# SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

## DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. HENRY DWIGHT CHAPIN, emeritus professor of pediatrics of the New York Post-Graduate Medical School, Columbia University, died on June 27, at the age of eighty-five years.

FRANK D. PAINE, professor of general engineering at Iowa State College and head of the department, died on June 30, at the age of fifty-six years. Besides organizing his department, he had worked out the engineering placement system for the college. From 1938 to 1942 he was mayor of Ames.

PROFESSOR EMERITUS CHARLES EDWIN ROGERS, for thirty-five years head of the department of civil engineering at Trinity College, Connecticut, died on June 30, at the age of sixty-eight years.

DR. MAXIMILIAN J. HUBENY, of Chicago, director of the x-ray department of the Cook County Hospital, died on July 2, at the age of sixty-one years.

DR. ARTHUR B. WYSE, assistant astronomer in the Lick Observatory, was killed in the blimp accident which occurred off the New Jersey coast on the evening of June 8. Since December, Dr. Wyse had been engaged in research at the Naval radio and sound laboratory in San Diego, and at the time of his death was on a mission for the Navy. He was thirty-three years of age.

THE Royal Society, London, will, if circumstances permit, celebrate its anniversary meeting on November 30, the tercentenary of the birth of Sir James Newton. The program, which will be a modest one owing to the war, is to include three lectures, to be delivered in the headquarters of the society at Burlington House. They will be "Newton and the Science of His Age," Dr. E. N. da C. Andrade, Quain professor of physics, University of London; "Newton as an Experimenter" (with demonstrations), Baron Rayleigh, emeritus professor of physics of the Imperial College of Science and Technology; and "Newton and the Science of To-day," Sir James Jeans, professor of astronomy in the Royal Institution of Great Britain.

## RESEARCH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

STATISTICS made public by Comptroller Lloyd Morey, of the University of Illinois, show that in the last five years private organizations have given the university $1,337,937 to be used for research work. For the 1941–42 fiscal year, which ended on June 30, the sum of $343,340 was received. The annual gifts for research have increased more than 59 per cent. in the five years from 1938 to 1942.

At the present time, it is stated, more than a hundred firms and organizations are financing more than a hundred and fifty cooperative research projects now under way. These are in addition to the research programs and activities financed from the income of the university. The university terms as "cooperative projects" those where the industry or other agency pays for the workers, materials and any new equipment needed and the university provides quarters, equipment on hand and skilled supervision. Every such activity is covered by a definite contract approved by the board of trustees. Not only does this contract state the exact amount of funds to be given the university and outline the nature of the investigation, but it also provides that the university shall have full control of the investigation and shall have exclusive right to publish the results in official university publications.

The gifts provide funds for specific research on a scale which tax funds could not provide. Among them are fourteen government projects of a military nature—the only activities in the whole group whose results are kept secret for the present.

The following are given as among research projects completed or now in progress at the university:

Solution of a problem facing the food industry was financed by General Foods Corporation. At the expense of that company the university carried on studies to develop a superior strain of white corn hybrids as a future source of supply for higher quality hominy and grits. Another food company, Standard Brands, has been financing a study in the College of Medicine of the effect of yeast on the digestive tract. The Corn Products Refining Company is paying for researches on the digestibility of gluten feed.

The largest single donor this year is the Rockefeller Foundation, whose allotment of nearly $40,000 is being used for studies of amino acids, the development of neurology and neurosurgery, experiments in teaching psychiatry and the spectroscopic analysis of water.

The Carnegie Corporation is financing dental research and a study of libraries. The American Medical Association is backing studies of bacteria, proteins and other subjects.

The study of home heating is now being financed by three manufacturers' organizations in this field.

Another project, which has been going on for more than twenty years, is a study of railroad rails financed by the Association of American Railways and the Carnegie-Illinois Steel Company which in turn represents the Rail Manufacturers' Technical Committee. The results of this study have practically eliminated breakage of rails in service, greatly increasing the safety of railway travel. These same groups also are among backers of

tests of railway wheels and railway brakes. Both State and Federal Governments are financing research on bridges, bridge slabs and other problems of highways. The United States Navy financed a research project involving welded and riveted joints.

The Enamel Utensil Manufacturers' Association has financed a research project to set up standards for enamelware products. The standards arrived at recently already have been adopted by the Army Quartermaster Corps and other war agencies.

Among other projects, the Kellogg Company is supporting a study of "all bran"; the A. E. Staley Company a research into production of industrial oil from soybeans, other new soybean uses and sweetening agents derived from corn; the Monsanto Chemical Company, a study of insecticides; and the Illinois Clay Products Company, a study of bonding clay properties.

## HANDBOOK FOR PHYSICIANS ON INDUSTRIAL HEALTH AND MEDICINE IN WAR INDUSTRIES

UPON the recommendation of the Committee on Industrial Medicine of the National Research Council, the Division of Industrial Hygiene, National Institute of Health, is preparing a manual on "Industrial Hygiene and Medical Service in the War Industries."

The publication is intended for wide distribution among industrial physicians and the general medical profession.

The recommendation of the National Research Council was endorsed by the Health and Medical Committee, and has been approved by Federal Security Administrator Paul V. McNutt and Surgeon General Thomas Parran of the U. S. Public Health Service.

The resolution submitted by the Committee on Industrial Medicine, Division of Medical Sciences, National Research Council, follows:

The change-over of industry to the manufacture of war materials is resulting in modifications of occupational health hazards, the introduction of new occupational disease exposures and certain variations in the industrial medical procedures. The following are illustrative:

1. There is increased usage of cutting oils, compounds and chemicals, many of which are capable of causing the industrial dermatoses.
2. Grinding operations have multiplied and these entail exposures to aluminum oxide, silicon carbide, and other grinding materials. While the dusts from grinding operations have not been regarded as harmful to health, disabilities occurring in workers so exposed are coming to be regarded as compensatable.
3. Shot blast operations are being replaced by sand blasting, and new installations of this nature are consistently using sand.
4. In an effort to speed up pickling operations, there is a tendency to increase the concentrations of acids in the pickling tanks, with consequently more contamination of the air with fine droplets of the acids.
5. Solvents are being more widely used and certain of the newer ones are purported to be non-toxic. Inasmuch as most of them are in the chlorinated hydrocarbon group of chemicals, they can be assumed to be more or less toxic.
6. Paint spraying operations are being modified, requiring radical readjustments in ventilation procedures.
7. There is a tendency toward longer working hours and, consequently, longer hours of exposure to harmful materials and shorter periods of recuperation.
8. It is becoming more and more necessary to employ women, older men and young men who are not eligible for military service, many of whom require selective placement, which is a function of the plant medical service.
9. It is necessary that the medical service in the war industries be integrated with the emergency medical service of civilian defense. Details necessary to this objective are not understood by the industrial physicians as yet.

In order that industrial physicians and the general medical profession, when called upon by industry, will be more adequately prepared to protect the health of the workers in the war industries,

Be it, therefore, *Resolved:* That the Committee on Industrial Medicine of the National Research Council recommends the preparation of a brochure or special article on "Industrial Hygiene and Medical Service in the War Industries" for wide distribution among the medical profession, and that this brochure be prepared by the Division of Industrial Hygiene, National Institute of Health of the U. S. Public Health Service.

The brochure will be prepared by the full-time and consultant professional staff of the Division of Industrial Hygiene, under the general editorship of Dr. William M. Gafafer, chief of the statistical unit of the division. Important subjects for discussion include: toxicity and potential dangers of organic and inorganic substances in the war industries; occupational skin diseases in war industries; engineering control; industrial medical services; nursing in industry; dental services; fatigue; women in industry; medical control of respiratory diseases; nutrition in war industries; available governmental industrial hygiene services; and integration of plant and community emergency medical services. The brochure will probably cover about 300 pages.

## GIFTS AND BEQUESTS TO MUSEUMS

ACCORDING to *Museum News,* gifts and bequests to fourteen selected museums studied by John Price Jones showed that between 1930 and 1939 the low point was the year 1939 in which the total was $917,000, the first time that it had fallen below a million since 1933, when the total was $925,000 (MN, January 1, 1941). In the 20 years, 1920–1939 inclusive, the fourteen museums received altogether $48,-