

Harvard University needed a new Hersey professor of the theory and practice of physic to succeed Dr. Henry A. Christian, Dr. Weiss seemed an obviously satisfactory choice. So it came about that Dr. Weiss moved from the Thorndike Memorial Laboratory and the Boston City Hospital to the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital and was promoted to one of the most venerable medical professorships in the country.

Two and a half academic years in the life of a university or hospital are not long. Yet, Dr. Weiss will be remembered by Harvard University as having carried forward honorably the fine tradition upheld by his predecessors in the Hersey professorship of the theory and practice of physic; and at the Brigham Hospital, he will be regarded as are Francis Peabody, Harvey Cushing and Henry Christian. For, like them, he did his share to make of this hospital an institution such as the donor wished—a sanctuary where life would be more hopeful and care more possible for sick persons in indigent circumstances residing in the County of Suffolk and for sick persons the world over.

REGINALD FITZ

DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. GLOVER MORRILL ALLEN, associate professor of zoology at Harvard University and curator of mammals at the Agassiz Museum, died on February 14, at the age of sixty-three years.

PROFESSOR FRED W. UPSON, dean emeritus of the Graduate College of the University of Nebraska and a former chairman of the department of chemistry and chemical engineering, died on February 10.

ACCORDING to *Chemical and Engineering News*, as a memorial to E. P. Kohler, professor of chemistry at Bryn Mawr College until 1912 and at the time of his death in May, 1938, Sheldon Emery professor of organic chemistry at Harvard University, a fellowship for graduate study in chemistry has been endowed through contributions from his students. Recipients of the fellowship will be chosen in such a way as to provide for an exchange of outstanding students between the institutions where Kohler taught and those in which the Kohler tradition is particularly cherished.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

EXPEDITIONS OF FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

FOUR of the five expeditions which Field Museum of Natural History has in Latin-American countries have recently sent to the museum reports on the progress of their work.

Paul O. McGrew, assistant curator of paleontology, who is leader of an expedition in Honduras, reports that he has excavated a specimen of a large and rare dog which lived some 7,000,000 years ago and is similar to a rare type of about the same period that inhabited the North American plains. He has found also a dwarfed type of Pliocene horse which resembles prehistoric North American horses in all characters except size. Its stunted growth may have been due to the unfavorable habitat afforded by the tropics. He writes that the dog is a species almost "certainly new to science, and of great importance." He also writes: "I am amazed and pleased at the high opinion in this country of anything pertaining to 'Los Estados Unidos.'"

Colin Campbell Sanborn, curator of mammals, who is conducting a zoological expedition in Peru, reports that he has collected a large number of animals for the museum. He is engaged in visiting localities of special zoological interest, especially in the valleys of some of the more remote tributaries of the Amazon.

From Cuenca, Ecuador, Donald Collier, ethnologist, sends a preliminary report on explorations on muleback in little-known regions, and archeological exca-

vations on sites once the seats of prehistoric Indian communities. The museum shares in this expedition with the Institute of Andean Research, New York.

Dr. Julian A. Steyermark, who is conducting a botanical expedition in Guatemala, is working in difficult mountain regions and living largely with native Indians.

The museum's fifth Latin-American expedition, that being conducted by Llewelyn Williams, curator of economic botany, who is making a botanical survey in Venezuela, has not reported recently.

DEDICATION OF THE HORACE H. RACKHAM EDUCATIONAL MEMORIAL

THE Horace H. Rackham Educational Memorial of the Extension Service of the University of Michigan and the Engineering Society of Detroit was dedicated on January 28. The building was made possible by gifts to the university and to the society from the Horace H. Rackham and Mary A. Rackham Fund and from Mary A. Rackham. It was erected at a cost of \$2,000,000 and is situated in the art center of Detroit.

President Alexander G. Ruthven accepted the building for the university. He pointed out that the facilities of the university wing of the memorial will be used to meet the educational needs of two groups, young people who are unable to spend years of continuous study at Ann Arbor and adults who desire to continue their education. He said:

No one with the ability to carry on advanced studies should be denied the opportunity through the accident of financial responsibility to pay the cost of the regular college courses. It is not expected that this unit will ever become a branch of the parent institution, extensively duplicating the educational facilities in Ann Arbor. The plan will be to offer here courses most in demand with the thought that they will serve the need both of those who seek merely a limited amount of training beyond the high-school level.

The two wings of the building, which is of white limestone, are owned separately by the university and the engineering society. They flank a central section which contains an auditorium with a seating capacity of 1,000 and a large banquet hall, both of which are available to either institution.

The facilities of the engineering unit include a dining room, a small auditorium, large lounge and social rooms, a library, meeting rooms for the seventeen affiliated societies of the society and offices for the executive staff.

Twenty-one classrooms in the university unit are capable of accommodating approximately 1,000 students at one time. Special classroom facilities are provided for radio and specialized speech courses, science, mathematics, engineering and the social sciences. There is in the central section a spacious library, which will be conducted as a branch of the general library of the university and which overlooks the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Detroit Public Library. The university unit also provides office and classroom space for the graduate curriculum in social work of the Institute of Public and Social Administration.

It is pointed out that centralization of the program of extension courses in the Detroit area will do much to unify and expand the program of the Extension Service, which for years has offered courses in churches, schools, "Y" buildings, hotel rooms and other scattered locations. Provision of office space in close proximity to the classrooms will also simplify administrative procedures. There was an enrolment for the first semester this year of more than 3,000 students.

ADVANCED INSTRUCTION AND RESEARCH IN MECHANICS AT BROWN UNIVERSITY

CONTINUING the work offered during the summer of 1941 and the present academic year, Brown University will offer opportunity for instruction and research in mechanics and allied branches during an eleven weeks period beginning on June 15, as well as during the next academic year. During the summer the emphasis will be on preparing for the present national emergency; during the academic year, attention will be directed primarily toward a long-range

program of preparation in applied mathematics for university instructors and for research workers.

To review the work of the Summer School of 1941 and to make recommendations on a nation-wide basis, an evaluating committee, composed of eminent scholars in engineering, physics and mathematics, was appointed. This committee—consisting of Marston Morse, Institute for Advanced Study, *chairman*; Theodore von Kármán, California Institute of Technology; Mervin J. Kelly, Bell Telephone Laboratories; George B. Pegram, Columbia University, and Warren Weaver, Rockefeller Foundation—in its report stressed the present need for developing a program in applied mathematics and endorsed the experiment made at Brown University. It is also aiding in shaping plans for the future.

Courses are offered for the summer of 1942 under the direction of a distinguished faculty of eight. These include Professor Leon Brillouin, Professor Willy Prager, Dr. Stefan Bergman, Professor Ivan S. Sokolnikoff, Professor J. D. Tamarkin, Professor Willy Feller, Dr. Sergei A. Schelkunoff and Professor Richard von Mises. Under another program there will be lectures directed by Professor R. B. Lindsay. In addition there will be single lectures or short series of lectures by visiting experts, some stressing the practical side and others the theoretical. During the next academic year eight courses will be offered in addition to opportunities for research. Substantial fellowships will be available for selected students.

Because this work is supported by the Engineering, Science and Management Defense Training Program of the U. S. Office of Education, the Carnegie Corporation of New York and the Rockefeller Foundation, no fees will be charged. In the summer the participants will be limited to eighty in number, of which twenty will devote their time primarily to research; during the academic year the number will be limited to forty.

Information in regard to each of these programs may be obtained from the Dean of the Graduate School, Brown University, Providence, R. I.

THE RESEARCH COUNCIL ON PROBLEMS OF ALCOHOL

IN an outline of its program of its objectives, resources and progress, the Research Council on Problems of Alcohol makes a report of researches now in progress. These are:

A critical survey of all work completed to date on the effects of alcohol on the individual—by the College of Medicine of New York University, with a grant of \$25,000 from the Carnegie Corporation.

A study of toxic factors in alcoholism—by the New York State Psychiatric Institute, with a grant of \$1,500 from The American Philosophical Society. Minimum