

WILLIAM MASSEY CARRUTH, for twenty-six years Samuel F. Pratt professor of mathematics at Hamilton College, died on January 23, at the age of sixty-three years.

DR. HERMANN JOHANNES BOLDT, emeritus professor of gynecology of the New York Post-Graduate School

of Medicine of Columbia University, died on January 13, at the age of eighty-six years.

DR. JAMES MARSHALL BRANNON, assistant professor and assistant chief in dairy bacteriology at the College of Agriculture of the University of Illinois, died on January 21, at the age of sixty years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

MICROFILM RECORDS OF THE LINNEAN COLLECTIONS AND MANUSCRIPTS

THE Carnegie Corporation of New York in April, 1941, made a grant to the Linnean Society of London to enable that organization to prepare a photographic record of all the extant Linnaean natural history specimens, and the Linnaean manuscripts in the possession of that society. After surveying the possibilities, the council of the Linnean Society decided to have microfilm records made. In making its appeal for a grant, the council of the society agreed to deposit a complete set of the proposed photographic records in some American institution. It has actually exceeded this condition in that after the microfilm records were made, two sets of positives were delivered to the Arnold Arboretum, each containing about 60,000 exposures. The ultimate plan is to deposit complete or partial sets in selected European and Colonial institutions.

The council of the Linnean Society selected Harvard University as the place of deposit of one set and directed the delivery of the second set to the Smithsonian Institution. Thus two American institutions benefit through this action of the Linnean Society and through the generosity of the Carnegie Corporation in making a grant to cover the cost of preparing this extensive microfilm record.

The Harvard University set, in so far as it appertains to botany, will be deposited at the Gray Herbarium, and the remainder at the Museum of Comparative Zoology. The second set has been delivered to the Smithsonian Institution. A very extensive series represents all the specimens in the Linnaean Herbarium, while other rolls represent the insects, molluscs and fishes in the Linnaean collections. An even larger part of the microfilm record represents Linnaean manuscripts and his published texts wherein he had made corrections and additions.

Arrangements will ultimately be made whereby specialists in other institutions may be able to have access to this most important record. All biologists realize the fact that the Linnaean collections are absolutely basic to the binomial system of nomenclature and that in order to interpret various Linnaean species it is essential that his material be examined,

either the original specimens or photographic records of them.

E. D. MERRILL

ASSETS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

ASSETS of the University of Michigan amounted to \$83,014,263 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1942, according to the annual financial report of Shirley W. Smith, vice-president and secretary, which has been approved by the University Board of Regents.

This year's total is an increase of \$3,054,708 over last year, with the greatest rise shown in current assets—cash, including restricted expendable gifts, student loans, inventories, etc., which jumped \$1,258,281, and plant and endowment funds which rose \$848,928 and \$683,379, respectively.

The total value of the educational assets, including lands and buildings, this year is \$59,972,085, a rise of \$823,988. The increase was largely in equipment and buildings whose value rose \$384,119 and \$323,404, respectively, over the figures for 1941.

The increase of \$105,454 in lands is due to the purchase of the site for the Rackham Memorial Building in Detroit, partially offset by the sale of property in Ann Arbor, various transfers and reallocations. Increase in the amount for buildings is due principally to the completion costs of \$175,582 for the Rackham Building in Detroit and initial construction costs of \$143,615 for the School of Public Health Building.

Current operating income of the university was listed at \$12,100,716, which includes \$2,452,334 hospital receipts, or 20.27 per cent. of the total amount. State appropriations of \$4,972,084 were the chief items of income, amounting to 41.09 per cent., while student fees amounted to \$2,292,199, or 18.94 per cent. The only other appreciable item of current income is the total of \$1,328,089 in gifts and grants for current use, or 10.97 per cent. of the total. The four other receipt items were each less than five per cent.

The current operating expenditure reached \$10,702,896 this year, with the outstanding item of expense being \$4,974,710 or 46.48 per cent., for instruction, followed closely by the University Hospital, which cost \$2,420,522, or 22.61 per cent. of the grand total. Only one of the other nine items of expense