

RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. ALVISO BURDETT STEVENS, until his retirement in 1919 dean of the College of Pharmacy of the University of Michigan, died on January 24 in his eighty-seventh year.

S. L. SIMMERING, professor of mechanical engineering and head of the department at the University of Colorado, died on January 27 at the age of fifty-five years.

DR. SHERMAN L. DAVIS, for thirty-five years professor of chemistry at Indiana University, died on February 1. He was seventy-five years old.

DR. CHARLES AUGUSTUS STRONG, professor of psychology at Columbia University from 1902 to 1912, died at Fiesoli, Italy, on January 23 at the age of seventy-seven years.

DR. EDWARD GLEASON SPAULDING, McCosh professor of philosophy at Princeton University, died on January 31. He was sixty-six years old.

DR. PRISCILLA AVERY, cytologist at the Botanical Garden of the University of California at Berkeley, died on December 29. She was forty years of age, and had been a member of the staff for twelve years.

PROFESSOR SIR GILBERT THOMAS MORGAN, who has been since 1925 director of the chemical research laboratory at Teddington of the British Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, died on February 1 at the age of sixty-nine years.

PROFESSOR HANS HORST MEYER, until his retirement in 1924 professor of pharmacology at the University of Vienna, died on October 8 at the age of eighty-six years. On his seventieth birthday the Vienna Academy of Sciences established the Hans Horst Meyer prize, which is awarded every five years for "research in the German language in the field of experimental medicine."

On the afternoon of January 30 there was held at the New York Academy of Medicine a memorial meeting in honor of the late Dr. Livingston Farrand. This meeting was held under the auspices of the many organizations with which Dr. Farrand was associated. The speakers were: Dr. Charles F. W. McClure, of Princeton, representing the class of 1888, of which Dr. Farrand was a member; Dr. Charles J. Hatfield, representing the National Tuberculosis Association; Homer Folks, representing the Rockefeller Tuberculosis Commission in France; Eliot Wadsworth, representing the American Red Cross; Dr. Albert R. Mann, representing Cornell University; Dr. James Ewing, representing Cornell University Medical College; Albert G. Milbank, representing the Milbank Memorial Fund, whose address was read by Frank G. Boudreau; Dr. Thomas Parran, representing the United States Public Health Service; Dr. Simon Flexner, representing the Public Health Council of the State of New York; Barklie Henry, representing the New York Hospital, and Dr. George E. Vincent, representing the Rockefeller Foundation.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

THE second annual report of Dr. William J. Robbins, director of the New York Botanical Garden, was presented to the Board of Managers and to the corporation on January 8. He stated that the herbarium of the garden had grown to 1,963,238 specimens, an increase of 30,000 over last year, all of them catalogued and filed for ready reference. The library had added nearly a thousand books in the past year, attendance at courses and lectures was greatly increased, publications of the garden had a much wider sale and distribution than ever before, and other facilities for the scholastic use of the garden had been developed.

Emphasis in the report was put on the place of the Botanical Garden in the life of the City of New York. Dr. Robbins writes:

The garden is a symbol of peace and orderliness and a place of relaxation in a busy city. Its importance in this report is an intangible; it can not be weighed or measured; yet such intangibles are of great significance.

For the garden to act effectively as a place of recreation and a symbol of peace necessitates having attractive and varied plantings indoors and out, placed in suitable settings, and arranged with due regard for the convenience and comfort of the public.

Progress toward this end has been made during 1939. Old plantings, such as the borders of annuals and perennials, dahlias, chrysanthemums and irises, have been maintained in good condition, and new ones—for example, a cherry walk and a lilac walk—have been installed. Material additions have been made to the arboretum (the collection of trees and shrubs now number 2,025 different kinds), and several hundred rhododendrons—gifts from nurseries—have been planted. Parts of the main conservatories have been replanted and re-arranged. The winter flower shows, lasting from November through May, have been continued. For these, last year 8,686 pots of plants were used, representing 573 species and varieties.

In speaking of the Tropical Flower Garden, which was opened with a special ceremony last November, Dr. Robbins told of some of the work that lay behind the planting out of the hundreds of plants of 225 varieties in this one unit of the greenhouse. Sixty-