

the Rockefeller Foundation, died on May 12 at the age of seventy-five years.

DR. LOUIS LEROY, professor of the theory and practice of medicine at the University of Tennessee, died on May 9 at the age of sixty-nine years.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL for the Treatment of Cancer and Allied Diseases, New York City, which is celebrating its sixtieth anniversary, is raising a fund of \$150,000 as a tribute to the memory of the late Dr. James

Ewing, who was associated with the hospital for thirty years both as president of the medical board and as director. Income from the fund will be used to support the undergraduate and graduate instruction for medical students at Cornell University Medical College and at the hospital, to finance at least two lectures annually on recent advances in neoplastic diseases and to support such special study as may seem advisable to the supervisory committee.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE INDIA COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH¹

THE organization of industrial research in India, with a view to making her industrially self-sufficient, has been engaging the attention of the Government of India for some time. An Industrial Research Bureau had been established as a clearing house of industrial intelligence after the Sixth Industries Conference in 1934, but at the outbreak of war many sources of supply of finished products to India were either stopped entirely or much curtailed, and it became apparent that a central scientific and industrial research organization should be established immediately. Thus the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research was set up in April, 1940, for a period of two years in the first instance.

The functions of the board were to advise the Government as to the lines on which scientific and industrial research should be conducted, particularly as regards industries whose importance and possibilities were brought into the foreground by wartime conditions. The board was to utilize and coordinate the work of existing organizations and to make recommendations to the Government concerning the general lines on which industrial research should be pursued, and the specific problems which might be assigned to the technical staff directly under the control of the board, on the one hand, and to the various university and other scientific institutions on the other. The board consisted of four scientists, seven industrialists and one departmental head, with the executive council member in charge of the Commerce Department as chairman. It was to meet every three or four months. Research committees, composed of scientists and industrialists, were set up to examine and report on research schemes and watch their progress. Nineteen such committees were set up in the first two years.

When certain researches had reached a stage at which their commercial exploitation could be considered, an Industrial Research Utilization Committee was formed to settle the terms on which the researches

¹ From the *Journal of Scientific and Industrial Research*, Melbourne, Australia.

could be released to manufacturers. The committee, consisting mostly of industrialists, was under the board and contained representatives of industries and of the Chamber of Commerce.

In 1942, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research was constituted to coordinate and generally exercise administrative control over the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research and the Industrial Research Utilization Committee. Its fourteen members are drawn mostly from the board and the committee. The council has been established on a permanent basis and is financed by the Industrial Research Fund, providing in the first instance an annual grant of 10 lakhs of rupees (about £75,000 sterling) for five years.

Since its formation, the board has been mainly occupied with the solution of urgent war problems, but it has devoted considerable attention to the organization of scientific and industrial research on a scale commensurate with India's expanding needs. Plans have already been prepared for establishing a National Chemical Laboratory, a National Physical Laboratory, a Metallurgical Research Institute, a Central Glass and Silicates Research Institute and a Central Fuel Research Station. When these become effective, India will be provided with facilities for research reasonably adequate to meet her immediate requirements.

In order to give publicity to the research activities initiated by or undertaken at the instance of the board, it was decided to publish the *Journal of Scientific and Industrial Research*, the first number of which appeared in October, 1942. Publication is quarterly, and copies may be obtained on application to The Secretary, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Delhi, India.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DIVISION OF HIGH POLYMER PHYSICS IN THE AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY

DR. KARL K. DARROW, secretary of the American Physical Society, recently announced that a Division of High Polymer Physics had been authorized by the

council of the society, acting in response to a petition signed by thirty-one fellows and members.

The field of this division is defined as the advancement and diffusion of knowledge of the physics of high-polymeric materials such as rubbers, textiles and plastics. Meetings of the division may be held (if the council so authorizes) in conjunction with or separately from meetings of the society.

The council has appointed an "organizing committee" to take charge of the organization and the affairs of the division until by-laws are formulated and adopted by the council and a mechanism is set up for electing an executive committee. The organizing committee consists of F. G. Brickwedde, K. K. Darrow, G. B. Pegram and A. E. Ruark, selected from the council; and R. B. Barnes, W. F. Busse, P. Debye, J. H. Dillon, W. J. Lyons and L. A. Wood, selected from the members sponsoring the division. W. J. Lyons (Southern Regional Research Laboratory, 2100 Robert E. Lee Boulevard, New Orleans 19, La.) is serving as secretary of this committee.

According to Article IX of the constitution of the society:

1. The council may, upon petition by members of the society, form a division within the society charged with the advancement and diffusion of the knowledge of a specified subject or subjects in physics.
2. Each division shall elect an executive committee, the chairman of which shall report its activities and needs to the council.
3. Any division may be dissolved at the discretion of the council.

THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA

THE Geological Society of Minnesota has just ended its most successful year. The society is unique in that most of its members are amateur geologists whose purpose is to study geology and mineralogy for their cultural value. It is an incorporated organization with approximately one hundred and sixty-five active members who, during the months from October to May, meet once a week for a lecture or talk on some geologic subject. The meetings are held in the Science Museum Auditorium of the Minneapolis Public Library. From May until October members endeavor to have a field trip every two weeks. During the year just closed there has been an average attendance of seventy-six members at the weekly lectures.

During each of the last two years a course of sixteen lectures, given by Professor George A. Thiel, of the department of geology of the University of Minnesota, has been sponsored. As a part of the program a bulletin entitled *The Minnesota Geologist*, with items of interest for members, is issued eight times a year.

The society consists of business and professional men and women interested in earth sciences. Officers

of the society are Edward P. Burch, *Founder and Counselor*; Charles H. Preston, *President*, and Loretta E. Koppen, *Secretary*.

THE SOCIETY OF THE SIGMA XI

NEWLY elected officers of the Northwestern University Chapter of the Society of the Sigma Xi are: *President*, Professor W. F. Windle, of the School of Medicine; *Vice-president*, Professor F. A. Brown, Jr., of the department of zoology; *Secretary*, Professor Wallace Givens, of the department of mathematics; *Treasurer*, Dr. I. M. Klotz, of the department of chemistry, and *Member of the Nominating Committee*, Professor M. J. Herskovits, of the department of anthropology.

At a recent meeting of the Rochester Chapter, the following new officers were elected: *President*, Professor R. W. Helmkamp; *Vice-president*, Dr. W. L. Bradford; *Secretary-Treasurer*, Dr. Charles D. Kochakian; *Member of the Executive Committee*, Professor Curt Stern; *Members of the Nominating Committee*, Dr. Harry Blair and Dr. Nolan Kaltreider. At the same meeting the late Professor-Emeritus Herman L. Fairchild, Professor-Emeritus Victor J. Chambers and Professor John R. Murlin were elected honorary members "in recognition of their meritorious service to the local chapter." The induction ceremonies were held on May 2.

THE annual meeting of the Tufts College Chapter was held on May 11. Following the initiation of newly elected members and associate members, the officers for the academic year 1944-1945 were installed: *President*, Dr. Paul A. Warren, biology; *President-elect*, Dr. David Rapport, medicine; *Vice-president*, Dr. Alvin H. Howell, electrical engineering; *Secretary*, Dr. Nils Y. Wessell, psychology; *Treasurer*, Dr. Herman R. Sweet, biology. The address of the evening was presented by Professor Kenneth Roeder, assistant professor of biology. He spoke on "The Physiology of Nerve Conduction."

A CHAPTER of the Society of the Sigma Xi was installed recently at Wayne University. The ceremonies were conducted by Dr. Harlow Shapley, president of the society, and Dr. George A. Baitsell, executive secretary. Dr. Shapley gave the installation address entitled "On Cooperation in Research." He also spoke later in the program on "Star Clusters." The officers of the chapter are as follows: *President*, William H. Pyle; *President-elect*, Arthur H. Smith; *Secretary*, Helen I. Miner; *Treasurer*, Ralph G. Janes, and *Member of Executive Committee*, Charles W. Creaser.

THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

At the annual meeting of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, held on May 10 at its house at 28 Newbury Street, Boston, the election of thirty-nine