

Most of the studies on species found along the west coast of Florida were done between January 15 and March 15, 1943, in the new laboratories of Citrus

Concentrates, Inc., at Dunedin, Fla. Valuable assistance was given by Mr. Harold Marston, an employee of the company.

OBITUARY

NORTON ADAMS KENT

NORTON ADAMS KENT, for many years professor of physics at Boston University, died on June 5, 1944, at Chocorua, New Hampshire, near the end of his seventy-first year, and just after completing a busy year of academic work.

He was the founder of the physics department at Boston University and for a considerable time he constituted the entire department, a situation which for most men would have ruled out any possible opportunity for research. Yet he continued to publish papers in spectroscopy along with his other duties so that a former head of the physics department of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology about twenty years ago remarked, "There is more scientific spirit in that little physics department at Boston University than there is here at the Institute!"

Professor Kent was born on July 28, 1873, in New York City. His parents were Elmore Albert and Mary Abbie (Holman) Kent. He received his bachelor's degree from Yale in 1895 and spent further time in graduate study there. Then he attended Johns Hopkins University from 1898 to 1901 where he studied under Henry A. Rowland and at the same time associated with some of the foremost men in the American scientific world. These connections he maintained to the end of his life. After obtaining his Ph.D. in 1901 he spent two years as assistant at the Yerkes Observatory in Wisconsin, then he received a professorship at Wabash College, Indiana, where he taught physics until 1906.

In March, 1906, he married Margaret Crowninshield, of Salem, Mass. He is survived by Mrs. Kent and one daughter, Margaret Crowninshield Kent.

In 1906 Dr. Kent undertook to establish a physics department at Boston University which hitherto had sent its students to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for this part of their training. At that time the university was not over-supplied with funds, so that Dr. Kent found himself raising money not only for the partial equipment of the laboratory but also for his own research projects. He served Boston University for four years as assistant professor and thirty-

two years as full professor. He was professor emeritus beginning June, 1942. At this time Dr. Kent also became visiting professor of physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Physical Society. He was a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and chairman of its Rumford Committee.

His special field was spectroscopy, and between 1901 and 1939 he published nineteen papers on such subjects as the Zeeman effect, shifts of spark lines due to circuit conditions, fine structure of spectral lines as determined by the echelon, also by Lummer plates, both crossed and in tandem, and determination of wave-lengths. He spent his first sabbatical leave of absence from Boston University in Germany, working in collaboration with Paschen on the Zeeman effect of five lithium lines. His second sabbatical year was spent at the California Institute of Technology with Houston, photographing the hydrogen molecular spectrum and measuring its wave-lengths. One can imagine his emotional reaction when several years later he surveyed Harrison's beautiful recording spectrophotometer which will measure in a few seconds plates such as Dr. Kent had labored over for many months. At the time of his death he was working on the fine structure of $H\alpha$ on which subject he had already published three papers.

While he seized every opportunity for research, he did not neglect his university duties. He was an efficient teacher with a passion for accuracy of statement. He was a wise counselor and a conscientious administrator. Instrumental in obtaining the establishment of the Wadsworth Student Loan Fund, he administered it faithfully until his retirement. He was particularly interested in students of foreign birth, and was very active in a local committee organized to promote friendly relations among such students. He will be long remembered by his students and colleagues alike as a man of tireless energy and thoroughly altruistic nature.

ROYAL M. FRYE

LUCIEN B. TAYLOR

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH IN GREAT BRITAIN

A STATEMENT in regard to scientific and industrial research has been issued by ninety-two prominent British leaders of industry, science and university

teaching. It gives arguments in regard to the importance of scientific research and for the need for a great expansion of research facilities of all kinds. It presents, according to an editorial in *The Times*, London, a well-reasoned discussion of the parts to be played