Hawaii, a large outbreak of a highly contagious, acute type of conjunctivitis.[91] By September the epidemic, which is thought to have had its origin in Malaya,[92] had spread to the Pacific Coast of the United States, where it involved chiefly shipyard workers. In the late summer and early fall of 1942 outbreaks of the disease occurred in New York, Schenectady and Hartford.[92] From cases in the New York outbreak of the disease, now designated epidemic keratoconjunctivitis, Sanders and Alexander[93] were able on two occasions to isolate in tissue culture a virus which has proved to be pathogenic for man and for mice and rabbits. The association of their virus with the human disease appears to be established, although further work is desirable and doubtless will be forthcoming.

In conclusion, it should be emphasized that this presentation has of necessity been limited in scope and that many interesting and important contributions to our knowledge of viruses have had, perforce, to be omitted. So intensively and so sedulously have viruses and the diseases due to them been studied in recent years that any attempt, such as this, to summarize briefly the recent advances in this field, can do no more than present the high lights.

[91] Editorial, *Jour. Am. Med. Asn.*, 118: 460, 1942.

[92] J. H. Dunnington, *Symposium on Epidemic Keratoconjunctivitis* held at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, School of Medicine, under the direction of the Division of Preventive Medicine, Office of the Surgeon General, Department of War, and in conjunction with the Commission on Neurotropic Virus Diseases, Board for the Investigation and Control of Influenza and Other Epidemic Diseases in the Army, December 4, 1942.

[93] M. Sanders and R. C. Alexander, *Jour. Exp. Med.*, 77: 71–95, 1943.

OBITUARY

FELIX AGUILAR

THE director of the Astronomical Observatory of the University of La Plata, Dr. Félix Aguilar, died suddenly on September 28, 1943. Mr. Aguilar was not only one of the leading astronomers of the Republic of Argentina, but he was also active as president of the Comisión para la Medición de un arco de meridiano en la República Argentina, president of the Comisión Nacional de Observatorios and member of the Comisión de límites Argentino-Chilena. He served as professor of geodesy in the University of La Plata and was a member of several scientific associations such as the Sociedad Científica Argentina and the Academia Nacional de Ciencias. At the La Plata Observatory his name was connected with the creation of the Escuela Superior de Ciencias Astronómicas y Conexas and with the Instituto Geográfico Militar, where he served as head of the geodesy department. He was active in the determination of the difference in longitude between Potsdam and Belgrano (Buenos Aires), and participated in the first gravimetrical and magnetic investigations of the Instituto Geográfico. In 1936 he was placed in charge of the reorganization of the Observatorio Astronómico Nacional at Córdoba. He was the author of many scientific papers and invented a method for the use of calculating machines in the determination of latitude by a method of Gauss. He undertook one of the few astronomical leveling operations that have ever been executed. A short time before his death he arranged for two of his associates, Dr. Carlos Cesco and Dr. Jorge Sahade, to come to the United States for research in astrophysics.

OTTO STRUVE

DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. ALEXANDER G. MCADIE, from 1913 to 1931 professor of meteorology at Harvard University and for eighteen years director of the Blue Hill Observatory, died on November 1 at the age of eighty years.

DR. HENRY VINECOME ARNY, who retired in 1937 as dean of the College of Pharmacy of Columbia University, died on November 3. He was seventy-five years old. Dr. Arny had served as professor of chemistry at the College of Pharmacy from 1911 to 1937 and as dean of the college from 1930 to 1937.

DR. GLENN WARREN GOLDSMITH, since 1929 professor of botany and bacteriology at the University of Texas, died on October 28. He was fifty-six years old.

DR. IRA EDWARDS, curator in geology of the Milwaukee Museum, died on October 31 at the age of fifty years.

CHARLES A. DONNEL, a former head of the Office of the U. S. Weather Bureau in Chicago, principal meteorologist and supervising forecaster for the district, died on October 29. He was sixty-two years old.

A CORRESPONDENT writes: Dr. Wilmon Newell, provost for agriculture at the University of Florida, director of the Agricultural Experiment Station and Extension Service, and plant commissioner, State Plant Board, as already reported in SCIENCE, died on October 25 at the age of sixty-five years. After serving as entomologist in Iowa, Ohio, Texas, Georgia and Louisiana, he accepted the position of plant commissioner in 1915 with the newly created State Plant Board and directed the campaign which eradicated citrus canker in Florida. In 1929 he directed a similar campaign for the eradication of the Mediterranean fruit-fly; this work was completed in 1930. He was

director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station and Extension Service from 1921 to date, dean of the College of Agriculture from 1921 to 1938 and provost for agriculture since 1938.

MEMORIAL exercises in honor of the late Dr. Frank Schlesinger, professor of astronomy and director of Yale University Observatory, emeritus, who died on July 10, will be held in Strathcona Hall, Yale University, on Friday, November 19, at 4:30 P.M. The speakers will be Dr. James Rowland Angell, president emeritus of Yale University, and Professor Henry Norris Russell, of Princeton University. President Charles Seymour, of Yale University, will preside.

A PERMANENT memorial to William Beaumont, known as the founder of our modern knowledge of the physiology of the stomach, has been assured by the transfer of the historical "Early House" on Mackinac Island to public ownership.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

GIFTS TO THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, ENGLAND

AN immediate gift of £100,000 for the endowment of the department of pathology and the institution of a chair of human and comparative pathology to the Royal College of Surgeons of England by W. H. Collins, of Buckinghamshire, is reported in *The Times*, London.

Mr. Collins has also informed the college that he has made provision in his will for a bequest of a further £100,000 for the endowment of the department of anatomy and the institution of a chair of human and comparative anatomy.

Sir Alfred Webb-Johnson, who presided at a meeting of the council of the college, when the gifts were announced on October 14, read a letter from Mr. Collins, in which he said:

> Throughout my career I have realized how essential is the study and investigation of basic problems. Success of armies in the field is dependent on careful planning and preparation at headquarters, and victories in the war against disease can only be achieved by due application and increased knowledge of the fundamental medical sciences.
>
> I have been greatly impressed with the value of the departments of anatomy and pathology, which have made the Royal College of Surgeons of England famous all over the world. I have seen what grievous injury your departments have suffered as the result of enemy action, and appreciate what a gigantic task it will be to restore them to their unique position in the scientific world. To embark upon this task it is essential that the departments shall have an assured income from endowments. . . . I trust that my gifts will enable the council to proceed with confidence with their responsible task and to engage the services of men of outstanding ability to assist them in their labors.

It is recalled in *The Times* that the Royal College of Surgeons was badly damaged in the air raids in 1941 and that most of the Hunterian collection was lost when the museum of the college, situated in Lincoln's Inn Fields, was wrecked by a high-explosive bomb. The museum was unique and the Hunterian collection was the proudest possession of the college.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING OF CHEMISTS

THE Committee on the Professional Training of Chemists, according to *Chemical and Engineering News*, has had inquiries as to the minimum time required for a student in chemistry to complete his professional training in an accelerated program—especially as to whether it would be possible to complete the requirements of the society in two calendar years. The maximum time now allowed by Selective Service for deferment of students of chemistry and of other fields of technology is twenty-four months. It is the opinion of the committee that the present requirements can not be met in less than two and two-thirds calendar years, which would include eight semesters in an accelerated tri-semester schedule.

At present freshman and sophomore students become eighteen years of age before they are within twenty-four months of graduation and can not be deferred. The stream of technical students is therefore drying up at the source. Already the enrolment is down to about one third of normal. Unless some provision is made for a longer period of deferment for chemists and engineers, within one or two more years there will be no fully trained graduates in these technical fields.

It is further the opinion of the committee that students who take the Army specialist training courses in chemical engineering or other essential fields should return to college later to complete the standard requirements in order to prepare themselves to be permanently useful in industry or to go on in advanced training.

W. A. NOYES, JR., *Chairman*
E. M. BILLINGS
S. C. LIND
H. B. WEISER
W. G. YOUNG