Institute in Moscow, reported that putrefactive bacteria do not decompose crystalline tobacco mosaic virus and that virus may be adsorbed by various microorganisms.[14] Goldin also published a paper on "Some Data Concerning Crystalline Inclusions in the Mosaic Virus Disease of Tobacco," in which he called attention to the similarity between the properties of crystalline tobacco mosaic virus and those of the crystalline material described by Iwanowski in 1903.[15] The effect of ether on bacteriophages and tobacco mosaic virus was studied by Goldin, who found neither agent to be soluble in ether.[16]

In addition to the work that I have described, Russian investigators have made studies of a practical nature on several virus diseases, chiefly of virus diseases of cereal crops. Studies of importance have also been made on virus diseases of man and animals. For example, in 1937 Smorodintseff and coworkers reported the results of a study in which volunteers were inoculated experimentally with influenza virus[17] and in 1940 an investigation was described in which biweekly inhalations of vaporized influenza antiserum were given to a large number of persons before and during an influenza epidemic.[18] These two methods of approach to the influenza problem have subsequently been employed by American workers. It should perhaps be noted that the inhalation of antiserum has yielded the most favorable results yet reported in connection with the prevention of influenza in man. The war does not appear to have interfered seriously with virus studies in Russia, for in a paper in last month's *Phytopathology* entitled "The Nature of Ultra-Viruses and Their Biological Activity," Rischkov[19] mentions a conference on plant virus diseases which was held in Moscow in 1941 and describes researches which were reported at a meeting of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in January, 1942. In 1942 a number of the Russian journal *Microbiology*[20] was issued in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Iwanowski's filtration experiment with tobacco mosaic virus. In the introductory article Koshtoiants[21] not only describes and evaluates Iwanowski's early findings but also much of the contemporary work on viruses. The author's defense of the importance of Russian science and the occasional indulgence in polemics appear unnecessary. The important researches of Engelhardt and Ljubimowa on the enzyme activity of myosin, of Rischkov on plant viruses, of Graschenkoff on encephalitis, of Petroff on tumors, of Gamali on immunity and of Smorodintseff on influenza are mentioned with justifiable pride. In the second paper Rischkov[22] discusses the origin of viruses and in two succeeding articles Suchov[23] and Vovk[24] describe some recent work on plant viruses.

Let us all hope that it will not be long before the rich promises of Iwanowski's early work on viruses will be even more fully realized in Soviet Russia.

OBITUARY

RECENT DEATHS

ARTHUR KEITH, from 1894 until his retirement in 1934 geologist of the U. S. Geological Survey, died on February 7 at the age of eighty-one years.

DR. BERNARD SACHS, formerly professor of clinical neurology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University and director of the division of child neurology at the Neurological Institute, died on February 8 at the age of eighty-six years.

DR. ARTHUR RENWICK MIDDLETON, since 1939 emeritus professor of inorganic chemistry at Purdue University, a member of the faculty for forty years, died on February 6 in his seventy-fifth year.

DR. DAVID ELDRIDGE WORRALL, professor of organic chemistry and director of the chemical laboratory at Tufts College, died on February 7. He was fifty-seven years old.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE POLISH FACULTY OF MEDICINE AT EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Journal* of the American Medical Association writes: "The only existing scientific institution with university standing which a great European nation has maintained is the Polish School of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh. It is unique in the fact that never before has any state set

[13] V. L. Rischkov and K. S. Soukhov, *Compt. rend. acad. sci. U.R.S.S.*, 21: 265, 1938.
[14] M. I. Goldin, *Compt. rend. acad. sci. U.R.S.S.*, 20: 735, 1938.
[15] *Idem, Microbiology U.S.S.R.*, 7: 353, 1938.
[16] *Idem, Bull. Acad. Sci. U.R.S.S.*, 173, 1938.
[17] A. A. Smorodintseff, M. D. Tushinsky, A. L. Drobyshevskaya, A. A. Korovin and A. I. Osetroff, *Am. Jour. Med. Sci.*, 194: 159, 1937.
[18] A. A. Smorodintseff, A. G. Gulamow and O. M. Tschalkina, *Zeitschr. klin. Med.*, 138: 756, 1940.
[19] V. L. Rischkov, *Phytopathology*, 33: 950, 1943.
[20] The writer is especially indebted to Dr. S. A. Waksman of Rutgers University for providing this number of *Microbiology* (Vol. 11, No. 4, 1942) and to Dr. M. Kunitz of the Rockefeller Institute for assistance in reading two of the articles.
[21] C. S. Koshtoiants, *Microbiology U.S.S.R.*, 11: 139, 1942.
[22] V. L. Rischkov, *Microbiology U.S.S.R.*, 11: 149, 1942.
[23] K. S. Suchov, *Microbiology U.S.S.R.*, 11: 168, 1942.
[24] A. M. Vovk, *Microbiology U.S.S.R.*, 11: 177, 1942.