

In this war, for instance, the Germans did not waste their surprise weapons on small objects; when they played their parachute trump, it took Holland.

Some day our over-all management of this war will meet the well-nigh perfect German business machine with a wholly perfect American counterpart. Then everything will be well; as an integral part of the nation's organized brainpower we shall know where we fit in and how we can do our share to achieve victory.

In the Civil War three chemists kept the South in the running until the end; one chemist in the North made the United States independent of the most critical foreign material. In the first World War, a German chemist almost decided the issue in favor of his

country through one brilliant thought. Can we, at this critical time, afford to toy with our chemical potentialities and act as if we were preparing for a war five years hence? Our enemies have had the initiative in every theater of this war so far, for reasons that may or may not have been beyond our control. But we have no excuse whatever for letting the initiative slip from our hands in the chemical field; it is an even race, unless we choose to handicap ourselves by dawdling or undue optimism.

We American chemists are quantitatively superior and qualitatively at least equal to the chemists of Germany. If we let them beat us through better organization, we shall have no one to blame but ourselves.

## OBITUARY

### NORRIS JONES

NEWS of the sudden death of Norris Jones on September 17 causes sorrow to his friends and associates. On account of the variety and excellence of his talents, their influence was much larger than his modest disposition would indicate.

Norris Jones graduated from Swarthmore College in 1926, and was an architect by professional training. His interest subsequently led him to the use of drawing for biological description, and he and his wife, Ruth McClung Jones, were members of the staff in biology of Swarthmore College.

As an architect, Norris Jones knew the proper use of material and, as a scientist, he appreciated how buildings could be adapted to the use of their occupants. His skill and taste are recorded in the suitability of the Edward Martin Biological Laboratory at Swarthmore College for the biologists who work there. The same skill and good taste were used in the projection of plans for reconstruction and for new buildings at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

In his work on drawings for scientific use, Norris Jones has illustrated a number of books and biological studies of others as well as his own. The drawings which he made are workmanlike, true and clear. They pick the essential pattern to be presented and show it graphically, but without leaving chance for distortion. His work is true art serving science.

The qualities of clear observation and truthful presentation made Norris Jones a fine associate to work with. Those who penetrated through his modest exterior found in him delightful qualities for friendship. Students who worked with him followed the direction of his fine personal qualities as well as his art and science. The result was a valuable influence upon

their characters, which was so strong as to surprise those who had seen only his modesty.

The work of Norris Jones was cut off while in the full strength of development and opportunity. That loss to his colleagues is a great one, for they have come to depend upon his advice and help. But in the buildings which he has projected, the fine illustrations which he has made and in his clear and pleasant influence upon his associates, he has left a recorded accomplishment sufficient to do honor to a long career.

LAURENCE IRVING

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### RECENT DEATHS

DR. CYRUS F. TOLMAN, professor emeritus of economic geology of Stanford University, died on October 13 at the age of sixty-nine years.

DR. ARTHUR D. HIRSCHFELDER, professor of pharmacology at the University of Minnesota, died on October 11. He was sixty-three years old.

DR. GILMAN D. FROST, emeritus professor of medicine of Dartmouth College, died on October 8 at the age of seventy-eight years.

DR. J. C. SCHOUTE, emeritus professor of botany of the University of Groningen and president of the sixth International Botanical Congress, has died at the age of 65 years. He is known for his numerous contributions to plant anatomy and morphology.

SERGEI CHAPLYGIN, chief of the laboratories of the Aero-Hydrodynamics Institute of Moscow, a member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, died on October 8 at the age of seventy-four years.