

His influence will live long after him in those who knew him.

EDWIN C. VOORHIES

THE GIANNINI FOUNDATION OF
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS,
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RECENT DEATHS

DR. WILLIAM JULIAN ALBERT BLISS, from 1901 until his retirement in 1928 with the title professor emeritus, collegiate professor of physics at the Johns Hopkins University, died on December 27 in his seventy-fourth year.

ROY BURNETT SMITH, professor emeritus of chemistry at Colgate University, a member of the faculty for 37 years, died on December 25. He was sixty-five years old.

DR. JOHN EARL GUBERLET, professor of zoology and member of the staff of the Oceanographic Laboratories of the University of Washington, died on December 30 in his fifty-fourth year.

DR. WILLIAM BROWNING, emeritus professor of neurology of the Long Island College of Medicine, died on January 5 in his eighty-sixth year.

DR. CLELIA DUEL MOSHER, emeritus professor of hygiene at Stanford University, died on December 22 at the age of seventy-seven years.

HENRI BERGSON, professor of philosophy at the College of France from 1900 to 1921, died on January 4 at the age of eighty-one years.

JACQUES ARSÈNE D'ARSONVAL, professor emeritus of experimental physiology at the Sorbonne, Paris, died on December 31 at the age of eighty-nine years.

Nature reports the death of Professor Emile Armand, professor of geology, mineralogy and paleontology in the University of Neuchâtel, at the age of sixty-two years, and of Dr. Wilhelm Haberling, professor of the history of medicine in the Düsseldorf Academy of Medicine, at the age of seventy years.

PROFESSOR E. O. ESSIG writes: "The date of birth of Professor Charles William Woodworth has been erroneously given as April 8, 1865, in 'American Men of Science,' ed. 6, p. 1575, 1938; 'A History of Entomology,' Macmillan Co., N. Y., p. 800, 1931, and *SCIENCE*, Vol. 92, p. 570, 1940. The correct date is April 28, 1865."

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

RESEARCH IN THE FIELD OF PHARMACOPOEIAL REVISION

DURING the Pharmacopoeial Convention last May, a request was presented for the publication from time to time of research problems, which, if solved, would assist in the work of revision. To comply with this request the chairman of sub-committees have been requested to suggest subjects which in their special fields were particularly important. More detail will be given to any one who is interested in investigating one of the subjects suggested.

The following subjects have been offered:

A method for biological assay of Ergot that measures the content of both Ergotoxine and Ergonovine types of alkaloids.

An efficient and inexpensive method for biological assay of Aconite and its preparations.

Statistical studies of the value of Anti-pneumococcic Serums in general practice.

A suitable standard of assay for Rheum based upon its Anthraquinone content.

The comparative anatomy of the rhizomes and roots of Chinese Rhubarbs yielded by *Rheum officinale*, *R. palmatum*, *R. palmatum* var. *tanguticum* and hybrids between these and other *Rheum* species including *R. Rhaponticum*.

Further studies of the assays of Cantharidies, Ipecac and Capsicum.

Chemical assay of Aconite and Aloe.

The separation of Strychnine and Brucine.

The therapeutic value of reduced iron.

The absorption of pure powdered electrolytic iron from the alimentary tract.

Rapid, accurate method for the determination of the pH of distilled water.

Further study of the limit of unsaturates test in Cyclopropane.

Heavy metals' test for Diluted Hypophosphorous Acid.

The sensitivity of the flame test for sodium in chemicals used as reagents.

Oil of Cassia, tests and constants.

Oil of Nutmeg, detection of Pinene or redistilled Oil of Turpentine.

Oil of Peppermint, tests and constants (distinction between unrectified and rectified).

Stability of Fluidextract of Ergot.

Tincture of Digitalis. A study of the U.S.P. Tincture and a comparison of the tincture made from defatted drug to determine the difference, if any, in activity.

A cytogenetical study of *Rheum officinale*, *Rheum palmatum* and other Asiatic Rhubarbs.

A cytogenetical study of *Digitalis purpurea*.

TRAINING AT THE NEW YORK UNIVERSITY FOR SQUADRON ENGINEERING OFFICERS FOR THE AIR CORPS

THE College of Engineering of New York University will train fifty men every three months as Air Corps squadron engineering officers, beginning on