

professor of chemistry at the Johns Hopkins University, died on July 28 at the age of sixty-eight years.

DR. WILBERT B. HINSDALE, anthropologist and professor emeritus of internal medicine at the University of Michigan, dean of the Homeopathic Medical College, died on July 26. He was ninety-three years old.

DR. FRANK J. TONE, chemical engineer, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Carborundum Company, died on July 26 at the age of seventy-five years.

SIR RALPH FOWLER, since 1932 Plummer professor of mathematics at the University of Cambridge, died on July 28 at the age of fifty-five years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE UNIVERSAL DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION FOR LIBRARIES

THE American Standards Association announces that it has on hand copies of the first four completed volumes in the Universal Decimal Classification for libraries, being published by the British Standards Institution as a British Standard. This work, which may extend to additional volumes, sets up a system for classifying library books that can be applied to special subject libraries, as well as to general libraries all over the world. Since the use of numbers has eliminated language as a barrier, any librarian should be able to make use of a library of another country where this system is used and feel perfectly at home.

The Universal Decimal Classification is actually a highly detailed enlargement of the Dewey Decimal System, developed along somewhat the same lines. The universal classification is a great deal more specialized and more intricate. It will prove useful, therefore, primarily to experts and libraries in specialized fields, since it is designed to accommodate an indefinite number of subdivisions.

This classification was prepared by the Federation International de Documentation with the help of leading experts in many fields. It has been adopted by the International Federation of the National Standardizing Associations for the classification of its documents, and is the most widely used of any single classification. Both the British Society for International Bibliography and the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureau requested this English edition of the Universal Decimal Classification, with the approval of the Education Foundation, Lake Placid Club, New York, publishers of the Dewey Decimal Classification. French and German editions have already been published.

The subdivision of the "subject" classes follows the accepted principle, "from groups of wide extent to groups of less extent," that is, there are main classes and auxiliary classes. The main classes, like philosophy, religion, social sciences and art, are broken up into auxiliary classes such as psychology, Christian churches and sects, law, architecture, and these classes may be further subdivided.

From time to time various readjustments are ex-

pected to be made. The Universal Decimal Classification is under the continual supervision of experts in an effort to keep it up to date. The British Society for International Bibliography and a series of international subject secretariats are two of these groups, although the Commission and Secretariat of the Classification of the Hague has the final decision for amendments and extensions.

While it is necessary that fully developed tables be placed at the disposal of experts and specialists, an abridged system formed by the major groups with simpler symbolic representation can be used for the classification of books in smaller libraries.

The classification is especially valuable in specialized files owing to its complete detail. It is also well adapted for use in connection with various automatic card sorting machines.

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN AVIATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

THE first meeting of the University of Illinois Advisory Board on Aeronautics, which is composed of members distinguished for their work with various aspects of aviation and related activities, was held at the University Club, Chicago, on June 30.

The board was appointed to assist the university in the organization and development of a comprehensive program of education and research in aviation. It includes not only technological phases, but also economic, sociological and medical aspects.

Much of the activity of the university will center around its new airport now under construction. There will be three runways, each 5,300 feet in length and 150 feet wide. Space is available for extending the runways to 8,300 feet, as well as for additional runways. The facilities planned are sufficient to accommodate any aircraft now in use, including the B-29. The university has purchased 763 acres of land up to the present time and the area will be expanded as needs develop.

The last session of the Illinois State Legislature appropriated \$250,000 for land and \$500,000 for the construction of buildings. In addition, the Civil Aeronautics Administration approved contracts amounting to \$1,354,000 for improvements, including runways, drainage, taxiways and other construction.

The airport is the first unit of the planned facilities for education and research in the many phases of aviation. The ultimate aim is to have in one university the plant and personnel to cover the economic, sociological and medical problems, as well as the technological problems of aeronautics. The new airport will be open for military and commercial use, for civilian flying and will at the same time serve as a research laboratory for the university.

The official announcement of the plans gives the following objectives for the university in relation to aviation:

1. To serve the industry by providing education for such college-trained personnel as are needed in the design, construction and production of all types of airplanes and engines; in the whole field of commercial air transport for both foreign and domestic service; and in airport design, construction, operation and maintenance.

2. To develop research personnel for private, commercial, government and university laboratories.

3. To provide teacher-training programs for high-school teachers, both specialists who teach aviation courses and non-specialists who teach high-school courses related to aviation.

4. To develop and direct off-campus educational programs for technical or industrial personnel and teachers, and for adults interested in the social, economic and political implications of aviation.

5. To provide short courses on the campus to educate university graduates in the newest developments and needs of aviation, and to keep them abreast of changing needs and knowledge.

6. To provide flight instruction for limited numbers of properly qualified students under sponsorship of the CAA or the Reserve Officers' Training Corps. (For example, high-school teachers who expect to handle special aviation courses should acquire some slight experience.)

7. To develop, in cooperation with the aviation industry, the CAA, the Army and Navy air forces and with other interested national agencies, cooperative research programs related to air transportation.

THE COMMITTEE ON PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION

THE Committee on Pharmaceutical Research of the American Pharmaceutical Association announces the availability of certain limited funds for research grants.

These grants are to be made by the council on the recommendations of the Committee on Pharmaceutical Research. They are to be made on the premises:

- (a) the extent which the award will serve to promote pharmaceutical research;

- (b) whether the award supplements the American Pharmaceutical Association laboratory program;

- (c) the qualifications of those who will perform the

work for which the award is made and the facilities of the laboratory where the research will be conducted;

- (d) preference will be given to applications wherein the award will supplement a contribution from the institution or laboratory in which the research will be conducted.

Those interested in being considered for the above awards should communicate promptly with the chairman of the Committee on Pharmaceutical Research (Ivor Griffith, 43d and Kingessing Ave., Philadelphia 4, Penna.) who will send an application blank which, when returned, will supply all the details that will enable the committee to evaluate carefully the projects listed in the application. These applications should be forwarded promptly so that they can be given early consideration.

IVOR GRIFFITH,

Chairman of the Committee on Pharmaceutical Research

SYMPOSIA OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

A SYMPOSIUM on "Frontiers in Biochemistry" will be held by the Division of Biological Chemistry at the one hundred and eighth meeting of the American Chemical Society, which meets in New York City from September 11 to 15. It is announced that twenty-nine papers will be presented at five sessions. The subjects to be discussed include human plasma, penicillin and vitamins. Dr. Elmer M. Nelson, of the U. S. Food and Drug Administration, Washington, D. C., chairman of the division, will preside. Institutions represented on the program are Columbia, Cornell, Harvard, Minnesota, Missouri, Pittsburgh, Rutgers, Stanford, Texas, Wisconsin and Yale, the Rockefeller Institute, New York; the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.; Lankenau Hospital, Philadelphia; the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston; the U. S. Department of Agriculture and Distillation Products, Inc., Rochester, N. Y.

Among the speakers and their subjects are the following:

Dr. Henry C. Sherman, of Columbia University, now working with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, will present a paper on "Nutritional Principles in Wartime Food Problems." "Studies on Vitamins B-10 and B-11" will be reported by a group from the University of Wisconsin composed of Drs. C. A. Elvehjem, J. M. Briggs, Jr., T. D. Luckey and E. B. Hart. "The Chemistry of Muscle During Shock" will be the subject of a paper by Jesse L. Bollman and Eunice V. Flock, of the Mayo Foundation.

Dr. Karl Meyer and Eleanor Chaffee, of Columbia University, will speak on "Biologically Active Derivatives of Penicillin."

Dr. Rollin D. Hotchkiss, of the Rockefeller Institute,