

Dr. Howe is survived by his wife, Mrs. May McCaren Howe, two daughters, Mrs. Oscar A. Provost, Mrs. Frank B. Clinton, five grandchildren, and a sister, Mrs. Jeanette Wilson.

American chemistry has lost an outstanding figure in the death of Harrison Estell Howe. His abilities and willingness to apply them for the good of mankind are attributes too seldom found. His passing is sorely mourned.

F. J. VAN ANTWERPEN

RECENT DEATHS

DR. CLINTON H. CURRIER, who retired in 1938 as associate professor of mathematics and astronomy at Brown University, died on January 5, at the age of sixty-seven years.

DR. MAX MELTSNER, associate professor of chem-

istry at the College of the City of New York, died on January 16. He was in his fifty-seventh year.

DR. SUSAN P. NICHOLS, professor emeritus of botany of Oberlin College since 1939, after having been a member of the faculty for 31 years, from 1933 to 1938 head of the department, died on December 7, at the age of sixty-nine years.

ARTHUR H. NORTON, curator of the Portland, Maine, Society of Natural History, died on January 5, at the age of seventy-two years.

CHARLES H. WARD, president of the Anatomical Laboratory of Charles H. Ward at Rochester, N. Y., died on January 18, at the age of eighty years.

SIR WILLIAM ARBUTHNOT LANE, the British surgeon, died on January 16, at the age of eighty-six years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

JOINT COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC MEN IN GREAT BRITAIN

Nature states that a Joint Council of Professional Scientists, representing more than ten thousand qualified men of science, has been set up in Great Britain under the chairmanship of Sir Robert Pickard by the Institutes of Chemistry and Physics in association with representatives of professional botanists, geologists, mathematicians and zoologists. The council has been established to voice the collective opinion of scientific men on matters of public interest, to provide a liaison between professional organizations of scientific men for coordinated action in matters of common interest, and in particular to concern itself with (1) the utilization of men of science to the best advantage in the service of the community; (2) the education, training, supply and employment of scientific workers; (3) the better understanding of the place of men of science in the community; (4) the maintenance of adequate qualifications and ethical standards among professional men of science; (5) the supply of information and advice to public and other bodies on matters affecting men of science.

The members of the council are as follows: *Institute of Chemistry*: Dr. J. J. Fox, Professor Alexander Findlay, Dr. G. Roche Lynne, Sir Robert Pickard, Dr. H. A. Tempany, R. B. Pilcher; *Institute of Physics*: Sir Lawrence Bragg, Professor J. A. Crowther, E. R. Davies, Dr. B. A. Keen, Dr. H. Lowery, Dr. H. R. Lang; *Representing Botanists*: Professor W. Brown; *Representing Zoologists*: Professor D. Keilin; *Representing Mathematicians*: Professor S. Chapman; *Representing Geologists*: Professor H. H. Read. The

joint council has been established for the period of the national emergency, but it may form the nucleus of some more permanent organization to facilitate the close collaboration between professional men and women practising in all branches of science. Communications to the council should be addressed to Dr. H. R. Lang, Honorary Secretary, Joint Council of Professional Scientists, care of Institute of Physics, at its temporary address, The University, Reading, Berks.

COMMITTEE ON SANITARY ENGINEERING OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL¹

A SANITARY engineering committee has been organized, at the request of the Surgeon General of the Army, by the National Research Council through the Division of Medical Sciences acting for the Committee on Medical Research of the Office of Scientific Research and Development. Through liaison officers, advice and assistance on sanitary engineering problems are also furnished to the Navy and the Public Health Service.

As epidemiologic and entomologic advice was deemed necessary, personnel representing these sciences was included. Close liaison with the Surgeon General's Office is maintained through the Sanitary Engineering Branch of the Division of Preventive Medicine. The committee consists of:

Abel Wolman, *chairman*, professor of sanitary engineering at the Johns Hopkins University.

Kenneth F. Maxcy, *secretary*, professor of epidemiology

¹ The *Journal* of the American Medical Association.