

to 1923 and vice-president from 1918 to 1920, 1924 to 1925, and 1930.

His wide human interests and love of geography made him an eager traveler and student of the classic geologic areas of Europe and other parts of the world, experiences that greatly enriched his knowledge of geologic history, places and persons. This wealth of knowledge and experience he was ever ready to share with friends, colleagues and students, who found him an unending and never-failing source of information.

The stimuli to such a wide range of activities and interests were an innate intellectual curiosity and an unselfish desire to be useful to others, and never an urge to display unusual wisdom or to bring himself into the forefront. He adroitly avoided public and formal exhibition of the versatility and range of his knowledge and experience, but he was always ready and happy to share their fruits unobtrusively and informally in friendly conversation. The character and personality of Dr. Mathews can not be more appropriately described than in the words of a colleague of long association who said, "I have never known him to do an unkind or unfair act" and of another fellow geologist who wrote, "All of us who knew Professor Mathews personally had a real affection for him

and we had a deep appreciation of his able and unselfish devotion in his chosen field. We shall greatly miss him."

JOSEPH T. SINGEWALD, JR.

## RECENT DEATHS

PROFESSOR WILLIAM EDWARD TOTTINGHAM, associate professor of biochemistry at the University of Wisconsin, died on March 2. He was sixty-two years old.

DR. FREDERIC WILLIAM SCHLUTZ, Richard T. Crane professor of pediatrics and chairman of the department at the University of Chicago, died on March 9 at the age of sixty-three years.

DR. HELEN COPELAND COOMBS, instructor in physiology at Brooklyn College, died on March 4 at the age of fifty-two years.

THE death is announced of Dr. H. F. Newall, F.R.S., from 1909 until his retirement with the title emeritus in 1928 professor of astrophysics at the University of Cambridge.

DR. JOHN WILLIAM HENRY EYRE, emeritus professor of bacteriology at the University of London, died on February 17 in his seventy-fifth year.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### CHINESE SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES

IN an account of the joint annual meeting held last July of scientific societies in China, including the zoological, the botanical, the meteorological, the mathematical and the geographical societies, under the presidency of Dr. Wong Wen-Hao, *Nature* reports that Dr. Joseph Needham, Sir William Dunn reader in biochemistry at the University of Cambridge, England, was elected an honorary member of the Science Society of China, in appreciation of "his distinguished academic work and his service in promoting cooperation between Chinese and Western science, which had been so effectively carried on during the previous six months."

The six societies spent two mornings in communicating original papers dealing with their respective sciences; more than three hundred papers were read. Brief abstracts of these papers will be published shortly in Chinese with additional English titles.

One of the two remaining afternoons was devoted to a discussion on "Science and National Reconstruction," with special reference to the problem of how science is to be promoted in China. Opinions were formulated on the following four points, which were presented to the Chinese Government for immediate adoption.

(1) The government is requested to provide a large

fund in the forthcoming national budget for, and only for, the furtherance of scientific research and of the scientific education of the masses.

(2) The personnel and equipment of the leading science institutes, such as those of Academia Sinica, must be materially augmented.

(3) The government must endeavor to establish cooperation between the scientific workers on the one hand and officials in charge of national planning on the other, so that the resulting plans may be more practical and fruitful.

(4) While the government is considering sending a large number of young men of science abroad, it is deemed appropriate that such opportunities should be extended to mature scholars also. Here again, the government is requested not to neglect pure science in favor of applied sciences and technology. There was a discussion on "International Science Cooperation," and an address by Dr. Needham entitled "International Science Cooperation in War and Peace" was read by Dr. H. C. Zen, president of the Science Society of China. A scientific exhibition intended for the general public was arranged.

### ADVANCED INSTRUCTION AND RESEARCH IN MECHANICS AT BROWN UNIVERSITY

BROWN UNIVERSITY has issued an announcement of the program of advanced instruction and research in mechanics, covering the period since its inauguration