Administrator. Of Dr. Pearson's forty-four years of active service, practically all were spent in administrative positions. Beginning in 1895, the year after his graduation from Cornell University, he was assistant chief of the Dairy Division of the Federal Bureau of Animal Industry, and all positions held thereafter were administrative. In his case there was not the usual probationary period in less conspicuous positions. From this service in the department, he became successively general manager of the Walker-Gordon Laboratory Company, professor of dairy industry at Cornell University College of Agriculture, commissioner of agriculture for the State of New York, president of Iowa State College, president of the University of Maryland and, finally, special assistant to the administrator of the Farm Security Administration. During this period he also had been president of the New York State Agricultural Society, 1908–1911; president of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities in 1923, and chairman of its executive committee from 1919 to 1935. In recognition of this long and faithful service, the association voted him a permanent honorary membership on the executive committee.

Educator. After seventeen years in administrative work, Dr. Pearson became president of Iowa State College in March of 1912 and remained in that capacity for more than fourteen years to the end of August, 1926. He then served as president of the University of Maryland for nine academic years, to 1935. In this period of nearly 24 years there was a most amazing development in the curriculums of agriculture, home economics, engineering and science. Of this development President Pearson was not only a part but a recognized leader.

Planner. Perhaps the better word is seer, because without vision there can be no planning. Dr. Pearson saw visions and dreamed dreams and then wrote them down as plans. This was not a one-man process but a matter of the meeting of many minds on the problems and procedures of institutional growth. So Iowa State College was developed, with a plan which has kept it what the founders started, a beautiful as well as a useful institution of learning, in a more than beautiful setting. So, too, was developed the University of Maryland.

Builder. It is one thing to plan and another to build the plan into accomplished fact. Dr. Pearson did both. No greater tribute can be given. Each institution under his administration has permanent mementoes of his ability in making dreams come true in brick and stone and beauty. He built, too, in finer, more priceless and more enduring materials than these. He built spacious and beautiful structures in the imaginations, the personalities and the characters of thousands of the young men and women of America.

Statesman. The characteristics already set forth constitute true statesmanship. The ability to see, to plan and to build are the measure of the administrator whose works shall last and, while they last, shall contribute to the building of the minds and characters of men and hence to the greatness and stability of the nation.

Friend. What has been said has concerned Dr. Pearson primarily as an official of various institutions. There remains yet the privilege of paying tribute to Dr. Pearson as a man and a friend. Many thousands of students, faculty and alumni will remember with pleasure and gratitude his personal interest in their problems, his rejoicing in their successes, his sympathy with their misfortunes and his firm belief in better things to come. His personal interest did not cease with his successive transfers to new fields of labor, but he kept a warm place in his heart for the scenes where he had labored and the people with whom he had been associated in the years before. This characteristic of Dr. Pearson, perhaps more than any other, will remain long in the memories of the Washington alumni of Iowa State College.

RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. ALFRED STENGEL, vice-president in charge of medical affairs of the University of Pennsylvania, emeritus professor of medicine in the School of Medicine, died suddenly on April 10 at the age of seventy years.

ADOLF CARL NOÉ, associate professor of paleobotany at the University of Chicago, died on April 10 at the age of sixty-six years.

PHILIP E. BLISS, president of the Warner and Swasey Company, Cleveland, manufacturers of astronomical instruments and machine tools, died on April 11 at the age of fifty-three years.

DAVID JULIAN BLOCK, chemist, director of the Block Laboratories, Chicago, died on April 8. He was sixty-four years old.

HENRY A. WISE WOOD, chairman of the board and formerly president of the Wood Newspaper Machinery Corporation, inventor of modern high-speed newspaper presses, died suddenly on April 9 at the age of seventy-three years.

AT a memorial service held at the Cornell University Medical College for Dr. Charles R. Stockard, president of the board of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research and head of the department of anatomy of the college, who died on April 7 at the age of sixty years. The speakers included Dr. William Ladd, dean of the college; Dr. Herbert S. Gasser, director of the laboratories of the Rockefeller Institute, and Dr. James Ewing, director of Memorial Hospital, New York.

IT is stated in *Nature* that it is proposed to estab-

lish a trust fund to the memory of the late Professor Henry E. Armstrong. At the Finsbury Technical College and later at the Central College, South Kensington, Dr. Armstrong and his co-workers, Dr. Ayrton and Dr. Perry, tried out and established the principles of technical education in Great Britain, and thus encouraged the foundation of polytechnics and technical colleges. The hope is for a memorial fund amounting to about £3,000. This will provide a guarantee fund to give, as it accumulates, enough to ensure the publication (or to give substantial financial assistance in the publication or preparation) of any original works, within Professor Armstrong's recognized interests, that it would otherwise be impossible to publish. Publications will carry as frontispiece a portrait of Professor Armstrong, a biographical note and a reference to the foundation and objects of the trust. Furthermore, the fund will provide for a memorial plaque, or bust, for the City and Guilds College, South Kensington.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE NETHERLANDS GRAVITY EXPEDITION

HER Majesty's submarine O–16 of the Netherlands Navy will leave Holland for the East Indies in May, on a new extensive gravity expedition sponsored by the Netherlands Geodetic Commission. The ship will be commanded by Lieutenant-Commander B. C. Meurs Schouten. The route of the expedition has been carefully planned in such a way that valuable scientific results may be expected. The submarine will proceed by way of Dakar, Capetown, and Durban to Java. The research will be carried out by Dr. W. Nieuwenkamp, attached to the Netherlands Geodetic Commission, which is to continue the gravity of the sea, so successfully pursued by Dr. F. A. Vening Meinesz on recent expeditions.

Observations will be made both with the multiple pendulum apparatus and with a new pendulum instrument of long period which was constructed for the measurements of the ship's accelerations and the determination of Browne's second order corrections. For timing the pendulum observations, the older chronometer will be replaced by the crystal chronometer constructed by the Bell Telephone Laboratories. This fundamental method for improving the timing of the pendulums was first used in 1937 on the U. S. Navy-American Geophysical Union Expedition under the direction of Dr. Maurice Ewing, who, together with Dr. Morison, perfected its application. The crystal chronometer was sent to the British Admiralty for their gravity cruise last summer by the International Commission on Continental and Oceanic Structure (Dr. R. M. Field, chairman), and is now on loan to the Dutch Navy under the same auspices. The increase in precision introduced through the use of the crystal chronometer has also been demonstrated on land by Ewing, Woolard and Johnson in investigations of the geological structure of the eastern coastal plain and reported by Dr. Ewing to the American Philosophical Society in 1937.

The Netherlands expedition will record its soundings by the echo method with the collaboration of naval authorities in effecting the special arrangements needed. It is anticipated that soundings will prove possible even when proceeding on the sea's surface and that a continuous series of soundings will give valuable data for the entire route of the submarine. It is expected that the results of this expedition will greatly assist in answering such questions as: (1) how generally deep ocean basins show positive anomalies as have been found in nearly all cases on previous trips; (2) whether gravity anomalies in the Atlantic west of Morocco show evidence of the continuation of the tectonic folding axis of the Moroccan mountain range; (3) whether the Mid-Atlantic Ridge and the Walfish Ridge in the South Atlantic are in isostatic equilibrium, and other geophysical questions arising concerning the areas crossed by the route. Observational material relative to gravity in the region of the Indian Ocean up to the present time is exceedingly scarce.

The expedition is indicative of important results that may be obtained through international cooperation, and it is hoped that a preliminary report will be included in the report of the Commission on Continental and Oceanic Structure at the Seventh Assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics which is to convene in Washington next September.

THE SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

IN the annual report of H. H. Bennett, chief of the Soil Conservation Service, it is stated that during the past fiscal year farmers in 18 of the 25 states which had enabling legislation organized 72 soil conservation districts, with a total area of more than 38 million acres. By the end of June, 34 of these districts had entered into cooperative agreements with the Soil Conservation Service, and the farmers of 18 districts were already actively engaged in conservation work.

Farmers in conservation districts have provided virtually all supplies and materials required for erosion control measures, and the contribution of the Soil Conservation Service has been limited generally to technical service for planning and to types of labor