plant manager of the Upjohn Company, manufacturing druggists, died on December 4 at the age of fifty-five years.

DR. QUICK LANDIS, research chemist at the Fleischmann Laboratories, Standard Brands, Incorporated, died on November 28 at the age of forty-two years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL TRAINING IN GREAT BRITAIN

THE Parliamentary correspondent of *The Times*, London, reports that a motion, tabled in the House of Commons, by about one hundred members of Parliament of all parties urges the Government to take bold action to encourage scientific and technological training and to stimulate and coordinate research work of all kinds as an aid to post-war reconstruction policies. Most of the members who have signed the motion belong to the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee, of which the chairman is E. W. Salt, and many of them are members of the Tory Reform Committee. The sponsors of the motion are: Mr. Salt, Lord Hinchingbrooke, Dr. A. V. Hill, M. P. Price, Sir George Schuster and H. Graham White. The motion is as follows:

That this House, recognizing that if the United Kingdom is to maintain its position in the post-war world and carry out effective plans for physical reconstruction and social betterment, research and the application of scientific knowledge in all fields must be promoted on a far bolder scale than in the period 1919–39, urges his Majesty's Government forthwith:

(1) To assure the universities that in planning future developments for research, teaching, and higher learning as a whole they will receive support from the State on a much larger scale than hitherto.

(2) To arrange that education and training in schools, technical colleges, and universities shall be directed at the earliest date towards providing a far greater number of persons highly trained in science and technology.

(3) To set in motion schemes to ensure a substantial and coordinated expansion of research activity by private firms, cooperative industrial research associations, and State and other research establishments; and to this end, to provide assistance by adjustment of taxation, by more generous financial grants and through adequate priorities both in demobilization and for materials required for building and equipment.

RUBBER FROM RUSSIAN DANDELIONS

AN account of the work being done at Kew Gardens during the war was given on November 10 at the British Ministry of Agriculture by Sir Geoffrey Evans, economic botanist at Kew Gardens, who described, as reported in *The Times*, London, an experiment in the attempt to develop additional sources of rubber.

Seeds of three plants, from which rubber has of recent years been produced in Russia, were received at Kew and cultivated there and at 22 other stations. The plants were two kinds of dandelion—Kok-saghyz and Krim-saghyz—and a salsify, Tau-saghyz. The last was everywhere a failure, and Krim-saghyz proved rather delicate.

The most promising is Kok-saghyz, which comes from the Ukraine and Poland, and seems capable of giving as good results in Britain as in Russia—that is to say, a yield of perhaps 65 to 100 pounds of rubber to the acre, a figure which may be compared with 800 to 1,000 pounds an acre of Para rubber. These Russian dandelions contain from 2 per cent. to 17 per cent. of rubber in the dry root. No British native dandelion has been found to have more than 5 per cent. The rubber is found in the cells of the plant and can not be collected as with Para rubber from the latex or sap.

Kok-saghyz may be planted in the autumn and harvested the following August or it may be sown in the spring, and treated as an 18-month crop. The evidence is, however, that it needs good soil, and can not be grown on second-class land. Three or four crops sown in Scotland were poor.

The plant requires, moreover, a great deal of hand-weeding, which is extremely expensive. In Russia this is done by women and children on collective farms. The rubber is of reasonably good quality, but so far the authorities do not advise its general cultivation.

FINANCES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

ACCORDING to the annual financial report of Comptroller Lloyd Morey, in the seventy-five years since the University of Illinois began its educational and research activities, it has built and accumulated a plant and equipment worth $43,971,932. For the fiscal year, ending June 30, its income, including auxiliary enterprises, was $12,309,886, and the corresponding expenditures for all purposes were $11,893,878.

There are outstanding bonds in the amount of $2,233,800 on the Medical, Dental and Pharmacy Building in Chicago, and on four self-liquidating non-educational structures at Chicago and at Urbana.

The university has 2,383 acres of land, including the campus at Urbana-Champaign, the campus at Chicago, the agricultural experiment farms of 1,127 acres at Urbana-Champaign, and other farms comprising 700 acres in 24 counties; 74 major buildings and 70 others; utilities, equipment and a library containing 1,759,851 volumes, reprints, maps, etc., which make it the largest of any state university.

The portion of income used for educational and general purposes was $11,040,392, of which appropriations from state tax revenues provided $6,578,795

or 59.6 per cent. In the preceding year state taxes had provided $6,772,128 or 65.8 per cent.

The Federal Government supplied $2,356,149, while $1,258,710, or 11.4 per cent., came from student fees. Gifts from private sources amounted to $277,042, and sales of products and miscellaneous receipts to $569,696. Under war-time contracts with the Federal Government for special training and research work the university expended $1,294,701 in the fiscal year ending on June 30. Contracts provide reimbursement by the Government of that amount.

The largest single war project of last year was the engineering, science and management war-training program, administered by the university in fifty-four war plant communities of Illinois, and for the training of 17,000 plant executives and specialists. On this project $367,567 was disbursed.

Other major war projects include research, Naval training schools for signalmen, diesel engine operators and diesel officers, and an Army specialized training and reassignment unit. The Army specialized training program and Navy V-12 college training program began in the month following the closing date of the comptroller's report on June 30.

THE WORLD MAP OF THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE

THE need for a world map in one piece has been filled by the last of five wall maps that have been published this year by the National Geographic Society. "The World Map" is issued with the *National Geographic Magazine* for December.

The 10-color chart is a continuous, panoramic picture of the world with the United States in the center. Distances to fighting fronts and America's relative position to the rest of the world are easily seen. The "ends of the earth" consist of an arbitrary line drawn across Asia from the tip of India to the Arctic mouth of the Yenisei River, Siberia.

The map is drawn to Van der Grinten's projection, which reduces the polar distortions of Mercator's projection. In order to show the polar regions in true perspective, the chart includes two upper corner insets centered at the Poles.

The map of the Northern and Southern Hemispheres issued last April and the map of the Eastern and Western Hemispheres issued in December, 1941, complement each other in showing the world from varied points of view.

Features of the new map are the two bottom corner insets of world maps giving the line-ups of belligerents in World Wars I and II. In both insets the physical preponderance of the Allies over Germany and her satellites is readily seen. The boundaries shown are as of the first day of war—September 1, 1939.

Included in the map are clock faces indicating local time when it is midnight in Greenwich; arrows showing the direction of sea currents; distinctive colors for colonial empires; icy blue coloration for glaciers and ice-cap; and native spellings of place names as well as the English equivalents. A table of the geographical equivalents used on the face of the map appears at the bottom of the sheet.

THE DR. WILLIAM BEAUMONT FOUNDATION

AT the first meeting of the Dr. William Beaumont Memorial Foundation in Prairie du Chien, on September 18, according to a report in the *Journal* of the Association of American Colleges, Dr. William D. Stovall, Madison, director of the State Laboratory of Hygiene, was elected chairman of the board of directors, and M. J. Dyrud, Prairie du Chien, was chosen president.

The foundation was incorporated in May and its purpose is to "perpetuate the name and memory of Dr. Beaumont and his memorable experiments in the physiology of digestion, and to recognize noteworthy contributions made by other physicians and surgeons of the United States." Organization of the foundation was planned and carried through by the Crawford County Medical Society and the local Kiwanis club. The officers include Dr. Olaf E. Satter, *vice-president,* Dr. Thomas F. Farrell, *treasurer,* and J. Alvin Dru'yor, *secretary.* Other members of the board of directors are Mayor F. W. Clanton, F. A. Otto and Paul H. Schmidt, all of Prairie du Chien. Dr. Walter J. Meek, acting dean of the Medical School of the University of Wisconsin, has been appointed chairman of the advisory board by the directors. Other appointments made were Cal Peters, curator; Dr. Peter L. Scanlan, Dr. Henry H. Kleinpell, Dr. John J. Kane, Dr. Charles A. Armstrong and Dr. Emil H. Lechtenberg, medical advisers to the curator, and Mr. Dyrud, general manager.

The first meeting of the new foundation was held in the hospital section of the second Fort Crawford, built in 1829, in which Dr. Beaumont served as post surgeon under Colonel Zachary Taylor, then commandant at the fort.

THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION

EACH year the American Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association presents an award of distinction to a scientific man who has made a fundamental contribution to public health in the field of drug therapy.

The mid-year meeting of the association was held at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York City, on December 13 and 14, when the annual scientific award was made jointly *in absentia* to Dr. Alexander Fleming, professor of bacteriology at the University of London, for