ton, and the distress to which it would finally lead southern agriculture. He saw the boundless possibilities in the growing of forage crops and the production of live stock under the most favorable climatic conditions in this country. In and out of season, he counseled conservation of the soil and diversification of agriculture.

He was much sought for his advice and counsel in all phases of agricultural work, for he was the kindliest of men, always ready to help to the full extent of his ability. He was a staunch and loyal friend to all who were earnestly striving to do their part in the world's work. The writer has known Mr. Perkins for more than forty years and during all that time we have known him to stand unflinchingly for the truth, even at times when it endangered his position to do so. If pressure to the contrary became too great he quietly stepped aside without recrimination, rather than to truckle to unwise dictators or to pernicious politics. Southern agriculture has lost a zealous advocate, an able administrator, a careful student and a just man.

GLENN W. HERRICK

RECENT DEATHS

SIGMUND FREUD died in London on September 23. He was eighty-three years old.

CHARLES F. SHAW, professor of soil technology at the University of California, died suddenly on September 12 at the age of fifty-eight years.

THOMAS D. RICE, senior soil scientist of the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, died on August 23 at the age of sixty-one years.

L. W. FORMAN, superintendent of experiments in soils and research assistant professor in the Agricultural Experiment Station of the Iowa State College, died on September 9 at the age of fifty-eight years.

ANDREW CLAUDE DE LA C. CROMMELIN, for thirty-six years a member of the staff of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, known for his work on comets and minor planets, died on September 20 at the age of seventy-four years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE EVACUATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

IN its issue for September 12, the London *Times* reports that next term students of the University of London will be scattered over various parts of the United Kingdom. Arrangements were almost complete for the evacuation of the whole of the university, and it was hoped to begin the new term early in October. Meanwhile the administrative offices will remain at the Royal Holloway College, Englefield Green.

An attempt has been made, wherever possible, to move the whole of each college to its new home, and other universities have cooperated with London in completing its arrangements.

University College is the only one which had been unable to find accommodations for all its students in one place. The men are going to the University of Wales, Aberystwyth; the women medical students to Sheffield, and other women students to Wales.

King's College, which has decided to discontinue its courses in Spanish, journalism, psychology and chemical engineering and its evening classes, is going to Bristol.

Other colleges are going to the following places:

King's College of Household and Social Science, Wales.
Queen Mary College, Cambridge.
Institute of Education, University College, Nottingham.
School of Oriental Studies, Cambridge.
Goldsmiths' College, Nottingham.
Westfield College for Women, Oxford.
College of Pharmaceutical Society, Wales.
Bedford College. Not yet decided.
Imperial College of Science and Technology, Edinburgh.
The Mining Department is moving to Camborne, Cornwall.

The medical schools are going to the following centers:

St. Bartholomew's Hospital and College, London, and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine to Cambridge.
Guy's and St. Thomas's to Oxford.
Middlesex to Bristol.
St. Mary's to Manchester.
London School of Medicine for Women to Aberdeen and St. Andrews.
King's College Medical School to Glasgow.

CHEMICAL IMPORTS OF THE UNITED STATES

IN the United States, according to a report of the Chemical Division of the Department of Commerce, imports of chemicals and related products, including gums, resins, drying oils and drying seeds, increased steadily during the first half of the current year and recorded a gain of 18 per cent. over receipts of such products in the corresponding months of 1938.

Receipts for these materials reached a total value of $90,000,000 in the current year period, against $76,473,000 in the corresponding months of 1938, with fertilizer materials making up 24 per cent. of the total;

drying oils and drying oil seeds, 21 per cent.; medicinal materials and crude drugs, 10 per cent.; and gums, resins, balsams and waxes, 8 per cent.

Imports of fertilizer materials, not including tankage, showed little change in the first half of the current year, compared with the same period of 1938, remaining at about 800,000 tons valued at about $19,000,000, but imports of tankage increased sharply to 33,072 tons valued at $1,224,000 from 13,648 tons valued at $432,000 in the first half of last year.

Some changes occurred in the drying oil and drying oil seed group, due to disturbances in China, which reduced that country's exports of tung oil, but the aggregate for the whole classification advanced approximately 13 per cent., due to heavier imports of perilla and oiticica oils and flaxseed. In this group imports of tung oil decreased from 50,400,000 pounds in the first half of 1938 to 39,500,000 pounds in the current year period; but receipts of flaxseed increased from 7,383,000 to 10,763,000 bushels; perilla oil, from 15,571,000 to 23,000,000 pounds, and oiticica oil, from 1,360,000 to 9,019,000.

Among the medicinal and related product materials, receipts of cod-liver oil increased from 2,381,500 to 2,896,500 gallons; crude drugs, including cinchona bark, from $3,906,000 to $4,744,000 in value; and medicinal materials, including cinchona products, from $2,323,000 to $2,593,000, according to preliminary statistics.

Imports of coal-tar products increased sharply in the first half of the year to $10,742,000 in value from $7,330,600 in the same months of 1938, due to the heavy receipts of dyes, colors and stains from Germany.

Other items on the chemical and related product import list recording gains in the first half of the current year, compared with the 1938 period, included beeswax, receipts of which increased in value from $298,000 to $447,500; gums, resins and balsams, from $4,825,000 to $5,828,000; carnauba wax, from $2,494,000 to $2,844,000; vegetable wax, from $152,000 to $347,000; essential oils, from $2,285,000 to $2,755,500; vegetable dyeing and tanning materials, from $2,466,000 to $3,573,000; industrial chemicals, from $7,822,000 to $9,899,000; and soap and toiletry raw materials, from $1,132,800 to $1,310,000.

Other items recording decrease included glue stock, imports of which declined in value from $1,539,500 to $919,680; agar-agar, from $201,000 to $158,000; and industrial explosives, from $475,500 to $270,000.

BIOLOGICAL ABSTRACTS

Biological Abstracts is undertaking a more complete abstracting and segregation of the current research literature in bioclimatology and biometeorology. The section Bioclimatology-Biometeorology will appear within the section Ecology, and will be under the editorship of Robert G. Stone, of the Blue Hill Observatory of Harvard University.

Attention is called to the increasing interest in climatic and meteorological factors in their relation to biology, medicine and agriculture. It is pointed out that ecologists have long appreciated the importance of temperature, humidity, radiation, barometric pressure, wind movement and meteorological factors generally as important factors in controlling the distribution and abundance of animals and plants, and that foresters, horticulturists and entomologists have likewise been concerned with the interrelationships of climatic and meteorological factors to the organisms with which they work. The developments of air conditioning and aviation have brought other research groups into the field, including individuals and groups the results of whose work frequently appears in periodicals not commonly consulted by biologists. The announcement reads:

> In all civilized nations diverse research groups have sprung into being which, though they often devote much attention to the same fundamental natural forces, still work in practical isolation from each other, with a different background of training and associations, belonging to different societies meeting at different times and places, publishing in different journals, reading different literature, investigating different types of things. These groups, however, are beginning to apply common ideas and common methods to the study of situations that are basically similar. For example, techniques and concepts derived from a study of the influence of weather factors on the spread of influenza or the common cold are likely to have a very high transfer value as applied to the study of the spread or survival of plant disease or economic insects. Conversely, it should be possible for research workers in the field of public health to make use of many findings of the entomologists, foresters, ecologists, plant pathologists and other biological groups.
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> The abstracting journals of broad scope, like *Biological Abstracts*, are admirably suited to the sort of synthesis of fundamental knowledge that this situation demands. In inaugurating this service *Biological Abstracts* will be fulfilling one of the functions for which it was originally intended: that of providing an effective tool for research workers by coordinating the literature of border-line fields.

Under the sectional publication plan this material will be found, at present, not only in Section A, General Biology, but also under section B, Experimental Animal Biology; Section D, Plant Sciences, and Section E, Animal Sciences.

THE SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMS OF THE CHICAGO MEDICAL SOCIETY

THE Chicago Medical Society is planning a series of all-day programs for the consideration of various diseases to be held on the third Wednesday of each