aus," which rendered great service to teachers of mathematics in this country. A similar service was also rendered by his publication (with the late O. D. Kellogg) of "Applications of Calculus to Mechanics," in 1909. He was author of a college algebra and editor of some 25 volumes in the Series of Mathematical Texts.

But the most important activity during most of this long period was as member or director of various national organizations. He was one of the founders and the first president of the Mathematical Association of America, an organization which has moulded the development of collegiate mathematics since its foundation in 1916.

His contribution to the American Mathematical Society may be summarized by stating that he was editor-in-chief of its *Bulletin* from 1921 to 1937, a member of its board of trustees three full terms of five years each, president from 1929 to 1931 and representative of the society in the National Research Council from 1931 to 1934. Volume 44 of its *Bulletin* was dedicated to him.

Mr. Hedrick was married to Helen Breedon Seidenstricker on October 21, 1901, who, with eight children and one adopted daughter, survives him. Their home in Los Angeles has long been a welcome center for various social activities.

The American people and humanity generally suffer a great loss in the death of this man. Although always tremendously active, he never failed to give time and sympathetic interest to the affairs of a host of friends.

VIRGIL SNYDER

BROWN UNIVERSITY

RECENT DEATHS

DAVID GROSH THOMPSON, geologist of the U. S. Geological Survey, known for his work on the development of water supplies from underground sources, died on February 19 at the age of fifty-four years.

DR. FRANCIS J. POND, professor of chemistry and director of the Morton Memorial Chemistry Laboratory of the Stevens Institute of Technology, consultant in chemical research, died on February 18 at the age of seventy-one years.

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER FRANK K. MOSS, of the United States Naval Reserve, died on February 16. He was forty-four years old. Since 1933 he had been research physicist in the lighting research laboratory of the General Electric Company at Nela Park, Cleveland.

Nature reports the death of Sir Arbuthnot Lane, the well-known surgeon, on January 16, aged eighty-six years, and of Sir Henry Maybury, president in 1933 of the British Institution of Civil Engineers, on January 7, aged seventy-eight years.

DR. C. C. FARR, F.R.S., emeritus professor of physics at Canterbury College, Christchurch, the University of New Zealand, died on January 27 in his seventy-seventh year.

THE death is announced of Dr. David Hilbert, professor of mathematics at the University of Göttingen. He was eighty-one years old.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

POST-WAR FOOD SUPPLIES

IN a report prepared by allied agricultural experts and considered by the British Technical Advisory Committee on Agriculture in London, it is stated that the estimated decline of livestock in enemy-occupied allied countries as a result of lack of feeding-stuffs, requisitioning and slaughter is about 11,000,000 cattle, 3,000,000 horses, 12,000,000 pigs and 11,000,000 sheep. The *Times*, London, points out that the decline constitutes a very serious menace both to post-war food supplies and to the future of European agriculture. Milk production has gone down by more than a third, and meat production by nearly half. Recovery to pre-war numbers of breeding animals will take many years, and the lack of draught animals may be a serious hindrance to cultivation for the first post-war harvest.

Only a small proportion of this huge livestock loss could be made good by the supply of live animals. The first need will be for a policy of conservation of livestock, for the preservation of all animals capable of breeding and for the supply of an equivalent quantity of meat from overseas. At the same time feeding-stuffs will be needed, as well as veterinary measures to check the spread of epidemics among livestock already weakened by undernourishment. In countries where the numbers of draught animals have declined below the minimum needed for cultivation it may be necessary to replace them with tractors.

In connection with this last problem, the Technical Advisory Committee has taken note of the probable need to introduce mechanical cultivation into countries where few agricultural engineers or mechanics are to be found. The committee has therefore recommended provision for the training of allied nationals in Britain, such training to include tractor-driving, maintenance and the organization of mechanized services in agriculture generally.