DR. JOSEPH B. LINDSEY, from 1911 to 1927 head of the department of chemistry at the Massachusetts State College and from 1911 to 1932 Goessmann professor of agricultural chemistry, died on October 27 at the age of seventy-seven years.

DR. WILLARD BURR SOPER, associate professor of medicine at Yale University and medical director of the William Wirt Winchester Hospital, the tuberculosis unit of the New Haven Hospital, died on October 30 at the age of fifty-six years.

COLONEL GUSTAV J. FIEBEGER, Corps of Engineers, who for twenty-six years was head of the department of civil and military engineering of the United States Military Academy at West Point, died on October 18 at the age of eighty-one years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE GALTON LABORATORY

DR. R. A. FISHER, Galton professor of eugenics at University College, London, writes under date of September 29 the following letter to the editor of the London *Times*:

The evacuation of London University has been represented as carefully planned and smoothly carried out in accordance with prior arrangements, and I am sure that the central officials of this loose federation have done what they can in difficult circumstances. The position in which the Galton Laboratory finds itself may be typical of other research departments in the university, or it may be, as I hope, exceptional, but it is scarcely what could have been intended by the careful planners.

The laboratory was founded on a generous bequest of the benefactor whose name it bears, and has, I presume, an unquestioned right to the provision of facilities for the prosecution of its researches. Nevertheless it has been ordered to evacuate the accommodation it now occupies at University College without alternative accommodation being provided. Worse than this, when in my difficulty I approached my former chief, Sir John Russell, Director of the Rothamsted Experimental Station, and he had helpfully and generously offered to provide alternative accommodation for my department and equipment rent free, I was informed that my assistants, while still in receipt of their salaries, are forbidden to continue their duties.

As the head of this department, therefore, the only determined policy which I can recognize on the part of the College Committee is that of suppressing research work and dispersing the research units such as that which it has been my work and, as I understood it, my duty to build up.

During the last war our administrators learned, though perhaps with some reluctance, that men trained in research were essential for the success of the national effort. The remaining nucleus of my department, if I may speak in its praise, constitutes a unit for heavy mathematical computations as efficient, both in machines and men, as the country can command. Obviously no work of first-class national importance can be found for such a unit at a few days' notice. I submit that it is almost equally obvious that in certain contingencies its continued existence might be of the greatest value, so long as the machines and the expert knowledge had been kept together. Can not a little patience be exercised before completing its demolition?

THE PRIVATELY ENDOWED COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

A BROADCAST sponsored by the alumni of the Case School of Applied Science was made on October 28 for consideration of the question, "What's Ahead for the Privately Endowed College of Engineering?" The program, which was given at a luncheon of the alumni in Cleveland, was carried nationally over the Mutual Broadcasting Company's system.

The consensus of opinion of the six participants in the radio discussion was that engineering colleges which depend on endowment and gifts need additional funds to overcome the decline in earnings from investments and to provide for new educational services. These funds should be sought from those benefited, directly or indirectly, from the work of the colleges, These comprise the alumni, industry, which depends on these colleges for their trained personnel, and society, which profits from the earnings of industry. The reasons why so few large gifts have been made to colleges of technology is due, the conferees believed, because of the inactivity of these institutions in placing their needs before persons of wealth.

Participants in the radio discussion were leaders in industry and scientific men, all residents of Cleveland. The speakers were: George S. Case, chairman of the board, Lamson and Sessions Company; Lee M. Clegg, executive vice-president, Thompson Products Company; David Dietz, science editor, Scripps-Howard Newspapers; Randolph Eide, president of the Ohio Bell Telephone Company; Sam W. Emerson, president of the S. W. Emerson Company, contractors, and Dr. Zay Jeffries, technical director, Lamp Department, General Electric Company.

In summing up the problem of getting funds for technological education, Dr. William E. Wickenden, president of the Case School of Applied Science, said:

Traditional motive makes it much easier to get money for religion, for hospitals, for medical research and for the fine arts, than for science and engineering. Our graduates are giving splendidly, out of loyalty, but I wonder if our big job is not to implant new motives in the minds of wealthy men.

One such motive is this: No man, no company, no industry can do business to-day without the aid of the priceless heritage of science and skill which has come down to it all the way from Tubal Cain to Arthur Compton without a cent of direct cost. Take away Faraday's work and where would the electrical industry be? There's a moral debt to be paid, and the best way to pay it is through the schools of applied science. Then, too, much of to-day's wealth is coming from natural resources we can never replace. Every pound of coal or iron, every gallon of oil, every foot of natural gas we consume makes it just that much harder for our children and their children to make a good life. This is going to hit Cleveland, which owes so much of its wealth and greatness to these resources, unless it builds up resources in science and skill to take their place. That is the way to make good to the future for what we are using up to-day, to build up science and skill.

An institute of applied science, such as Case, really asks nothing for itself. Every cent goes back to the community and the nation with its value multiplied, to make to-day's living better and to-morrow's future more secure.

THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY AND OTOLARYNGOLOGY

DR. FRANK R. SPENCER, of Boulder, Colo., was chosen president-elect of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology at the annual session held in Chicago on October 11. He will succeed Dr. Frank E. Brawley, of Chicago, when the latter becomes president of the academy on January 1. Dr. Spencer is a graduate of the University of Michigan Medical School and has been a member of the faculty of the University of Colorado School of Medicine since 1905.

The academy decided to act as sponsor for a proposed Pan American congress of ophthalmology and otolaryngology. South American physicians attending the meeting in Chicago will arrange for the attendance of delegates from their respective countries to such a congress to be held in connection with the next meeting of the academy. It is understood that invitations to each of the countries concerned will have the sanction of the Department of State and will be forwarded through diplomatic channels.

Other officers elected were Drs. Arthur W. Proetz, St. Louis, *first vice-president;* Joseph F. Duane, Peoria, Ill., *second vice-president,* and Charles T. Porter, Boston, *third vice-president;* Secord H. Large, Cleveland, *comptroller,* and William P. Wherry, Omaha, Nebr., *executive secretary,* reelected. Dr. Erling W. Hansen, Minneapolis, was elected secretary for public relations, succeeding Dr. Ralph A. Fenton, Portland, Ore., who resigned. The following secretaries were reelected: Drs. William L. Benedict, Rochester, Minn., for ophthalmology; John L. Myers, Kansas City, Mo., for otolaryngology; Dean M. Lierle, Iowa City, for instruction in otolaryngology, and Albert D. Ruedemann, for instruction in ophthalmology. Dr. Albert C. Snell, Rochester, N. Y., was elected a member of the academy's governing council, and Dr. Frederick C. Cordes, San Francisco, to represent the academy on the American Board of Ophthalmology.

The academy continued the following appropriations for research: Dr. Olof Larsell, University of Oregon Medical School, Portland, $400 for research on development of the internal ear; Dr. M. H. Lurie, Harvard Medical School, Boston, $400 for research on the balancing apparatus of the ear, and for the Army Medical Museum at Washington, D. C., $1,500 for maintaining collections of pathological specimens in diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. An appropriation of $1,500 was also made for the establishment under the supervision of the academy of reading courses for young physicians serving as residents in hospitals who are preparing for specialization in diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. A grant of $400 was made to Dr. Spencer for research on the action of drugs on tubercle bacilli in the nose and throat. The committee on physiological optics received $50 and the committee on orthoptics $200.

SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITIONS

THE expedition sponsored by the National Geographic Society and the University of Virginia with the U. S. Coast Guard cooperating, which was to have sailed from San Francisco on September 19 on the Coast Guard cutter *Hamilton* has been postponed. The *Hamilton* has been ordered to Atlantic waters as part of the coast patrol. In preparation for the expedition tons of scientific equipment had been shipped to the Pacific Coast to be loaded on the *Hamilton,* and members of the expedition had spent months of intensive work in preparing apparatus for studying geology, magnetism of the earth, variations in gravity, earthquakes, marine biology, weather, ocean currents, and for collecting samples of the ocean bottom from great depths. The expedition was planned to conduct the most extensive program of scientific work so far attempted in the region of the Pacific Islands. Professor Wilbur A. Nelson, leader of the expedition, is returning to his work as professor of geology at the University of Virginia, to await conditions better suited to scientific research on the high seas.

THE second Fahnestock expedition to the South Seas of the American Museum of Natural History, organized by Bruce and Sheridan Fahnestock, will leave New York in the near future in the three-masted auxiliary schooner *Director II.* In addition to collecting material for six habitat studies for the new Whitney Memorial Bird Hall and specimens of fish, insects and minerals, islands out of position on existing charts will be remapped. It is expected that the ex-