and made full professor in 1904. His many former students will remember him best for his conduct, for thirty years, of the supervised and directed summer school work in the field, where he trained them in accurate analysis and observation, and the precise recording of data. He published his two books, "Compressed Air Plant," 1908, and "The Mining Engineers' Handbook," 1918, both of which have gone through several subsequent editions. He was awarded the gold medal of the Mining and Metallurgical Society of America in 1922, the Egleston Medal of the Engineering Alumni Association of Columbia University in 1939, and was made an honorary member of the American Institute of Mining Engineers in 1935.

A WIRELESS dispatch from London under date of December 13 to *The New York Times* reads: "Tercentenary observances of the birth of Sir Isaac Newton were begun to-day at Grantham, near the peaceful hamlet of Woolsthorpe-by-Colsterworth, where the scientist was born. As townspeople and others, including Sir Henry Dale, president of the Royal Society, looked on, a laurel wreath was laid at the foot of Grantham's statue of Sir Isaac, which has been denuded of ornamental railings formerly surrounding it. The honor of laying the wreath fell to a youngster named J. H. Foster, head boy of King's School, where Newton received his early education. Newton's birthday was Christmas Day, 1642, but so many observances had been planned that it was decided to start them to-day. At church services at Grantham this morning, the Right Rev. A. A. Markham, of Stoke Rochford, Bishop of Grantham, offered special prayers 'in thankful remembrance of Isaac Newton' and 'for the right use of science.'"

THE BRITISH TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION

THE work of the first meeting, recently held in London, of the British Technical Advisory Committee on Nutrition to investigate the post-war nutritional needs of European countries overrun by the Axis nations, is reported in *The Times,* London.

The Nutrition Committee is one of five technical advisory committees which work in conjunction with the Allied Post-War Requirements Bureau, the organization set up as a result of the St. James's Palace conference of September 24, 1941.

At an early stage the bureau set up a technical advisory committee on agriculture under the chairmanship of Sir John Russell, director of the Rothamsted Experimental Station. This committee has already completed a report on seed requirements needed in Europe after the close of hostilities, and is now investigating the problems of restoring live-stock herds, training tractor drivers, supplying agricultural machinery and estimating likely fertilizer needs.

Within the past few weeks other technical advisory committees have been set up to deal with such matters as inland transport and medical needs. The committee is composed of transport experts of those allies who are most intimately concerned with post-war conditions in Europe.

The medical committee has decided upon a basic list of 59 drugs, showing the total quantities required per 100,000 of population for the first month after liberation. Further lists for those special areas where diseases are endemic or epidemic are now under consideration.

It has been realized from the outset that considerable help in the bringing of relief to occupied regions can be given by British and international voluntary societies, and the bureau maintains close contact with a Consultative Council on which such voluntary societies are represented.

RURAL LAND USE

COMPREHENSIVE programs of post-war public construction to conserve and improve rural lands are outlined in "Public Works and Rural Land Use," a report transmitted to the President by the National Resources Planning Board, recently made public. The board in its letter of transmittal said:

> The importance of this statement at this time lies in the clear indication which it provides of the needs and possibilities for activity after the war to develop these basic resources. We hope the report may stimulate the preparation now of plans for rural works of tested merit which can be undertaken when the war is won.
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> Although the report is not primarily concerned with public land acquisition, it does contain a discussion of public land acquisition as one of the effective tools for facilitating land-use adjustment. It is noted, for example, that of the 1,900,000,000 acres of land in Continental United States 415,000,000 acres are classified as crop land, of this crop land total 339,000,000 acres or 82 per cent. are suitable for cultivation under appropriate soil conservation practices, and the remaining 76,000,000 acres are classified as land which could not be cultivated safely and profitably under normal prices. Our policy with respect to rural public works must therefore take into account the following:
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> (1) Promotion of those public works and undertakings required to conserve and improve crop lands suitable for cultivation, forest lands and range lands.
> (2) Public acquisition of submarginal crop lands and their conversion to more suitable land uses.

This report, which forms a part of the National Resources Planning Board program of post-war planning was prepared under the direction of the Land Committee of the board, by representatives of construction agencies in the Department of Agriculture and by the Department of the Interior. It consists of five statements, covering public construction on