

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-

eight truck-loads of soil, sand, cinders, leaf-mold and manure were brought in, besides six tons of rock and 1,000 square feet of dressed flagstone for walks.

The science course for professional gardeners is serving as a model for similar courses in distant cities. The Montreal Botanical Garden and the Golden Gate Park in San Francisco are now opening courses based on the one in New York, and one of the graduates of the garden is directing a course in horticulture at Dillard University in New Orleans.

The two-year course in practical gardening, the first graduation exercises of which will be held next June, has had an attendance of a hundred students. A new course in the identification of plants in the vicinity of New York was started during the year. It is planned especially for teachers and nature-study leaders.

At the close of his report, Dr. Robbins expressed appreciation for the work performed by the Works Progress Administration during the year. In addition to the extensive outside labor provided, the WPA has given the garden invaluable assistance in the herbarium, library, laboratory and elsewhere, doing mounting, filing, indexing, book-binding, typing, writing of labels and serving as research assistants.

ENLARGEMENT OF THE CHEMISTRY BUILDING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

THE new addition to the Chemistry Building at the University of Cincinnati was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies planned and conducted by student organizations on Friday, January 26. Addresses were made by Dr. Raymond Walters, president of the university, Dr. Robert C. Gowdy, dean of the College of Engineering and Commerce, and the guest of honor, Professor Alfred H. White, professor of chemical engineering at the University of Michigan.

The addition, which was built at a cost of \$500,000, more than doubles the size of the old building to which it is joined and contains lecture room space for 1,500 students at one time. Most of the added space has been used for expansion by the departments of liberal arts, chemistry and chemical engineering. The remainder is for the present occupied by the department of mathematics of the College of Engineering and Commerce.

Existing laboratories have been increased in size about 50 per cent., and entirely new facilities have been provided for the work in unit operations, engineering research, metallurgy, industrial bacteriology and optico-chemistry of the rapidly growing department of chemical engineering. There is also an auditorium seating four hundred, which is well equipped for lectures, demonstrations and sound movies. Construction was made possible through a municipal bond issue and a P.W.A. grant.

OFFICERS OF THE WASHINGTON ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

AT the forty-second annual meeting of the Washington Academy of Sciences on January 18, the election of the following officers was announced: *President*, E. C. Crittenden, Bureau of Standards; *Corresponding secretary*, F. D. Rossini, Bureau of Standards; *Recording secretary*, F. C. Kracek, Geophysical Laboratory; *Treasurer*, H. S. Rappleye, Coast and Geodetic Survey; *Non-resident vice-presidents*, P. G. Agnew, American Standards Association, and Gifford Pinchot, Milford, Pa.; *Members of the Board of Managers* for 3 years, J. F. Couch, Bureau of Animal Industry, and J. E. Graf, Smithsonian Institution.

Resident vice-presidents, nominated by each affiliated society to represent it on the Board of Managers, were elected as follows: *Philosophical*, R. E. Gibson, Geophysical Laboratory; *Anthropological*, Frank M. Setzler, U. S. National Museum; *Biological*, W. B. Bell, Biological Survey; *Chemical*, A. T. McPherson, Bureau of Standards; *Entomological*, A. H. Clark, Smithsonian Institution; *National Geographic*, A. Wetmore, Smithsonian Institution; *Medical*, Fred O. Coe, 1835 Eye Street, N.W.; *Historical*, Allen C. Clark, 816 14th Street, N.W.; *Botanical*, Charles Thom, Bureau of Plant Industry; *Archeological*, Aleš Hrdlička, Smithsonian Institution; *Foresters*, W. A. Dayton, Forest Service; *Washington Engineers*, P. C. Whitney, Coast and Geodetic Survey; *Electrical Engineers*, H. L. Curtis, Bureau of Standards; *Mechanical Engineers*, Walter Ramberg, Bureau of Standards; *Helminthological*, E. W. Price, Bureau of Animal Industry; *Bacteriological*, R. R. Spencer, National Institute of Health; *Military Engineers*, C. L. Garner, Coast and Geodetic Survey; *Radio Engineers*, H. G. Dorsey, Coast and Geodetic Survey.

THE SUMMER MEETINGS OF BOTANISTS

THE 1940 summer meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and affiliated societies will be held at the University of Washington, in Seattle, Washington, from June 17 to 22, inclusive. The Pacific Section of the Botanical Society of America will meet at the same time and place as one of the affiliated societies, and will arrange a program in cooperation with the Botanical Society of America and with Section G of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Opportunities will be given for members of the Botanical Society of America, whether living in the Pacific Section or elsewhere, to present papers during the meetings. Any member of the Botanical Society who plans to attend the meetings at Seattle and who wishes to present a paper should send the title of the paper, an abstract of not over two hundred words, the time required for presentation and a request for a projector in case slides are to be used, to Ira L. Wig-