

rounding terrain. Let us inquire if there are likely kinds of blunders in applying camouflage which would be easier for the colorblind observer to detect than the normal.

A fairly common scene within which it is required to conceal a position is made up of patches of red-dish-brown earth and yellowish-green foliage. The variegated pattern composed of these patches is well adapted to the concealment of a position from a normal observer. Even though it be somewhat too light or too bluish, the normal observer could fail to detect it because of the larger red-green differences in the scene. But consider the appearance of the scene to a red-green blind. The normal green of foliage to him appears dark-yellowish brown; the normal red-dish brown of earth also appears dark-yellowish brown to him. He is not sensitive to the red-green differences which for the normal produce a variegated pattern; instead he may see a nearly uniform yellowish-brown field. Any element of terrain which is too light or too bluish could be quite conspicuous to such an observer. It is therefore possible to believe that a colorblind observer may detect camouflaged positions not detectable by the normal observer.

CAN COLORBLINDNESS BE PRODUCED BY FILTERS?

It is a natural question to raise whether this possible advantage of the colorblind can be duplicated by

giving a suitable viewing filter to a normal observer. The filter required to suppress normal red-green discrimination is, of course, one which transmits only in the blue and yellow portions of the spectrum. If a filter could be found, for example, which transmits the double band 450 to 490 $m\mu$ and 560 to 585 $m\mu$, it would render the red-green differences between grass and earth about one fifth as prominent and at the same time preserve about the same prominence of any yellow-blue differences. However, such a filter would transmit less than 10 per cent. of incident daylight, probably much less. It is a question whether any improvement in detection of lightness differences or yellow-blue differences would be obtained by a normal observer in this way even against a highly variegated red-green background. It should be noted that such a filter, although it would render a normal observer relatively blind to red-green differences, by no means makes him equivalent to either a protanope or a deuteranope. Such a filter would endow the subject of the experiment with a luminosity function having two separate maxima, one at about 470 $m\mu$, the other at about 570 $m\mu$, whereas the deuteranope has a nearly normal luminosity function whose maximum is at 555 $m\mu$, and the protanope a similar function with the maximum shifted to about 540 $m\mu$. It is possible to produce the phenomena of color blindness separately by means of filters, but they can not all be bestowed in this way upon a normal observer at the same time.

OBITUARY

WALTER BEAL ELLETT

WALTER BEAL ELLETT, head of the department of agricultural chemistry at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and chemist for the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, died in Blacksburg, Va., on May 12, 1943. Dr. Ellett was born at Central Depot, now Radford, Va., on November 11, 1874. He was graduated from Virginia Tech in 1894 and immediately made an instructor in chemistry, earning his master's degree in 1896. He went to Germany in 1900 and graduated from the University of Goettingen in 1904 with the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees. While in Germany he studied under Tollens, Wallach, Nernst and Fleischmann. He was made head of the agricultural chemistry department in 1915, succeeding the late Professor Robert J. Davidson. He had been chemist of the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station since 1906. Dr. Ellett was a member of the American Chemical Society and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. His research at Virginia Tech has resulted in practical contributions to the fields of soil fertility, nitrification, fixation of phosphoric acid by the soil and fermentation. His

many researches have been published in the various scientific journals and as bulletins of the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station.

H. H. HULL

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

RECENT DEATHS

DR. ARTHUR WILLIS GOODSPEED, professor emeritus of physics of the University of Pennsylvania, died on June 6 at the age of eighty-two years. Dr. Goodspeed was secretary of the American Philosophical Society from 1901 to 1935.

DR. ALBRO DAVID MORRILL, professor of biology at Hamilton College from 1896 until his retirement in 1928 with the title emeritus, died on June 8 in his eighty-ninth year.

DR. FRED W. HINDS, dean of the College of Dentistry of Baylor University, died on June 4 at the age of fifty-five years.

SIR ARTHUR NEWSHOLME, from 1908 to 1919 principal medical officer of the London Local Government Board, died on May 17 at the age of eighty-six years.

Sir Arthur in 1919 was visiting professor of hygiene and public health at the Johns Hopkins University.

PROFESSOR GUIDO FUBINI, formerly professor of mathematics at the University of Turin and since 1939 a member of the Institute for Advanced Study

at Princeton, N. J., died on June 6 at the age of sixty-four years.

THE death is announced of Dr. Peter Muehlens, director of the Hamburg Institute for Tropical Diseases. He was sixty-nine years old.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

FIELD TRAINING IN HEALTH EDUCATION AT CLEVELAND HEALTH MUSEUM

TWENTY-SEVEN students in health education from the University of North Carolina will work from August 9 to September 4 as interns at the Cleveland Health Museum to receive a course of instruction, do laboratory work and gain field experience in methods of health education, especially in health exhibits. Among those students are seventeen individuals who were awarded fellowships by the U. S. Public Health Service, from a grant made available by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation.

The four-week course at the museum is part of a three-months' supervised field experience required in addition to nine months' academic training in order to obtain the degree of master of science in public health. The postgraduate students come from sixteen states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Washington and Wyoming. One student comes from Lima, Peru. Many have been already engaged in health work, such as directors of school cafeterias, teachers of physical education or home economics in colleges, assistant directors of state hospitals, nutritionists, etc.

The course will be conducted by Dr. Bruno Gebhard, who is director of the Cleveland Health Museum and an associate in health education at the School of Medicine of Western Reserve University.

Besides instruction in the principles and methods of visual health education the students will gain practical experience in three work units. The first one deals with ideas, facts, figures and manuscripts. Another unit is centered around designing, constructing and budgeting of exhibits. A third will handle placement, publicity, visitors' reaction and follow-up.

The museum's facilities, including exhibits, the workshops, the loan service and the film library, will be used for this training.

THE AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR TROPICAL MEDICINE

THE medical advisory committee of the American Foundation for Tropical Medicine authorized grants to six North American medical schools amounting to \$26,100 during the first quarter of 1943, according

to a report by Dr. J. A. Curran, dean of the Long Island College of Medicine, executive director, at a meeting of directors of the foundation in New York City on April 14.

These grants, made possible by contributions and pledges for the current year of \$60,100 by nineteen American corporations, are being used to strengthen teaching or research programs in tropical medicine and parasitology at the various schools. The approved projects were selected by the medical committee among a number of applications.

Medical schools to receive aid were: the College of Medicine of New York University; Medical School of Tufts College; School of Medicine of Tulane University; the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Manitoba; the College of Medicine of the University of Nebraska and the School of Medicine of Yale University.

Companies that have made contributions or formal pledges of support include: Abbott Laboratories; American Cyanamid Company; Ciba Pharmaceutical Products Corporation; Firestone Plantations Company; General Foods Corporation; Hoffmann-La Roche, Inc.; the Lambert Company; Lederle Laboratories; Eli Lilly and Company; Merck and Company, Inc.; National Carbon Company; Parke, Davis and Company; E. R. Squibb and Sons; United Fruit Company; William R. Warner and Company; Winthrop Chemical Company; Winthrop Products, Inc., and John Wyeth and Brother. Other applications are pending and those that are approved will be financed out of contributions.

The program of the foundation adopted at the annual meeting of members in January calls for the collection and disbursement of \$100,000 among medical schools and scientific journals and for special projects which fall within its scope. Dr. Curran stated that the full sum of \$100,000 would be needed to complete the program.

The officers of the foundation are: *President*, Lt. Col. Thomas T. Mackie, executive officer, Division of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine, Army Medical School; *Vice-president*, Dr. Willard C. Rappleye, dean of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University; *Secretary*, Alfred R. Crawford, assistant to the president of Long Island College of Medicine; *Treasurer*, W. W. Lancaster, partner,