

attend one of his lectures to receive anew the inspiration of earlier days. Although Dr. Hill was absorbed in his research the major part of his lecture work was with freshmen, and no one knows how many of these young men were inspired by his wonderful qualities as a teacher.

Aside from his superb ability as an instructor he was an indefatigable worker in his own research laboratory. Many graduate students have worked under his direction. He was not content, however, unless he too was actually carrying on research. His investigations were largely of an inorganic or physical nature, including analytical problems and the solubility relationships in binary, ternary and quaternary systems. His most important publications were with respect to the application of the phase rule to heterogeneous systems.

Although absorbed in his teaching and research he

found time to serve as dean of the College of Arts and Pure Science in 1932-33 and in 1935-36.

He became a member of the American Chemical Society in 1901 and served as chairman of the New York Section, councilor of the section, chairman of the physical and inorganic section, associate editor of the *Journal* and was a member of the Chemists Club.

We, his colleagues, his students and his associates in chemistry, will miss the inspiring presence of Dr. Arthur E. Hill. His place can not, we feel, be filled as he would have filled it. We all, however, feel grateful to have known such a man, to have been associated with him and to have been helped by him. He has left us a fine example of rectitude and devotion to duty which will be a vital force for many years to come.

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## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### THE SWEDISH STATE INSTITUTE OF NATIONAL HEALTH

IN 1936 the Swedish Government instructed certain authorities on different aspects of hygiene to study and report on the possibilities of creating a representative State Institute of National Health.

*The British Medical Journal* reports that the plan recommended by the authorities consulted has now been published in the form of a 78-page report supplemented by architects' drawings. It is proposed that the three main activities of the new institute shall concern (1) general hygiene, (2) occupational hygiene and (3) dietetics and food control. In each of these three main spheres the institute will conduct investigations and will serve as an adviser both to the authorities and to the general public. It must also give instruction in social welfare and medicine to doctors, nurses and health inspectors, and must also organize health propaganda. A most important activity will be the health aspects of housing. Maternity and child welfare, the care of the tuberculous, medical statistics and medical and social legislation will also be the concern of the institute. It will further deal with the injuries and ailments resulting from faulty conditions of employment. The working conditions of young people and women, working hours and the public health aspects of rationalization in industry will also be dealt with. The control of the manufacture and sale of foodstuffs will be supplemented by certain educational activities with regard to the composition of household dietaries. All these and many other activities are to be conducted in one and the same block of buildings, which will house the administrative staff, the library and the museum. The architect's plans provide for some 170 rooms. It is calcu-

lated that the buildings will cost Kr. 1,800,000, and the furnishing about Kr. 400,000. The annual cost of salaries will be Kr. 240,000, and other expenses Kr. 110,000. It is not expected that the buildings will be completed at the earliest before some time in 1940.

### STUDY OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE FERNS AND FLOWERING PLANTS OF PENNSYLVANIA

WITH a number of institutions cooperating, a comprehensive study of the distribution of the ferns and flowering plants occurring naturally in Pennsylvania is being made in the department of botany of the University of Pennsylvania. The study involves the handling of approximately 300,000 botanical records and has been made possible by the assignment of a special technical and clerical staff from the Works Progress Administration.

Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr., assistant professor and curator of the herbarium, is directing this study. Other members of the faculty and a group of graduate students in botany are assisting in scientific aspects of the project. In addition to the University of Pennsylvania, other institutions in the state, including Pennsylvania State College, the Carnegie Museum and the University of Pittsburgh, the State Herbarium at Harrisburg and the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia are cooperating by making available all pertinent records and information.

According to Dr. Fogg, a separate card upon which is printed the entire list of sixty-seven Pennsylvania counties is being used to record detailed information concerning each one of the 3,000 or more species of ferns and flowering plants which must be covered in the survey.