

zymes, and his analysis of their biological activity and chemical identity; his recent investigations of the nature and activity of bacteriophage have led to a better understanding of this important biological and chemical problem; a biochemist of the first rank, a dexterous technician in his art and a master in his science.

#### DOCTOR OF LETTERS

Arthur Oncken Lovejoy, professor of philosophy emeritus of the Johns Hopkins University after twenty-five years of service; past president of the American Philosophical Association, an organizer and a president of the American Association of University Professors; his many articles and books dealing with philosophy and the history of thought, notably "The Great Chain of Being," and "Primitivism and Related Ideas in Antiquity," attest to his high quality as a scholar; a philosopher with a catholicity of knowledge, and a singular power of analysis and criticism, a humanist deeply interested in the history of ideas in whatever field.

#### DOCTOR OF LAWS

Abraham Flexner, creator and until recently director of the Institute for Advanced Study; a graduate of the Johns Hopkins University in the early years of that institution; his reports upon medical education in this country as an expert of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and his labors in the Division of Medical Studies of the General Education Board resulted in fundamental reform in medical education in the United States; critic of education and author of books on colleges and universities in this country and in Europe, he dreamed of a new type of institution of higher learning, and his dream has come true in the institute nearby.

#### RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. GEORGE G. SEARS, emeritus professor of medicine of the Harvard Medical School, died on May 27 in his eighty-first year.

DR. WILLIAM MCCracken, professor of chemistry at the Western State Teachers College, Kalamazoo, Mich., died on June 13, at the age of seventy-six years.

CAROLINE SHELDON MOORE, since 1921 associate professor of biology, University of Redlands (Calif.), died on May 22 at the age of sixty-nine years.

DR. DAVID PERLA, since 1927 associate pathologist and immunologist at Montefiore Hospital, New York City, died on June 14 in his fortieth year.

THE death is announced of Roger Smith, formerly of the Great Western Railway Company, past-president of the British Institution of Electrical Engineers, at the age of seventy-seven years.

CEREMONIES were held on June 1 at the State College of Washington in dedication of a granite block and bronze tablet to the memory of Dr. William J. Spillman, who originated the first hybrid wheats at the Washington Agricultural Experiment Station and in 1900 and 1901 independently rediscovered Mendel's Law of Recombination. The boulder marks the site of his experimental plots where, at his request, his ashes were placed following his death in 1931. When his wife, Mattie Ramsay Spillman, died in 1935, her ashes were placed with those of her husband. A bronze tablet in their memory is being placed in James Wilson Hall, the agricultural building. Dr. Spillman was agriculturist on the staff of the "Agricultural College, Experiment Station, and School of Science" from 1894 to 1901, immediately preceding his career with the U. S. Department of Agriculture. At the exercises, addresses of tribute to Dr. Spillman were delivered by Dr. E. O. Holland, president of the State College of Washington, and Edward C. Johnson, dean of the College of Agriculture and director of the Agricultural Experiment Station.

A PORTRAIT of Professor Benjamin Silliman (1779-1864), the American physicist, by Samuel F. B. Morse, inventor of the telegraph, has been acquired by Yale University. The acquisition was made possible by the generosity of a graduate of Yale, who purchased the portrait. The picture was formerly owned by the Nantucket Athenaeum, Nantucket, Mass. The canvas, fifty-six by forty-four inches, was painted in 1825. Considered a fine example of the work of Morse as a painter, it shows Professor Silliman in a black coat standing behind a marble-top table as though delivering a lecture. His left hand rests on some books, while his right hand holds a piece of mineral. Various other minerals are scattered on the table, and a red curtain at the left, and East Rock, New Haven, at the right, form the background. The portrait is to be placed in a wall panel designed for it in Silliman College.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE American Association for the Advancement of Science has this week been holding its one hundred and sixth meeting in Seattle, Washington, under the presidency of Dr. Albert F. Blakeslee, director of the department of genetics of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. The Pacific Division is holding its twenty-fourth meeting at Seattle, with Dr. Lewis M.

Terman, professor of psychology of Stanford University, as president. Twenty-seven independent and affiliated societies are participating in the meeting. A preliminary announcement by Dr. F. R. Moulton, permanent secretary of the association, is printed in *SCIENCE* for May 17; a full report will appear in an early issue.