

That his interest in sensory education never diminished is attested by the fact that now, annually, approximately 40,000 pupils receive formal instruction here and are provided with the privilege of examining, individually, specimens of commercial, art and natural history material. His educational activities went much further, for even before his election to the school board in 1939, he was very influential in the determination of local policies.

But, however great his achievements in these various fields may have been, Dr. Mengel meant much more than "scientist" or "educator" to his friends and associates. They knew him as a man whose very life was his work, as one who labored to a late hour nearly every night, who did not know the meaning of holiday, of week-end or of vacation. They all knew him as a man of courage, of great loyalty, steadfast both to his friends and to his ideals and principles. Many of them were acquainted with him as philanthropist and benefactor; how many students were enabled to complete their education, how many persons were assisted through financial difficulties by his generosity, will never be known.

He was born in Reading, Pennsylvania, on September 27, 1868. He entered the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, graduating in 1891. On June 6 of the same year he sailed from Brooklyn as entomologist on an expedition with Admiral Robert Peary to west Greenland. After he had been associated with the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia from 1891-93, he joined the teaching staff of the Boys High School of Reading in 1894, becoming vice principal in 1902. It was at this time that he first conceived the idea of a museum and first began acquiring materials for it. Finally, he was given permission by the board of school directors to establish a museum in the Administration Building and in 1915 he was relieved of his teaching duties and made its director. In this

capacity he served until his retirement on June 30, 1939, when he was made director emeritus and was succeeded by Earl L. Poole.

LAWRENCE S. DILLON

READING PUBLIC MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

RECENT DEATHS

PROFESSOR EMERITUS RANSOM ASA MOORE, until 1936 professor of agronomy and head of the department of the University of Wisconsin, died on February 26. He was in his eightieth year.

DR. SOLON SHEDD, curator of the Branner Geological Library at Stanford University from 1925 to 1940, died on March 4, at the age of eighty years. He was formerly state geologist of Washington and professor of geology at the Washington State College.

CARY LEROY HILL, associate director of the Forest Experiment Station of the U. S. Department of Agriculture at Berkeley, Calif., died on February 26 at the age of sixty-six years.

DR. CLAUDE ADELBERT BURRETT, president of the New York Medical College and Flower and Fifth Avenue Hospitals, died on March 3 at the age of sixty-two years.

DR. G. VAN DIJK, of the Royal Meteorological Institute of the Netherlands, died suddenly on December 19. A correspondent writes: "His death will be mourned by his colleagues in all parts of the world by whom he was held in high esteem because of his high scientific attainments and his great personal charm."

Nature reports the death of Father Guido Alfani, the Italian seismologist, aged sixty-four years, and of Dr. Philipp Broemser, professor of physiology and rector of the University of Munich, formerly professor of physiology in the University of Basle, at the age of fifty-four years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO

ACCORDING to the annual report of Dr. George W. Bachman, director of the School of Tropical Medicine of the University of Puerto Rico in San Juan under the auspices of Columbia University, a new division of public health has been established.

Funds for the maintenance of the department will be derived from an appropriation granted to Puerto Rico under the National Social Security Act. The department will function in cooperation with the Insular Department of Health, the University of Puerto Rico, the DeLamar Institute and the United States Public Health Service. The establishment of this new

division of studies is the culmination of years of careful planning, followed by a series of conferences with the authorities representing the cooperating organizations.

Dr. Bachman reports that in spite of a lack in necessary personnel and the means to meet a number of new problems, the work of the school, which was founded in 1926, has progressed rapidly in the past year. Special emphasis was placed on the research programs, even though plans were outlined for a broader teaching schedule.

The University Hospital, opened last March after a three-year period of reconstruction, now meets all standard requirements of modern hospitalization and