and a ready wit. Friends, colleagues, students found him easily approachable, sympathetic, and in times of trouble generous with financial aid.

As a teacher Dr. Lewis was excellent. His lectures, sound always in matter, were invariably well organized, well presented and highly interesting. Students trained under him were warmly welcomed if they transferred to another institution. Among his associates it has been a common experience to be told by former students that Dr. Lewis was the best teacher they had during their college career, either at the University of Texas or elsewhere.

He was a member of Sigma Xi, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Botanical Society of America, the American Phytopathological Society, the American Microscopical Society (vice-president, 1932), the Society of American Bacteriologists and the Texas Academy of Science. In the Society of American Bacteriologists he was a member of the national council from 1940 to 1942. He was the organizer of the Texas Branch of that society, and at the time of his death was serving his second term as its president.

In productive scholarship Dr. Lewis was painstaking and tireless. Few of his publications show joint authorship, for he preferred to work alone, even to the point that he prepared himself most of the media and glassware. Each experiment he repeated many times over before he accepted the results. It is plainly evident from a consideration of his publications that his primary interest was in the pure and fundamental aspects of the subject. And the caliber of the work done by him is attested by the letters of commendation which he received from foreign and American bacteriologists. At the time of his death he was engaged in the preparation of the manuscript for a book on the bacterial cell.

O. B. WILLIAMS

RECENT DEATHS

DR. HENRY SEELY WHITE, professor emeritus of mathematics of Vassar College, died on May 20 at the age of eighty-two years.

JOHN S. STONE, from 1920 to 1935 a member of the department of research and development of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, died on May 20 in his sixty-fourth year.

ELIZABETH T. PLATT, since 1937 librarian of the American Geographical Society of New York, died on May 22 at the age of forty-three years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

EXPLORATIONS AND FIELD WORK OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

THE annual report for 1942 by Dr. Charles G. Abbot, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, gives the following account of explorations and field work carried out during the year:

Explorations, often in out-of-the-way corners of the earth, have always formed a major part of the institution's program for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." Although world conditions during the past year have made it either impracticable or undesirable to send out many of the expeditions that normally would have taken the field, nevertheless, even under the present unfavorable conditions it was found possible to carry on some field work in connection with researches previously commenced.

In astrophysics, field observers carried on their study of the intensity of solar radiation at the three Smithsonian observing stations on Mount Montezuma, Chile, Table Mountain, Calif., and Burro Mountain, N. Mex. Observations were made on every suitable day throughout the year, and the results were transmitted to Washington where they are used in investigations on the variability of solar radiation and on the relation between this variability and the earth's weather.

In geology, Dr. W. F. Foshag directed an expedition in cooperation with the U. S. Geological Survey with the purpose of studying certain strategic-mineral resources of Mexico. Dr. Charles E. Resser continued his studies of Cambrian rocks from Montana into the Canadian Rockies, obtaining much new information and many desirable specimens pertaining to the ancient Cambrian period. Dr. G. Arthur Cooper made large collections of Carboniferous and Permian fossils in Texas and Oklahoma, including much material hitherto lacking in the National Museum collections. A third expedition to the Bridger Badlands of southwestern Wyoming in search of extinct vertebrate animals was directed by Dr. C. Lewis Gazin; many interesting exhibition and study specimens were brought back to the museum, including a 1,270-pound slab containing 12 or 13 fossil turtles.

In biology, Dr. E. A. Chapin visited the island of Jamaica to continue his studies of the insect fauna with special reference to the termites. Large collections of the plants of Cuba were made by C. V. Morton, who spent two months on the island in botanical field work accompanied by two Cuban Government botanists.

In anthropology, Dr. T. D. Stewart visited Peru to make a scientific examination of the skeletal remains exposed in the numerous ancient cemeteries of that country; he also gathered information on the skeletal collections in Peruvian museums. As an extension of Smithsonian cave explorations in the Big Bend region of Texas, Walter W. Taylor investigated caves in the region of Ciénegas, Coahuila, Mexico, some twenty caves being excavated in the course of the work. Dr. Frank H. H. Roberts, Jr., conducted archeological investigations near the town of San Jon, eastern New Mexico, revealing four types of projectile points from four stratigraphic horizons, the

oldest type in association with an extinct bison and with indications that it may be contemporaneous with the Folsom horizon. Dr. William N. Fenton recorded Iroquois songs in New York State and Canada in cooperation with the Division of Music in the Library of Congress.

THE PATENT INDEX FOR CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS

THE chairman of the Science-Technology Group of the Special Libraries Association has sent the following announcement to SCIENCE:

Some years ago a committee of the Science-Technology Group of the Special Libraries Association started an index of the patents for *Chemical Abstracts* by country and by patent number thereunder, to conform with the present index issued yearly since 1936 by *Chemical Abstracts* itself. Many of the librarians, particularly those working with patent literature, felt that this project was extremely worthwhile and that the publication would be of interest to many firms working with chemical patents, as well as to libraries.

The Patent Index for *Chemical Abstracts*, 1907–1936, is practically completed. The patents for the year 1936 have been included because the next decennial index will carry a patent number index beginning with 1937. Thus, this publication will serve to make the index of patents to *Chemical Abstracts* complete.

Since the material is chiefly a numerical listing, the type-setting for which would be extremely expensive, it seemed to the committee that some form of photographic reproduction would be the most satisfactory method of publication and, for this reason, they have arranged with Edwards Brothers, Inc., of Ann Arbor, Mich., who are publishing Beilstein and a number of other German scientific and technical books for the Alien Property Custodian, as well as the Library of Congress Catalog of Printed Cards, to consider the practicability of publishing this index by the photo-offset process. It is estimated that the index will fill approximately 500 pages, the same page size as *Chemical Abstracts*.

Since the demand for this publication is definitely limited and may even be insufficient to warrant publication, it is suggested that any one who would be interested in purchasing one or more copies of the index should write either to Miss Elsie L. Garvin, chairman of the Science-Technology Group of the Special Libraries Association, at the Eastman Kodak Company Research Library, Kodak Park Works, Rochester, N. Y., or directly to Edwards Brothers, Inc., of Ann Arbor, Mich.

THE TRANSACTIONS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

WE learn from T. T. Colquhoun, honorary secretary of the Royal Society of South Australia, that at a recent meeting of the council it was decided that, for various reasons, it was desirable to suspend general dispatch of the *Transactions* overseas for the duration of the war. It was felt, however, that a skeleton distribution should be maintained in order that the publication may be available to research workers in the United States. A small list of learned societies and libraries on the exchange or subscription list was therefore drawn up and it was decided to forward the *Transactions* to these as they are issued. These societies are:

American Chemical Society, Columbus, Ohio.
American Microscopical Society, Manhattan, Kansas.
Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University, Jamaica Plain, Mass.
Botanical Gardens, St. Louis, Mo.
Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, Ill.
Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Mass.
National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D. C.
New York Public Library, New York, N. Y.
Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.
U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C.
University of California, Berkeley, Calif.

RARE CHEMICALS

THE following chemicals are wanted by the National Registry of Rare Chemicals, Armour Research Foundation, 33rd, Dearborn and Federal Streets, Chicago, Ill.:

1. Chromium wire or ribbon
2. Sodium hypophosphate or any acid sodium hypophosphate
3. 2,4,6-trisulphydryltriazine
4. alpha-methyl-vinyl-methyl-ketone
5. Ornithine
6. Di-n-propyl aminpethyl alcohol
7. Dibromoacetic acid
8. Glyoxylic acid
9. Long chain sulfonium, such as lauryl diethyl sulfonium iodide
10. Desoxy ribose
11. Triethyl phosphene
12. Pure arsenic
13. Cupric or cuprous oxide (pure)
14. Cupric or cuprous sulfide (pure)
15. Molybdenum tetrabromide
16. Acetyl sulfanilic chloride
17. Lithium lactate
18. Orthoform (new and old)

THE MOBILIZATION OF SCIENCE

THE following resolution was passed on May 8 by the War Policy Committee of the American Institute of Physics concerning the Kilgore bill.

WHEREAS, The American Institute of Physics, representing the physicists engaged in all branches of activity in their profession, has made studies and surveys to determine the extent to which physicists are engaged in and contributing to the war effort; and

WHEREAS, The facts thus found show that practically all physicists are now applying themselves to the advancement of war research, war industry, and training personnel for the war effort; therefore be it