tant phytosterols, many of which are but poorly characterized.

In addition to his contributions to the steroid field, Dr. Fernholz performed outstanding research on other natural products. Soon after joining the research staff of Merck and Company, in 1937, he reported the isolation of durohydroquinone from the thermal decomposition products of α-tocopherol, the most active principle of Vitamin E concentrates. This furnished the essential clue to the structure of α-tocopherol, and in 1938 enabled Dr. Fernholz, almost entirely on the basis of his own experiments, to announce the complete structure of α-tocopherol. Subsequent work from other laboratories has completely confirmed this structure.

Early in 1938, Dr. Fernholz became head of the Division of Organic Chemistry of the newly founded Squibb Institute for Medical Research. While continuing his active interest in steroids, he also turned his attention to the Vitamin K problem, and with his colleagues contributed eight papers concerned with the chemistry of antihemorrhagic substances. He was the first to recognize that 2-methyl-1,4-naphthoquinone was biologically more active than the natural Vitamin K_1, a phenomenon unique among physiologically active natural substances.

Dr. Fernholz possessed the ability to visualize a research problem in its correct perspective, and therefore was able to reduce essential laboratory work to a minimum. It is not mere rhetoric to say that science has suffered a severe loss in his untimely death. More than that, all those who have had the privilege of being associated with him as colleagues or of being counted among his friends are acutely aware of a great personal loss.

GEORGE A. HARROP
HOMER E. STAVELY
THE SQUIBB INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

RECENT DEATHS

DR. ROBERT THOMAS HILL, geologist of the U. S. Geological Survey from 1889 to 1904, died on July 28 in his eighty-third year.

DR. JOHN FRANCIS WOODHULL, professor emeritus of physical science at Teachers College, Columbia University, from 1888 to 1922, died on July 27 at the age of eighty-four years.

DR. JOHN PRICE CROZER GRIFFITH, emeritus professor of pediatrics in the Graduate School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania, died on July 28. He was eighty-five years old.

DR. MAX AARON GOLDSTEIN, the otolaryngologist, founder and director of the Central Institute for the Deaf at St. Louis, died on July 27 at the age of seventy-one years.

BENJAMIN LEE WHORF, assistant secretary of the Hartford Fire Insurance Company, research fellow of the Committee on American Native Languages of the American Council of Learned Societies, known for his work on Aztec and Mayan civilizations, died on July 26. He was forty-four years old.

DR. EDITH FORD SOLLERS, assistant professor of chemistry at Connecticut College, died in Baltimore on July 27 from injuries sustained in a laboratory accident while she carried on voluntary research in connection with the National Defense program.

PROFESSOR MYRON HARMON SWENK, chairman of the department of entomology of the University of Nebraska, died on July 17 in his fifty-eighth year. He became a member of the department of entomology in 1907 and was appointed chairman of the department in 1922, a position which he retained until the time of his death. According to a correspondent, "throughout the course of his professional career he has been actively engaged in both teaching and research and has contributed a large number of publications on various phases of entomology, particularly in the fields of economic entomology and taxonomy. In addition, he has published numerous articles in the fields of ornithology and mammalogy. In the death of Professor Swenk the University of Nebraska has lost one of its outstanding men."

A CORRESPONDENT writes: "The recent death of James Henry Blake, zoologist and artist, at the age of 96, removes almost the last of Louis Agassiz's students and coworkers. Mr. Blake was a student at the Penikese Laboratory and a member of the Hassler Expedition in 1871–72. He was also one of the artists for the famous Vineyard Sound Survey of the U. S. Fish Commission. At the time of his death, he was the senior member of the Boston Society of Natural History (elected 1870), in which he had held various offices. In addition, he was a founder and former president of the Boston Malacological Club. His lifelong interest in whales and mollusks is fittingly perpetuated by a large collection of his colored drawings in the New England Museum of Natural History."

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

DAMAGE caused to the Royal College of Surgeons, London, has been recorded in SCIENCE. Further particulars are given by the London correspondent of the *Journal* of the American Medical Association, who writes:

The lecture room, where discourses have been heard for a century from almost all the leaders of British surgery, is now a charred ruin. The main block of the library remains with books still on the shelves, but its state is too dangerous for use. Nearly ninety thousand volumes had been sent to various parts of the country after damage by blasts from a previous raid. The transfer was aided by a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation. The principal treasures of the library had been sent away before the outbreak of the war. But the museum, which possessed treasures such as no other country could boast, has suffered irreparable loss, although many of the most valuable specimens were saved by having been placed in a tunnel below the basement surrounded with sand. The basement covers a wide area, and most of it escaped the fire that occurred. Many rooms, cellars and tunnels connected with it, which had been reinforced, were used for other specimens, which were not damaged. The important college records and historical documents had been sent away. But the working records dealing with the specimens, saved in the basement and subbasement, and the records of pathologic specimens presented to the college during the last few years were destroyed. The preservation of copies of the museum catalogues had been carefully considered and insured. All were saved except the catalogue of part of the pathologic section and that of the curio room, but nearly all the specimens in this room are described in the "Guide to Surgical Instruments and Objects in the Historical Series." Of the famous Hunterian collection, which forms the basis of the museum, no fewer than 3,750 specimens have been saved. Of the collections illustrating human anatomy only 20 specimens have been saved. Of 5,200 mammalian specimens illustrating comparative osteology only 20 or 30 remain and hardly any of 3,000 avian specimens or of the large amount of amphibian, reptile and aquatic material. The two rooms built in the middle of the last century, containing physiologic and comparative anatomy specimens, have been blasted away. Much anthropologic material has been destroyed, including the fine collection of primitive Tasmanian and Australian skulls. The greater part of the large collection of instruments is safe and can be restored. Among these are the instruments of Lister and of Moynihan, the Chinese and Japanese collections and the series illustrating the evolution of anesthetic apparatus. Though irreparable loss has been suffered, the destruction is not so great as was at first feared. Enough has been saved for the basis of a new museum, which will continue the Hunter tradition, which has always been fundamental in the college.

EXPEDITIONS OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

FOR the fifth consecutive season, Dr. Walter Granger, curator of fossil mammals at the American Museum of Natural History, will join a fossil-hunting expedition into the Big Badlands of South Dakota this summer. Dr. Granger left New York on July 25 for the headquarters of the expedition in Rapid City, S. D., where he will join Albert Thomson and Dr. Edwin H. Colbert, of the department of paleontology, who have been at work since early July. The greater part of the field work will be concentrated in the northwestern part of the state. From this region, one of the richest fossil beds in the world, now set apart as a National Monument, the museum has obtained since its first expedition there in 1892, valuable remains of prehistoric animals that lived in the Oligocene period.

Two unusual specimens, obtained last summer through the cooperation of the Carter County Geological Society of Ekalaka, Mont., are now being studied. One is a giant rodent larger than the present-day beaver from the uppermost Cretaceous of southeastern Montana, and the skull of a dinosaur of a new and distinct genus, but similar to the smaller Troödon of earlier Cretaceous formations.

The first expedition to be conducted partly on skiis for the museum is now being made by Peter E. Crow, of Cornell University, and Gilbert C. Anthony, of Dartmouth College, with the cooperation of the Marquis d'Albizzi, of Banff, Canada. The main object of this expedition is to make a representative collection of large and small mammals around the periphery of the Columbia Ice Field, the largest south of Alaska. With the Marquis d'Albizzi, Mr. Anthony will explore as great an area as weather conditions will permit, along the fringes of the ice field, on skiis, while Mr. Crow, in the museum's station wagon, will collect mammals just off this region. The expedition will return to New York about September 1.

Mr. Michael Lerner, trustee of the museum, and Mrs. Lerner plan a hunting trip in the Yukon Territory. It is hoped to obtain two complete specimens of the Osborn caribou for a group in the North American Mammal Hall, now under construction. This caribou was first scientifically described by the late Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn, then president of the museum.

Dr. Harry L. Shapiro, associate curator of physical anthropology, is conducting a study of the Eskimos at Point Hope, Alaska. He is giving special attention to the physical anthropology of the group as a follow-up to the discoveries made last year by Dr. Froelich G. Rainey, who uncovered a prehistoric city of unknown culture on the great gravel spit of Point Hope. Dr. Rainey and Dr. Shapiro are continuing the excavation of the burial grounds.

AWARD TO THE BAUSCH AND LOMB OPTICAL COMPANY

THE U. S. Navy Department officially raised the flag of the Bureau of Ordnance and the Navy "E" pennant over the Bausch and Lomb Optical Company on August 2 "in recognition of outstanding performance in the production of ordnance materials."