OBITUARY

CHARLES LLOYD CONNOR

CHARLES LLOYD CONNOR, M.D., professor of pathology at the University of California Medical School, died from a cerebral hemorrhage, on June 12, at the age of fifty years. After completing his medical education at Baylor University in 1920, Dr. Connor became a fellow of the National Research Council and later was appointed to the pathology staff at Harvard Medical School. In 1926, Dr. Connor acted as director of the pathology laboratory of the Montreal General Hospital. Following his return to Harvard, Dr. Connor was called in 1928 to be professor of pathology at the University of California Medical School, San Francisco. There he notably demonstrated his executive ability in organizing many effective cooperative research projects, in developing a capable staff, and in promoting an exceptional teaching and research museum. Dr. Connor's contributions to medical science include pioneer studies in Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever; the nature of normal and abnormal pigments in the body; malignant tumors, particularly those arising in bone, and more recently he has made fundamental studies regarding the pathogenesis of cirrhosis of the liver. His conclusion is now widely accepted that high fat intake with resulting prolonged fatty infiltration tends toward cirrhosis, especially in diabetes or in chemical injury, as in chronic alcoholism.

A memorial fund is being raised by his colleagues and students at the University of California Medical School as an expression of regard for his unselfish spirit and for generous efforts in the activities of the Medical School. C. L.

RECENT DEATHS

DR. WILLIAM HENRY BURNHAM, since 1936 professor emeritus of education and school hygiene at Clark University, with which he had been connected for thirty-five years, died on June 25 at the age of eighty-five years.

DR. VINNIE ARAH PEASE, since 1920 micro-analyst in the Bureau of Chemistry (now the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering), died on April 30 in her sixtieth year.

DR. LEE ELLIS MILES, for thirteen years plant pathologist for the Mississippi Experiment Station, died on May 11 at the age of fifty-one years.

DR. J. W. C. GUNN, professor of pharmacology and dean of the faculty of medicine of the University of Capetown, died on May 4 at the age of fifty-two years.

ALEXANDRE ARSÈNE GIRAULT died in the hospital in Brisbane on May 2. He was born at Annapolis, Md., U. S. A., in 1884, and was the author of numerous papers on Chalcidoidea. He was associated with the U. S. Bureau of Entomology and the University of Illinois. For many years he lived in Queensland, where he did entomological work for the Department of Agriculture and Stock.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

RETIREMENT OF HERBERT P. WHITLOCK OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

HERBERT P. WHITLOCK, who for the past twenty-five years has been curator of natural history of the Department of Minerals and Gems in the American Museum of Natural History, retired as head of the department on July 1, but he will continue to give his interest and support as curator emeritus and research associate in jade.

At a recent meeting of the executive committee of the board of trustees the following resolution was passed:

That the trustees learn with deep regret that Herbert P. Whitlock desires to resign as curator of the Department of Geology and Mineralogy, which he has served so loyally and so efficiently since his appointment on June 3, 1918. The museum is justly proud of its magnificent collection of gems and minerals which has been so greatly augmented by the untiring efforts and vigilance of Mr. Whitlock. In recognition of his faithful performance of his duties as curator and his unremitting interest in building up the museum's world-famous collections in his field, the trustees take pleasure in hereby appointing Mr. Whitlock *Curator Emeritus* of the Department of Geology and Mineralogy and *Research Associate in Jade*—these appointments to be effective as of July 1, 1941.

In making known the action of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Roy Chapman Andrews, director of the American Museum, said:

This will serve to notify his many friends that Mr. Whitlock's office will remain open to all those who seek his advice. Mr. Whitlock has long been known affectionately as "The Keeper of the Gems" in the museum, and there has never been a day that has passed but that from ten to twenty visitors beat a path to his office to ask the identification of some mineral specimen, the examination of a gem, or the story and symbolism of a piece of carved jade.

According to Mr. Whitlock's philosophy as to the work of a museum curator he has always demonstrated his belief that his time and efforts belong to the people of the

community and once remarked to me: "I believe that a modern well-equipped museum ranks among the greatest influences for culture, enlightenment and spiritual uplift in any community; because here, as with great music, writing and painting, men of vision may pass on their vision to their fellow men and to posterity. I believe that the language that a museum worker should be able to speak is the language of little children."

Mr. Whitlock has even taken the study of minerals and gems to the classrooms of New York City schools and colleges by means of special illustrated talks. His annual fall and spring series of lectures on jade and jade carving in the museum have made hundreds of enthusiasts for this beautiful gem stone. We are happy to announce that Mr. Whitlock will continue these talks in the future.

Under his leadership the collection of precious and semi-precious gems has increased from 2,060 to 2,562 exhibits, with many world-famous gems such as the magnificent De Long Star Ruby, the Schettler Emerald and the Morgenthau Topaz. The mineral collection has grown from 18,452 to 21,293, including many rare minerals discovered in recent years. Among the most recent additions is the mineral Whitlockite, a tricalcium phosphate discovered by Clifford Frondel and named in honor of Mr. Whitlock. All these specimens, selected with care after detailed scrutiny, have made the greatest single collection of minerals and gems on this side of the Atlantic. Outstanding among the exhibits is the magnificent Drummond Jade Collection, one of the most complete in the world, obtained through the efforts of Mr. Whitlock.

By action of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Frederick H. Pough, formerly assistant curator of geology and mineralogy, becomes, upon the retirement of Mr. Whitlock, acting curator of the Department of Minerals and Gems.

THE BOTANICAL EXPEDITION TO GUATEMALA OF THE FIELD MUSEUM

PAUL C. STANDLEY, curator of the herbarium of the Field Museum of Natural History, has returned to Chicago after an expedition of seven and a half months, during which he collected in almost all parts of Guatemala. He brought back approximately 30,000 specimens of plants for addition to the herbarium.

These plants and others collected on two previous expeditions conducted by Mr. Standley and Dr. Julian A. Steyermark, assistant curator of the herbarium, will be used in a research upon which will be based the preparation of the first complete flora of Guatemala to be published.

Mr. Standley reported that Guatemala is ably assisting in combating the problem of a possible shortage of supplies of the important drug quinine which might become unavailable from its present principal source, the Dutch East Indies, in the event of unfavorable developments in the international situation. He stated that quinine plantations, operated in Guatemala by United States capital, have been expanded rapidly and successfully, and will be able to produce a supply of the best grade of quinine adequate for a large part of American medicinal and industrial demands. In addition, Guatemala is operating the only commercial tea plantations outside the Orient.

Many species of plants hitherto unknown to science are included in the collections for the museum, and records were obtained of the growth of many plants known elsewhere but not previously found in Central America. The vegetation of the country is varied, ranging from plants of subarctic to tropical climate and from plants of the mountains to those of the plains. They include a wide variety of orchids.

THE HIGH SCHOOL OF SCIENCE IN NEW YORK CITY

THE first commencement of the High School of Science in New York City was held on June 26. Dr. Otis W. Caldwell, general secretary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and Dr. Thomas H. Briggs, of Teachers College, Columbia University, and others cooperated with Associate Superintendent Frederic Ernst in the establishment of the school last autumn, and Dr. Maurice Meister was appointed head master. Dr. Irving Langmuir, president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, who was expected to make the principal address, was unable on account of illness to be present.

The school is housed in a building originally designed for an academic high school of a different type. In order to provide the special facilities needed for science study, the physical plant was revamped from cellar to roof. A WPA project costing more than half a million dollars is now nearing completion. Every feature of this project was planned by the faculty and arose out of the needs of the students and of the curriculum. The school now boasts of eight modern laboratories, ten preparation and store rooms, three fully equipped shops and twelve special science recitation rooms. In addition, there is a visual instruction lecture room, a large library, an English workshop, a voice recording studio, four mechanical drafting rooms, a graphic arts shop, a music room, a gymnasium and a swimming pool. The auditorium platform is equipped with a movable demonstration table which makes possible the presentation of science experiments to large audiences. The Board of Education has supplied the necessary, up-to-date equipment, books and materials. Next autumn, when the renovation project is completed, the High School of Science will enjoy the most unique physical plant in the country for the teaching of science to high-school boys.