

contributed richly to the advancement of public health throughout the world.

R. D. DEFRIES

RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. STUART PRITCHARD, for the last ten years president and general director of the W. K. Kellogg Foundation at Battle Creek, Mich., an authority on tuberculosis, died on August 3 at the age of fifty-eight years.

DR. FRITZ SCHIFF, of the Beth Israel Hospital, New York City, died on July 30 at the age of fifty-one years. A correspondent writes: "Dr. Schiff, who was one of the outstanding bacteriologists in Europe, came to this country in 1936 and was appointed bacteriologist at the Beth Israel Hospital, New York City. He made important contributions to the subjects of the blood groups and the Salmonella group of organisms."

THE death is announced of Dr. Giuseppe Sanarelli, professor emeritus and formerly dean of hygiene and director of the Hygienic Institute of the University of Rome.

ACCORDING to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association, the old autopsy house of the Philadelphia General Hospital, where Dr. William Osler worked from 1885 to 1889, has been restored to be used as a museum of Osleriana. At the dedication in June eleven resident physicians who served with and under Dr. Osler were present, as was Dr. Howard A. Kelly, of Baltimore, the only living member of the group that served with Osler at the Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Joseph McFarland, who was resident physician at the hospital, then known as Blockley, in 1889, spoke on "Osler as I Knew Him," and Dr. William G. MacCallum, Baxley professor of pathology at the School of Medicine of the Johns Hopkins University, a former pupil, spoke on "Osler at Blockley." Other speakers were Dr. William E. Hughes, physician at the hospital from 1889 to 1914, now honorary consultant, and Dr. William E. Robertson, who paid tribute to Dr. David Riesman, one of those most active in the establishment of the memorial. Dr. Riesman died a week before the dedication. A painting of "Osler and Old Blockley," by Dean Cornwell, was unveiled.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

DISPERSAL OF SCHOOLS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

THE report issued by the principal of the University of London for 1939-40 describes the dispersal of the schools of the university to Wales, Oxford, Cambridge, Bristol, Leeds and the Scottish universities. In an abstract published in the *London Times*, it is said:

The dispersal had been planned early in 1939, but it was complicated by the government's unexpected decision not to call up men under the age of 20, which resulted in some 80 per cent. of the normal complement of male students requiring accommodation, instead of 25 per cent. Thanks largely to the cooperation of other universities, the difficulties of dispersal were successfully overcome, but war conditions have inevitably thrown much additional work on the staff and officers. Examinations have been held, and there has been no lowering of the university standard. The only schools to return to London have been those of medicine, for the sake of their clinical centers.

The university is faced with the double prospect of diminished revenues and increasing expenses. The London County Council has reduced its grant by £8,600 for the year 1939-40; but almost all other grants from public bodies have been maintained. Private benefactions have been remarkably generous in the present circumstances; even the support granted by the Polish Government to the chair of Polish literature and history is being maintained. In spite of the withdrawal of a grant promised by the National Fitness Council towards the building of a new Students' Union, Lord Nuffield has decided to let his own grant for the same purpose stand.

The Ministry of Information has occupied the Senate House, but has left the senate room and libraries to the university. The building of the Great Hall, the School of Oriental Studies and Birkbeck College is proceeding.

There are 10,964 internal students reading for degrees and diplomas, as compared with 14,415 in 1939. An unexpected number of external students have enrolled, and, although extra-mural work has been drastically curtailed, extensive arrangements have been made for courses of instruction for troops, both in large camps and the smaller units.

University College and King's College have agreed, in view of the recent occupation by the government of the buildings of University College, that both colleges alike should continue to carry on their work in the universities and colleges to which they have been dispersed.

EXPEDITIONS OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

DR. WALTER GRANGER, curator of paleontology of the American Museum of Natural History, is continuing his more than forty years of exploration for fossil mammals with an expedition into the Big Badlands of western South Dakota this summer. He left New York on July 25 for the headquarters of the expedition in Rapid City, S. D., to join Albert Thomson, preparator in paleontology, and Junius Bird, assistant in anthropology. The main objective of the expedition is to collect specimens of the small, three-toed horse, *Mesohippus*, a rhinoceros that was smaller than any

of the species now living in Africa and Asia; various kinds of cats, especially the sabre-toothed tiger; and the remains of *Entelodon*, whose nearest living relative is the pig. In deposits of far more recent times, above these fossil beds, have been found interesting evidences that ancient Indians once occupied this same region. Mr. Bird will carry on excavations in an effort to discover more about their culture. Chalcedony tools, such as scrapers and knives, have already been found, as well as pieces of black pottery. The expedition will be in the field until November 1.

Dr. Barnum Brown, curator of fossil reptiles, left New York on August 3 to lead the American Museum-Sinclair Expedition of 1940 into the Big Bend region of southern Texas, near Marathon. The expedition will excavate remains of the largest dinosaurs yet found. These bones were discovered last summer by Dr. Erich Schlaikjer, during a reconnaissance expedition for the museum. Dr. Schlaikjer and Roland T. Bird, preparator in paleontology, will join Dr. Brown in Marathon to assist in digging the bones out of the rock and preparing them for shipment.

Dr. Grace Fisher Ramsey, associate curator of the department of education, left New York on August 8, to conduct a study of the lives and work of Indian artist craftsmen in Mexico. She will also make color motion pictures of life in Mexican villages and collect materials which can be circulated from the department of education among schools and other institutions. These collections will be representative of the native crafts of the Mexicans of central, southwestern and southeastern Mexico and will include types of weaving in wool, cotton and various plant fibers; embroidery, drawnwork and beading; pottery to show regional designs; all types of metal crafts in silver, copper and tin; leather and lacquer work; masks, musical instruments and toys. Dr. Ramsey will be accompanied on the journey by Herman Sievers, staff assistant in education, Mrs. Sievers and Miss Ethel Fisher. Almost the entire trip will be made by automobile. The expedition will return to New York in the latter part of September.

Theodore A. McGraw, of Grosse Pointe, Mich., will lead an expedition in the Wrangel Mountains of Alaska. He will be accompanied by T. Donald Carter, assistant curator of mammals, who left New York on August 1. The purpose of the trip is to make a general collection of the mammals in this region, ranging from mice to grizzly bears, for the study collections. Work will continue until the first snowfall, and Mr. McGraw and Mr. Carter expect to return by the first part of October.

Dr. John E. Hill, assistant curator of mammalogy, is now making collections of small mammals in the southern part of Kansas. This work is of interest to the museum as part of its survey of animal life in the

dust-bowl section; to determine what animals have been exterminated or driven out by drought and changing vegetation and those animals still remaining, which have survived these changes. Mrs. Hill and Peter Crow, of Cornell University, are assisting Dr. Hill. The expedition will be in the field until the middle of September.

THE NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

At a special meeting on June 25 of the Board of Trustees of the New York Zoological Society, Fairfield Osborn was elected president to succeed W. Redmond Cross, who resigned in June. Mr. Cross had been president of the garden and chairman of the executive committee since 1937. Laurance S. Rockefeller was elected chairman of the executive committee, Mr. Cross remaining as chairman of the Board of Trustees. Mr. Rockefeller was also elected second vice-president of the board. The position of secretary, left vacant by Mr. Osborn's election to the presidency, will be filled later.

In a statement made by Mr. Osborn he said in part:

The institutions operated by this society are visited annually by an immense public, equivalent numerically—not allowing for repeat visitors—to approximately four per cent. of the total population of the entire nation. This fact is more than a call for continuance as we are now; it is a direct challenge to us constantly to broaden and vitalize our contacts with the public. These contacts call for creation of advanced methods of exhibiting our unrivaled living collections, for highly efficient park and building administration, for advancing our education and conservation activities, and, back of the scenes, for pressing forward with research work in the laboratories at the Zoological Park and the Aquarium, this work, in many of its phases, contributing directly to the solution of human disease problems.

In regard to the activities of the society, it is announced that a contract has been let for construction of the African Plains exhibit in the Zoological Park—work on which was started on July 22. This development has been made possible by a member of the society who wishes to remain anonymous. Plans have been drawn for a new aquarium; important new exhibition units are in plan or at the point of construction for the aquarium in its present building, and the program of research, including phases of it bearing on human health problems, is now more active than at any time since the society was formed.

Some time ago the Rockefeller Foundation made a grant to the Zoological Society for the study of methods of production of films on zoology and allied subjects. It is hoped that this study will lead to the actual production of films. One script, on the life cycle of the eel, has already been prepared; three