

ple, his engaging informality, his generous nature and charming personality made his company and friends an international legion. To be a guest in his home or to accompany him on his yacht was one of life's choice experiences. No man knew better how to live usefully, triumphantly and beautifully than did Leo Baekeland.

The noble and flaming spirit which characterized our beloved colleague's life and works will illuminate the pathways of thoughtful men in the fields of science and engineering for countless generations.

ARTHUR W. THOMAS

STEPHEN P. BURKE

COLIN G. FINK

WM. D. TURNER

ARTHUR W. HIXSON, *Chairman*

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

RECENT DEATHS

ACCORDING to reports in the daily press, Edwin G. Woodward, dean and director of the College of Agriculture of the University of Connecticut, died in the Hartford fire. He was fifty-four years old.

DR. WALTER ALBERT JESSUP, president of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching

since 1934; president of the Carnegie Corporation of New York since 1941, died on July 7 at the age of sixty-six years.

FRED C. PEDERSON, state forester of Virginia, member of the Council of the Society of American Foresters, died on June 25.

WILLIAM H. BARTON, JR., chairman and curator of the Hayden Planetarium of the American Museum of Natural History, died on July 7 at the age of fifty-one years.

THE death at the age of eighty years is announced of Sir Thomas Robert John Ward, first president of the Institution of Engineers of India, fellow of the Royal Geological Society. He was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

ALEXANDER E. CONRADY, professor of optical design at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, from 1917 until his retirement in 1931, previously for sixteen years optical designer for the firm of W. Watson and Sons, Ltd., of London, manufacturers of microscopes and other optical apparatus, died on June 16 at the age of seventy-eight years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO SIR HORACE DARWIN

THE letter given below, written by Dr. H. H. Dale, president of the Royal Society, was printed in the issue of June 3 of *The Times*, London.

The Royal Society has received from a generous donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, an offer of the sum of £2,000 to initiate a fund which it is desired to associate with the memory of the late Sir Horace Darwin, F.R.S., whose scientific vision and enterprise have had such important influence on the instrumental equipment of scientific research and its applications. Appropriately to that commemoration, the object named for the proposed fund is the provision of apparatus and materials for restoring the equipment of laboratories and institutions for scientific research in countries now occupied by our enemies. Such restoration must play a vital part in enabling allied countries, now so long the victims of aggression, to create anew their scientific and economic life.

The Royal Society, being in full sympathy with the objects thus indicated, has agreed to create the "Horace Darwin Fund" for their furtherance, and has accepted the contribution offered for its initiation. It can not be doubted that the allied countries which the enemy has occupied and despoiled will need such help on a very large scale; and the offer of it from this country would certainly strengthen the bonds of collaboration with our own scientific community, and contribute to the promotion and maintenance of the ultimate European settlement. The fund will be held by the Royal Society, for application

to this purpose as soon and as rapidly as the liberation of the occupied countries, and the facilities for obtaining the required equipment, make effective action possible.

Contributions to the "Horace Darwin Fund" should be sent to the treasurer of the Royal Society, Burlington House, W.1, London.

THE RESEARCH COUNCIL OF RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

BASED upon the concept that a university exists to advance the frontiers of knowledge through study and research as well as to impart knowledge through instruction, Rutgers University has established a Research Council to strengthen the research program of the university. Its aims are to expand existing research programs; to encourage and facilitate the development of research in departments where none is now under way; to reduce to the minimum unnecessary duplication of effort; to encourage cooperative research between departments and between the university and organizations outside of the university; and to make available to scholars and the general public the results of research done in the university. The council will cooperate closely with deans, other administrative officers and department heads in strengthening the undergraduate and graduate programs of instruction and research. Attempts will be made to adjust the teaching load of those members of the fac-

ulty whose research problems are considered worthy of support, as well as to secure for such professors occasional leaves of absence from teaching.

Another aspect of the council's work will be concerned with placing the research facilities of the university at the disposal of the State of New Jersey, its citizens and its industries to a greater extent than before. Contacts will be made with state agencies, industry, business and labor for the purpose of developing reciprocal arrangements providing mutual advantages to each.

The membership of the council includes:

Dr. William H. Cole, professor of physiology and chairman of the Bureau of Biological Research in the College of Arts and Sciences, who has been named director of the Research Council; Dr. Firman E. Bear, professor of agricultural chemistry, chairman of the soils department of the College of Agriculture and editor of *Soil Science*, who will serve as chairman of the council; Donald F. Cameron, associate professor of English in the College of Arts and Sciences and editor of the Rutgers University Press; Wallace S. Moreland, assistant to the president; James L. Potter, associate professor of electrical engineering in the College of Engineering; Dr. Walter C. Russell, professor of agricultural biochemistry and executive secretary of the Graduate Faculty; Dr. George P. Schmidt, professor of history in the New Jersey College for Women, and Dr. Peter van der Meulen, professor of physical chemistry and acting dean of the School of Chemistry.

There is also being organized an Advisory Board consisting of representatives from the university trustees, the State Board of Regents, Rutgers alumni, industry and the general public. The function of this board will be to survey annually the research facilities and accomplishments of the university and to make recommendations to the trustees concerning expansion and strengthening of the research program throughout the university.

Dr. Carroll Lane Fenton has been appointed editorial consultant to the director for the preparation of reports on the research facilities and on the work done to specific organizations as well as to the general public.

The Research Council is an outgrowth of the activities of a committee appointed by President Clothier in the summer of 1943 to study all matters related to research in the university. This committee studied the organization, purposes and procedures of similar agencies in other universities. It concluded that the interests of all concerned would best be served by organizing a council to cooperate with the deans and directors of the several schools and colleges in encouraging and strengthening research throughout the university.

In the fall of 1943 certain funds were placed at the disposal of the original committee and were used to support ten selected research projects submitted by various members of the staff. Some of the projects are closely concerned with the war effort, the details of which can not now be divulged, except to say that they have to do with a search for anti-malarial drugs, improved methods for analyzing cinchona bark and with acoustical investigation. Other projects are concerned with the physiological value of different proteins and their constituent amino acids in nutrition and in the prevention and treatment of disease; the structure of tomato seedlings and its bearing on successful transplantation; the preparation of material for the study and teaching of Latin-American Spanish; a geological survey of the State of New Jersey and the search for an improved method of determining the saponification number of fats.

For the next academic year, 1944-45, thirty-four applications for research funds were received from thirty different persons representing nineteen different departments of the university. The funds requested were two and one-half times the amount available for allocation. Fifteen grants were awarded for 1944-45, including a renewal of those mentioned above. Four of the awards carry leaves of absence from teaching for various parts of the academic year to be devoted exclusively to research.

LEGISLATION ON THE SCOPE OF THE U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

AN Associated Press dispatch in *The New York Times* states that on July 3 President Roosevelt approved legislation broadening the scope of the U. S. Public Health Service and in a statement commended the department for "its excellent record in protecting the health of the nation."

The act authorizes Federal grants for research by non-government institutions, larger appropriations to aid state public health work and the establishment of a national tuberculosis program. It provides commissions for public health nurses. The text of the statement is as follows:

The Public Health Service Act is an important step toward the goal of better national health. A constituent of the Federal Security Agency since 1939, the U. S. Public Health Service is one of the oldest Federal agencies—and one in which the people have great confidence because of its excellent record in protecting the health of the nation.

The act signed to-day gives authority to make grants-in-aid for research to public or private institutions for investigations in any field related to the public health. It authorizes increased appropriations for grants to the states for general public health work.