He was alert in acquiring the technique of the production of x-rays and wireless waves following their discovery in Europe in the late nineteenth century.

This intellectual keenness in grasping the importance of new results is to be observed again in Dr. Hering's method of teaching. When the great Cavendish Laboratory was opened at Cambridge University in 1874 the laboratory method of instruction in physics was well inaugurated. This example was followed by Johns Hopkins University, where Rowland converted the kitchen of an old residence into a laboratory. Dr. Hering, realizing the value of this innovation, established an instructional laboratory by partitioning off a part of his lecture room at New York University. His convictions in this method of instruction are expressed in an article written by him in 1893 entitled "Laboratory Instruction in Physics."

Beyond the realm of physics Dr. Hering found many joys and interests in life. First among these was, perhaps, the James Arthur collection of timepieces. With characteristic energy he examined minutely every clock and watch and then prepared a careful catalogue of the collection. His enthusiasm for this work and his scholarly study of timepieces is splendidly portrayed in his beautifully illustrated book, "The Lure of the Clock," published by the New York University Press in 1932. Another major interest of Dr. Hering was the history of the public attitude toward science. This is exemplified in his very entertaining volume entitled, "Foibles and Fallacies of Science," published in 1924; and again in his James Arthur Lecture, delivered at New York University on April 2, 1936, dealing with "The Time Concept and Time Sense Among Cultured and Uncultured Peoples."

One can not conclude a minute to the memory of Daniel Webster Hering without reference to that remarkable mental and physical energy of his which remained, unabated, to the day of his death. Although suffering from impaired hearing for many years, he maintained an extraordinary sense of humor in every personal contact and radiated cheerfulness and enthusiasm to all who were fortunate enough to know him.

In 1881, Dr. Hering married Mary Hollis Webster, of Baltimore. Following her greatly lamented death in 1930, Dr. Hering continued living with his two daughters, the Misses Doris and Hollis Webster Hering, who survive him.

WILLIAM H. CREW
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

RECENT DEATHS

COMMANDER MILTON UPDEGRAFF, professor of mathematics of the United States Navy, retired, formerly on duty at the Naval Observatory, died on September 12 at the age of seventy-seven years.

DR. WILLIS R. GREGG, chief of the United States Weather Bureau, died on September 14 at the age of fifty-eight years.

DR. JOHN CLEMENT HEISLER, emeritus professor of anatomy at the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania, died on September 9 at the age of seventy-six years.

DR. JOHN JENNINGS LUCK, for fifteen years professor of mathematics at the University of Virginia, died on September 15 at the age of fifty-five years.

DR. JOHN B. WENTZ, associate professor of farm crops at the Iowa State College, died on August 24 at the age of forty-seven years.

DR. THOMAS C. HEBB, professor and head of the department of physics at the University of British Columbia, died on August 13 at the age of fifty-nine years. He had been connected with the university since 1916.

MARY FREYER MONTGOMERY, San Francisco, assistant clinical professor of surgery at the Medical School of the University of California, died on August 30 at the age of thirty-eight years.

WILLIAM ROBB BARCLAY, consulting metallurgist of the Mond Nickel Company, Ltd., of London, known for his work on the technique of non-ferrous metallurgy, died on September 16 at the age of sixty-two years.

THE death at the age of sixty-eight years is announced of Dean Reinhold Matsson, of Sweden, churchman and botanist.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE HERTY FOUNDATION LABORATORY

Industrial and Engineering Chemistry reports that the Pulp and Paper Laboratory of the Industrial Committee of Savannah, Inc., has become the "Herty Foundation Laboratory" under an act of the Georgia Legislature. The change took place last February. Up to that time the laboratory had been supported financially chiefly by the Chemical Foundation, Inc., and by contributions of the Industrial Committee of Savannah, supplemented by appropriations of the Georgia Legislature.

At the close of 1937 it became evident that the major part of these funds would not be available in future and that in the event that other support was not secured the laboratory faced possible closure. However, an emergency fund was raised by equipment

manufacturers under the leadership of C. Stewart Lee, of the Pusey and Jones Corporation of Wilmington, Del. Following this action, the Georgia Legislature made an appropriation of $20,000 at its special session, this being in addition to the $10,000 appropriated in the preceding regular session. These funds, with the continued contribution by the Industrial Committee of Savannah, ensured the financing of the laboratory for the current year.

The Georgia Legislature, looking to the future, created by special act the Herty Foundation, authorized to take over the equipment and operation of the laboratory and to receive contributions from other states and subdivisions thereof, individuals and corporations. The board of trustees of the foundation is made up as follows: Jas. Fowler, *chairman;* G. M. Bazemore, *vice-chairman;* Elliott W. Reed, *secretary-treasurer;* Harley Langdale; and G. E. Maddox.

It was determined to continue the past policies and purposes of the laboratory, making the information developed available to all and to cooperate with all agencies engaged in this field of work centered on systematic research to determine, with the use of standard paper-mill equipment and chemicals, what modifications are necessary to employ the fast-growing woods of the southern states for pulpwood and products manufactured therefrom.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Herty Foundation on August 6, at Lakeland, Fla., it was voted to carry out the work of the laboratory, according to the plans and intentions of the late Dr. Herty. Supervision of the business of the foundation will be in the hands of the chairman of the Board of Trustees and the secretary-treasurer. Charles Carpenter, assistant director of the laboratory since January, 1938, will continue in charge of the experimental operations.

THE FIVE-THOUSAND-YEAR TIME CAPSULE OF THE WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC COMPANY

THE Westinghouse Electric Company has made public letters that were placed in the 5,000-year time capsule to be deposited by the company on September 23 at the site of the New York World's Fair.

Dr. Einstein's letter, written in German, sums up his impression of the modern age in 161 words. The authorized English translation follows:

Our time is rich in inventive minds, the inventions of which could facilitate our lives considerably. We are crossing the seas by power and utilize power also in order to relieve humanity from all tiring muscular work. We have learned to fly and we are able to send messages and news without any difficulty over the entire world through electric waves.

However, the production and distribution of commodities is entirely unorganized, so that everybody must live in fear of being eliminated from the economic cycle, in this way suffering for the want of everything. Furthermore, people living in different countries kill each other at irregular time intervals, so that also for this reason any one who thinks about the future must live in fear and terror. This is due to the fact that the intelligence and character of the masses are incomparably lower than the intelligence and character of the few who produce something valuable for the community.

I trust that posterity will read these statements with a feeling of proud and justified superiority.

Dr. Millikan wrote:

At this moment, August 22, 1938, the principles of representative ballot government, such as are represented by the governments of Anglo-Saxon, French and Scandinavian countries, are in deadly conflict with the principles of despotism, which up to two centuries ago had controlled the destiny of man throughout practically the whole of recorded history. If the national, scientific, progressive principles win out in this struggle there is a possibility of a warless, golden age ahead of mankind. If the reactionary principles of despotism triumph now and in the future, the future history of mankind will repeat the sad story of war and oppression as in the past.

THE FEDERAL HEALTH PROGRAM AND THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

THE House of Delegates of the American Medical Association met in emergency session on September 17 with one hundred and seventy-five members in attendance. The meeting was called for consideration of the proposed Federal medical care program which was submitted at the National Health Conference in Washington in July and which requires an expenditure of $850,000,000 a year. The President's committee urged establishment of a Federal department of health, the secretary of which would be a member of the Cabinet. To this the association agreed, with the proviso that the secretary "must be a physician."

The report, adopted unanimously by the delegates, according to *The New York Times,* read in part:

We approve the principles of hospital service insurance which is being widely adopted throughout the country. We particularly recommend it as a community project. Experience in the operation of hospital service insurance or group hospitalization plans has demonstrated that these plans should confine themselves to provision of hospital facilities and should not include any type of medical care.

We recognize that health needs and means to supply such needs vary throughout the United States. Health needs usually depend on local conditions and therefore are primarily local problems. We therefore encourage county or district medical societies, with the approval of their state medical societies, to develop appropriate means to meet their local requirements.

In addition to insurance for hospitalization we believe it is practicable to develop cash indemnity insurance plans