Scotia, on April 18, 1917, the son of Dr. and Mrs. M. F. Ronan. He received his early education at Morrison School and graduated in 1935 from St. Francis Xavier University with the degree of B.Sc., *magna cum laude,* a few weeks after his eighteenth birthday. Some of the results of his petrographical studies for the M.A. degree at the same institution were incorporated by his professor, the late Dr. Donald F. MacDonald, geological adviser on Panama Canal work, in "Contributions to Panama Geology" (*Jour. Geol.,* 45: 655–662, 1937).

In 1936 Mr. Ronan was awarded an assistantship in the Department of Geology at the Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C., which position he occupied for the next three years. In 1939 he went to the University of Wisconsin as holder of the Charles R. Van Hise Fellowship and remained at Madison until June, 1942, as research assistant.

Laying a broad and firm foundation of field experience for his professional career, Mr. Ronan spent the summers of 1936 to 1940 as field assistant with parties of the Geological Survey of Canada in Nova Scotia, Quebec and Ontario. The Department of Mines of Nova Scotia in 1941 made him a grant to study the igneous rocks of Guysborough County; this was to have been the subject of his doctorate dissertation at the University of Wisconsin.

Unselfishly interrupting his graduate research, which was nearing completion, Mr. Ronan last summer assumed charge of one of the field parties of the Geological Survey of Newfoundland to investigate iron and strontium resources, and after the regular field season consented to supervise further diamond drilling operations on these ores, which are important in the war effort. He met his death when about to take up his winter duties.

In grateful tribute, the mineral location at Boswarlos, Port au Port Bay, west coast of Newfoundland, to which John Joseph Ronan was devoting his scientific training, henceforth will be known officially as the "Ronan Strontium Deposit."

A. K. SNELGROVE
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

RECENT DEATHS

DR. HARRISON E. HOWE, editor of *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry,* died on December 10 at the age of sixty years.

ROBERT PEELE, professor emeritus of mining engineering of the School of Mines of Columbia University and editor since 1917 of "The Mining Engineers' Handbook," died on December 8. He was eighty-four years old.

DR. ALFRED BAKER SPALDING, since 1930 emeritus professor of gynecology and obstetrics of the School of Medicine of Stanford University, died on November 27 at the age of sixty-eight years.

DR. FREDERICK MARK BECKET, consultant to the Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation, New York, N. Y., died on December 1 at the age of sixty-seven years.

CHARLES W. FREDERICK, head of the Science Division of the lens factory of the Eastman Kodak Company at Rochester, N. Y., died on November 29 at the age of seventy-two years.

THE death at the age of eighty-four years is announced of Sir Henry Miers. Sir Henry was Waynflete professor of mineralogy at the University of Oxford from 1895 to 1908; principal of the University of London, 1908 to 1915, and vice-chancellor of the University of Manchester and professor of crystallography, 1915 to 1926.

Nature records the death of Dr. Alfred Baker, emeritus professor of mathematics of the University of Toronto, where he occupied the chair of mathematics from 1887 until 1919, president in 1915 of the Royal Society of Canada, on October 27, at the age of ninety-four years; of Dr. J. N. Collie, F.R.S., emeritus professor of organic chemistry of the University of London, on November 1, at the age of eighty-three years, and of Dr. J. C. Schoute, emeritus professor of botany of the University of Groningen, president of the sixth International Botanical Congress, at the age of sixty-five years.

THE death is announced at the age of seventy-seven years of Professor Carl Dorno, who founded and directed the Physical Meteorological Observatory at Davos, Switzerland.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

GRANTS FOR WAR RESEARCH TO THE UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

CONTRACTS with the United States Government for war research by the University of Cincinnati negotiated during the summer, reported by Dr. Raymond Walters, president of the university, were approved on October 6 by the board of directors of the university.

Ranging from $2,500 to $12,000 and amounting in all to $42,000, these contracts are for investigations now under way in the College of Medicine and the department of leather research of the university for the Office of Scientific Research and Development and in the College of Engineering and Commerce for the Army Air Corps.

In several instances the federal grants were exten-

sions of earlier contracts for the same types of research. In one case, the government allowance was for a six months period and will be renewed for the same amount at the expiration of the current contract.

Nearly $45,000 in gifts and grants were reported. Of these, six, amounting to more than $32,000, were designated to aid the nutritional research being directed in the College of Medicine, under the supervision of Dr. Tom D. Spies, associate professor of medicine. Of the nutrition grants, the largest was for $16,000 from the Williams-Waterman fund for the combat of dietary diseases through the Research Corporation, New York City, to support the work of Dr. Spies for two years. Other nutrition grants included $5,000 from the Gelatin Products Company, Detroit, Mich.; $5,000 from the Anheuser-Busch, Inc., St. Louis; $3,000 from Standard Brands, Inc., New York; $3,000 from the Continental Baking Company, New York, as partial payment of a $10,000 contribution for the year beginning on July 15, 1942; and $50 from Starling W. Childs, Cleveland. Dr. Spies's clinical studies on nutrition are carried on at the Hillman Clinic, Birmingham, Ala.

The W. K. Kellogg Foundation, Battle Creek, Mich., gave $4,000 to establish loan and scholarship funds in the School of Nursing and Health. The same foundation last spring gave $10,000 for similar funds in the College of Medicine.

THE SUPPLY OF TECHNICAL MEN TO THE ARMED FORCES AND TO INDUSTRY

To ensure a continuous flow of young engineers to the armed forces and to industry has been a serious concern to national engineering societies. The supply is already so limited that a contest was developing between the needs of the army, navy, air and signal corps, and the requirements for industrial research, design, production and maintenance.

Facts have been published which showed that a larger number of skilled engineers were required for production and maintenance than was necessary in plant layout. New designs, modernization and war production make demands on the engineering colleges that they provide a steady stream of young engineers for the armed services and industry.

In October, the Engineers' Council for Professional Development called a meeting of industrial personnel and engineering teachers who drew up a statement emphasizing the need for adequate supplies of young technical men.

In November, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers prepared a statement of "significant facts" and strongly recommended:

A. That the loss of technically trained men from war production plants be stopped by cessation of voluntary enlistment or by a "freezing" order covering such personnel and plants.

B. That selective service occupational Bulletin No. 10 of last June be reaffirmed in principle in its provisions for the deferment of men in engineering training.

C. That this directive be modified in the light of the lower draft age by providing for the deferment of engineering students in established colleges to the end of the term in which they reach the age of 18, and thereafter, on a term by term basis as long as their academic records remain satisfactory.

On December 4, the council of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers passed the following:

WHEREAS, technically trained engineers are indispensable to modern mechanized warfare and are needed in greater and greater numbers by the armed forces and by the war industries and will be equally essential to the rehabilitation program,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Council of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, acting on behalf of the membership of the society, at the sixty-third annual meeting of the society held in New York, November 30th to December 4th, 1942, is convinced that the effective prosecution of the war effort demands that an adequate supply of engineers be insured for the armed forces and the war industries through the deferment of certain students in engineering colleges under the following conditions:

(1) Enrolment in a college with a curriculum professionally accredited by the Engineers' Council for Professional Development.

(2) Completion of not less than one term or one semester's work in an accredited professional curriculum in engineering with an average scholastic grade at least equal to that required for graduation.

This resolution was sent to the President, the Chairman of the War Manpower Commission and the Director of the Selective Service.

On December 8, the Consultative Committee on Engineering for the Professional and Technical Division of the War Manpower Commission adopted unanimously the following:

Recognizing the necessity for a continuing flow of professionally trained men for war industries, especially for urgent developmental work in improving the quality and production of actual weapons and materials of warfare, this Consultative Committee on Engineering for the Professional and Technical Division of the War Manpower Commission respectfully recommends that the Chairman of the War Manpower Commission immediately take the necessary steps in order to provide temporary deferment from military service for those undergraduates in recognized engineering schools who are subject to Selective Service. Such deferment is necessary pending a more thorough study of the requirements of engineering manpower both by war industries and the Armed Forces.

This recommendation confirms and re-emphasizes the resolutions made by the recent annual meetings of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, and others, looking to the deferment of those young men who are already in