

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

EDWIN C. VOORHIES

THE GIANNINI FOUNDATION OF
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS,
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

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. Rha-ponticum*.

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

January 7, under a direct contract with the United States Army Air Corps. The College of Engineering is the only institution in the East selected by the Army for this training program.

The men chosen will receive twelve weeks of instruction in engineering theory pertaining to the maintenance of aircraft, after which they will attend the Air Corps Technical School, Chanute Field, Rantoul, Illinois, for approximately six months. Upon the successful completion of the program the men will be commissioned as second lieutenants in the Air Reserve, and will be assigned to tactical units of the Army Air Corps.

Applicants for this course must meet the general requirements for appointment as flying cadets. First priority candidates must be college graduates with degrees in engineering, while candidates with senior standing in engineering colleges will be eligible in second priority.

Squadron Engineering Officers previously have been selected from the pilot personnel of the Army. The rapid expansion of the Air Corps, however, has made necessary the training of new men for these positions. It is planned to provide approximately 400 new officers through this program.

The course of instruction will cover thirty-five hours a week and will include courses in the fundamentals of aerodynamics, airplane design, airplane engines and installation, airplane-engines laboratory, airplane stress analysis, structures and aerodynamics of military planes, aircraft instruments, materials and methods of aircraft construction, propeller design and aircraft detail design.

Although the training of these officers includes no pilot instruction the status, as well as pay and allowances, will be the same as for cadets receiving pilot training. They will be designated as "Flying Cadets." Students having completed the Civil Aeronautics Flight Training Program are especially acceptable for this new instruction. The duties of the men upon completion of the program will consist of field work in charge of mechanics in maintenance and repairs.

Applications for the course may be made at the office of Captain Herbert Kamsler, Room 802, Whitehall Street. Information is also available at the College of Engineering of New York University at University Heights in the office of Professor James M. Coburn.

NEW MEDICAL JOURNALS

BEGINNING in January, the American Medical Association will publish a new bi-monthly periodical: *War Medicine*, as a part of its contribution to the preparedness program. The editorial board will be the Committee on Information of the Division of Medical Sciences of the National Research Council. This com-

mittee includes Dr. Morris Fishbein, editor of the *Journal*, as chairman, and the following associate editors: J. R. Bloomfield and Drs. John F. Fulton, Richard M. Hewitt, Ira V. Hiscock, Sanford V. Larkey and Robert N. Nye. In order to have direct cooperation with the governmental services, the following representatives of the Army and Navy Medical Corps and the United States Public Health Service have been chosen to cooperate with this editorial board: Colonel C. C. Hillman, Commander Charles S. Stephenson and Dr. R. R. Spencer. The Division of Medical Sciences of the National Research Council has developed a number of scientific committees which are actively at work preparing reports of various phases of medical service under military conditions. These official documents will be available to the new periodical for prompt publication.

THE Association for the Study of Internal Secretions plans to publish a new monthly journal, *The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology*, the first issue of which is expected to appear on January 10. It is stated that the present journal issued by the association, *Endocrinology*, and the new journal will have the same editorial management, with separate editorial boards. The editorial committee of the new journal includes Drs. Fuller Albright, J. S. L. Browne, E. C. Hamblen, E. L. Sevringhaus and K. W. Thompson.

THE Committee on Research in Medical Economics, of which Dr. Michael M. Davis, of New York City, is chairman, will establish a new journal entitled *Medical Care*, which is planned as a forum of signed expressions of opinion by individuals or agencies. It will make non-technical reports of scientific studies of the medical, administrative and financial experience of plans of organized medical care in the United States; news of the field, and summaries of reports appearing elsewhere. Members of the editorial board are: Dr. Ernst P. Boas, New York City; Dr. Samuel Bradbury, Philadelphia; Claude W. Munger, New York City; Dr. John P. Peters and Dr. C.-E. A. Winslow, New Haven; Dr. Herbert E. Phillips, Illinois; Dr. Kingsley Roberts, and George Soule, economist, New York City.

THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

THE inaugural address of Dr. Malcolm Goodridge, who was recently reelected president of the New York Academy of Medicine, was delivered on January 2. The address was entitled "What is the New York Academy of Medicine?"

In it he called attention to a committee of academy fellows which was formed early in the past year to raise the necessary funds to permit the work of the academy to go forward and later to add to the endowment. A five-year plan was adopted under which it