

Grange for forty years, and was chairman of the Committee on Food of the New Haven War Bureau during the world war.

Dr. Britton began his professional work at a time when difficult insect problems were arising. Early in his career the San José scale was discovered in Connecticut. The gipsy moth presented further problems, both administrative and technical. It was followed by the Japanese beetle, the European corn-borer and the Oriental beetle. In addition came the task of organizing and administering mosquito control.

A long list of publications attest Dr. Britton's tireless professional activities. Outstanding among these are his thirty-eight annual reports on the insects of Connecticut, a comprehensive series of publications which are continually referred to by entomologists everywhere. Bulletins from his department of the experiment station include among others a plant pest handbook. Publications of the State Geological and Natural History Survey also are noteworthy, including a check list of the insects of Connecticut, a guide to the insects of Connecticut and monographs of the Euplexoptera and Orthoptera, the Hymenoptera, the Hemiptera and the Odonata. At the time of his death a monograph of the Diptera of Connecticut was being prepared. In addition to these various reports and bulletins, Dr. Britton was the author of many articles in farm papers and magazines.

Most of all, Dr. Britton was a helpful co-worker among entomologists, giving freely of his energies and always contributing the orderly judgment which was a part of his fine mental equipment. His service to his state was signally recognized on July 30, 1936, at the Farm and Home Week, when he was especially honored as a leader in agricultural and rural life.

W. C. O'KANE

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. CHARLES RUPERT STOCKARD, professor of anatomy and head of the department at the Cornell University Medical College, died on April 7 at the age of sixty years.

DR. WILLIAM HALLOCK PARK, Hermann M. Biggs professor of preventive medicine at the New York University Medical School, formerly director of the Bureau of Laboratories of the Health Department of New York City, died suddenly on April 6 at the age of seventy-five years.

DR. JAMES CLIFTON EDGAR, emeritus professor of obstetrics at the Cornell University Medical College, died on April 7. He was in his eightieth year.

DR. WILLIAM C. THRO, from 1918 to 1937 professor of clinical pathology at the Cornell University Medical College, died on April 6. He was sixty-four years old.

DR. THOMAS S. BAKER, from 1922 to 1935, when he retired with the title emeritus, president of the Carnegie Institute of Technology, died on April 7 at the age of sixty-eight years.

ON the occasion of the celebration of the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Théodule Ribot, who played an important part in France in the establishment of a scientific psychology, a commemorative ceremony will be held in Paris in June. There will also be celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the chair in experimental psychology in the Collège de France, which was first held by Th. Ribot and later by Pierre Janet, and of the laboratory of physiological psychology at the Sorbonne, of which Dr. Alfred Binet was director.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

PATENT INQUIRY OF THE AMERICAN ENGINEERING COUNCIL

THE Executive Committee of the American Engineering Council at its meeting on December 8 accepted the invitation of the National Industrial Conference Board to undertake a factual inquiry into the American Patent System. The inquiry is to be conducted by a separate special staff employed under direction of the Patents Committee of the American Engineering Council. The inquiry is to be financed from funds outside the present income of American Engineering Council, which are being provided by the National Industrial Conference Board.

The announcement of the plan was made by the

National Industrial Conference Board in the following statement:

A comprehensive investigation of the whole patent problem has just been started by the National Industrial Conference Board, independent fact-finding organization of management and labor. Technical phases of the investigation will be supervised by the Committee on Patents of the American Engineering Council, while the economic aspects will be analyzed by the conference board's economists under supervision of Dr. Robert F. Martin, director of the Economic Research Division of the board. Much work on the patent situation has already been done by the American Engineering Council Committee under the chairmanship of R. S. McBride, consulting chemical engineer. The other members of the committee are James