genetical studies chiefly relate to hybridization of birds. Poll (1914) was among the first to appreciate the promise of the twin-method and to utilize it in genetical research.

Poll's stimulating discussions of scientific matters would alone hold him close in the memories of those who knew him. But his friends have gained much more from the man, the warmth and fullness of his understanding, be it in sharing a sunrise or in united attack on some entangled problem.

HAROLD CUMMINS

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## RECENT DEATHS

DR. ALGERNON COOLIDGE, since 1911 professor emeritus of laryngology at the Harvard Medical School, died on August 16 at the age of seventy-nine years.

DR. CLEMENT ROSS JONES, since 1932 dean emeritus of the College of Engineering of the West Virginia University, died on August 16 at the age of sixty-eight years.

DR. ALBERT COULSON BUCKLEY, professor of psychiatry at the Graduate School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania and honorary consulting psychiatrist at Philadelphia General Hospital, died on August 17 at the age of sixty-six years.

# SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

## THE NEW BRITISH NON-FERROUS METAL RESEARCH LABORATORIES

OLIVER STANLEY, president of the British Board of Trade, opened on June 29 the new laboratories of the British Non-Ferrous Metals Research Association in London. According to an article in the London *Times,* in the entrance hall he unveiled a bronze portrait plaque, erected as a memorial to Thomas Bolton, who from 1920 to his death in 1937 was chairman of the association.

The new premises provide a center for the research necessary in the metallurgical industries. Non-ferrous metals have been extensively used to show their advantages in modern building. The heating installation, electrical conduit, certain water supplies, plumbing and principal rain pipes are in copper; other water supplies are in BNF ternary lead alloy No. 2; water fittings in nickel silver and bronze; the principal stair balustrade has a nickel silver handrail, with anodized aluminium tubular standards, and door furniture is of nickel silver, anodized aluminium and bronze.

At semi-basement level there is a melting shop, with furnaces of many kinds, and nearby is a galvanizing and welding shop. The mechanical testing laboratory includes a constant temperature room, maintained at 68 deg. F., with a control to within plus or minus half a degree, so that no two points in the room differ by more than one degree. The machine shop includes a guillotine capable of cutting sheet steel up to 18 gauge. The physics laboratory is equipped with highly sensitive instruments for spectrographic analysis, general physical testing, thermal conductivity, specific-gravity determinations and reflectivity measurement.

In one of the two rooms reserved for metallography, photographic work is carried out on a large projection microscope with which magnifications from three to 2,500 diameters can be obtained. There are also chemistry laboratories, a pyrometry and heat treatment laboratory, laboratories for investigating corrosion, a general laboratory, a development department which interprets and demonstrates the result of the association's researches, offices, a library containing 4,000 books and 20,000 pamphlets and a store room.

The building is steel framed, with brick panel walls. Easy access to the flat roof makes it convenient to expose specimens to atmospheric corrosion.

The British Non-Ferrous Metals Research Association is a national organization of producers, manufacturers and users of non-ferrous metals, established in 1920 for the promotion and use of scientific knowledge in industry. It has grown to a large organization with nearly 300 subscribing members and a total income exceeding £30,000 a year, a proportion of which is received from the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research on a basis which provides for increased government grant as the industrial income increases. The association conducts researches on technical problems of common interest to groups of members and assists in the application to industrial practice of its own research results and of other advances in science.

## EXPEDITION TO THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

AN expedition to the Pacific Islands, under the auspices of the National Geographic Society and the University of Virginia with the cooperation of the U. S. Coast Guard, will sail from San Francisco shortly after the middle of September on board the U. S. Coast Guard cutter *Hamilton,* a 328-foot vessel.

Professor Wilbur A. Nelson, of the University of Virginia, will be the leader of the expedition and in charge of its geological work. Dr. C. S. Piggot, geophysicist, of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, will make studies from cores of mud taken from the ocean bottom. Professor Maurice Ewing, geophysicist of Lehigh University, will carry on gravity investigations at sea and will make special studies by means of