

an adequate opportunity in that restricted field he turned his energies to applied geology, in which he was also much interested, serving in the summer of 1937 as geologist with the Consolidated Gold Alluvials Company of Wingdam, British Columbia, and later serving for nearly two years as geologist with the Britannia Mining and Smelting Company, Britannia, British Columbia.

Graham described nine, or about half, of the new species thus far identified from American coal balls, and there is little doubt that his species are based on substantial distinctions. It is chiefly to Graham's work that we must turn to learn of the paleontological distinctions between the flora of higher McLeansboro of Illinois and the well-known Lower Coal Measures flora of England. Other contributions have generally lacked the essential paleontological outlook which he possessed, so that generalized identifications which tended to obscure the age relations were elsewhere carried into our literature. There can be no question that Graham's work was of high caliber and, in comparison with the rest of our fragmentary knowledge, exceedingly valuable. Consequently, his loss was a serious one to this rather neglected field of science in America.

He will be greatly missed by his former teachers

and associates, who were not slow to discover the earnest, lofty but friendly spirit beneath a somewhat shy exterior.

EDSON S. BASTIN

RECENT DEATHS

DR. HENRY L. SWAIN, professor of diseases of the ear, throat and nose of the Medical School of Yale University, died on January 11 at the age of seventy-five years.

DR. CHARLES E. COATES, dean emeritus of the College of Pure and Applied Science at the Louisiana State University, known for his work as sugar technologist, died on December 27 in his seventy-fourth year.

ALBERT H. BUMSTEAD, for twenty-five years chief cartographer of the National Geographical Society, died on January 9 at the age of sixty-four years.

EDMUND NEVILLE NEVILL, late director of the Government Observatory at Natal, died on January 17 at the age of ninety-three years.

Nature reports the death of Dr. Eduard Fischer, professor of botany at the University of Bern from 1897 until 1933, and of Prince Ginori Conti, the Italian industrial chemist.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN

It is announced in *Nature* that an Advisory Council on Scientific Research and Technical Development has been set up by the British Minister of Supply to advise him on scientific and technical problems. The main functions of the council will be to ensure that the work of the Directorate of Scientific Research is carried out with due regard to recent advances in scientific knowledge, to introduce new fields of research and development and to make recommendations regarding the most effective use of scientific personnel. The chairman of the council is Lord Cadman, emeritus professor of mining and petroleum technology in the University of Birmingham, chairman of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, Ltd., and of the Iraq Petroleum Company, Ltd. The Admiralty, Air Ministry and Ministry of Home Security are also represented on the council, of which the joint secretaries are E. T. Paris and F. Roffey, of the Ministry of Supply, Adelphi, W.C.2.

The council is constituted as follows:

Professor E. N. da C. Andrade, professor of physics, University College, London; Dr. E. V. Appleton, secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research; Sir Joseph Barcroft, formerly professor of physiology, University of Cambridge; Professor W. L. Bragg, Cavendish

professor of physics, University of Cambridge; Major-General E. M. C. Clarke, director of artillery (military adviser), Ministry of Supply; Professor J. D. Cockcroft, professor of natural philosophy, University of Cambridge; Major-General A. E. Davidson, controller of mechanization development (military adviser), Ministry of Supply; Dr. H. J. Gough, director of scientific research, Ministry of Supply; Dr. H. L. Guy, chief engineer, Mechanical Engineering Department, Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd.; Sir Harold Hartley, vice-president and director of research, L.M.S. Railway, and chairman of the Fuel Research Board; Professor I. M. Heilbron, professor of organic chemistry, University of London; Professor A. V. Hill, secretary, Royal Society, and Foulerton research professor (physiology); Professor R. S. Hutton, professor of metallurgy, University of Cambridge; Sir Robert Robertson, director of the Salters' Institute of Industrial Chemistry, formerly government chemist; Sir Robert Robinson, professor of chemistry, University of Oxford; J. Rogers, deputy director-general of explosives, Ministry of Supply; Sir Frank Smith, director of instrument production, Ministry of Supply, director of research, Anglo-Iranian Oil Co.; Professor R. V. Southwell, professor of engineering, University of Oxford; Professor G. I. Taylor, Yarrow research professor of the Royal Society (engineering); Sir Maurice Taylor, senior military adviser, Ministry of Supply; Sir Henry Tizard, rector of Imperial College of Science, chairman, Aeronautical Research Committee.