in his seventy-fourth year.

DR. HOWARD E. SIMPSON, head of the department of geology of the University of North Dakota and state geologist, died on January 31. He was sixty-three years old.

SIR JAMES CRICHTON-BROWNE, London, specialist in mental and nervous disorders, died on January 31 at the age of ninety-seven years.

SIR AMBROSE THOMAS STANTON, chief medical adviser to the British Secretary of State for the Colonies, adviser to the government on tropical diseases, died on January 25 at the age of sixty-two years. Sir Thomas had been bacteriologist at the Institute of Medical Research, Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States, becoming director of the institute in 1920.

WILFRED HENRY PARKER, for eighteen years director of the British National Institute of Agricultural Botany, died on January 11 at the age of forty-nine years.

THE death is announced of Dr. A. B. Martynov on January 29. Dr. Martynov was an entomologist, known for his investigations on insect paleontology and evolution. He has been stationed during the last year or so at the Institute of Paleozoology at the Academy of Sciences in Moscow.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

RESEARCH ON CHRONIC DISEASES AT WELFARE ISLAND

DR. S. S. GOLDWATER, commissioner of the Department of Hospitals of New York City, has announced the receipt of an appropriation of \$66,000 from the Rockefeller Foundation for the support of research on chronic diseases to be conducted on Welfare Island. This work was inaugurated two years ago and is conducted by a research staff appointed by the Department of Hospitals and supported in part by the City of New York. Supplementary funds required for the conduct of intensive research work have heretofore been obtained from various sources by the Research Council of the Department of Hospitals, to which the Rockefeller grant of \$66,000 has been intrusted for expenditure over a three-year period.

The officers of the Research Council of the Department of Hospitals are: Marshall Field, *president*; Dr. John A. Hartwell, *vice-president*; Dr. Bernard Sachs, *treasurer*, and Dr. S. S. Goldwater, *secretary*. The Research Council acts on the advice of a scientific advisory group, under the chairmanship of Dr. Alfred E. Cohn, of the Rockefeller Institute.

On the completion of the Welfare Hospital for Chronic Diseases the work of the research division, which is now being carried on in temporary quarters at Metropolitan Hospital, will be transferred to the new 1,600-bed Welfare Hospital, now rapidly approaching completion.

The following is a résumé of the scientific work now in progress: