played, he was stricken with poliomyelitis from which he recovered, but which left him unable to walk except with the aid of crutches.

He entered the University of New Mexico in 1929, graduating with highest honors in 1933. After a year of teaching in a New Mexico high school, he became an assistant in chemistry at the University of New Mexico, and in nine years received repeated promotions, until at his death he was an associate professor. Studying during summer quarters and during a leave of absence, he earned the M.S. (1936) and the Ph.D. (1941) at the University of Colorado, his major work being in physical chemistry.

Dr. Gibson was rated by all his students and by his colleagues on the faculty as an exceptionally fine teacher. Not only was he very brilliant himself, but he possessed the faculty of making difficult academic subjects understandable to those less gifted. He commanded the respect and affection of every student who took his work. Shortly after Pearl Harbor, because of his ability in mathematics and physics, he was loaned by the chemistry department to teach physics in the pre-meteorology courses offered to army and navy students, for which work the university was signally commended by the Armed Forces.

In the anxious days following the entry of the United States into the war, Dr. Gibson worked constantly, taking his first vacation in several years, beginning July, 1944. The last of October he became seriously ill with malignant hypertension, from which he died on December 8.

Dr. Gibson is survived by his widow, Anna Vallevik Gibson, whom he married in August of 1944, and his mother, Mrs. Blanche Gibson, of Albuquerque.

Dr. Gibson was a member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity and the honor societies of Phi Kappa Phi, Sigma Xi and Phi Beta Kappa. He was also a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Chemical Society.

JOHN D. CLARK

RECENT DEATHS

PROFESSOR WILLIAM TRELEASE, professor emeritus of botany of the University of Illinois, died at the age of eighty-seven years on January 2. He was director of Shaw's Botanical Garden, St. Louis, for twenty-three years before going to the University of Illinois in 1913.

DR. PAUL M. LINCOLN, from 1922 until his retirement in 1937 with the title emeritus director of the School of Electrical Engineering of Cornell University, died on December 20 at the age of seventy-four years.

DR. WILLIAM PINKERTON OTT, since 1924 head of the department of mathematics at the University of Alabama, died suddenly on December 25. He was sixty-eight years old.

DR. WILLIAM FRANKLIN LONG, director of the astronomical observatory of Franklin and Marshall College at Lancaster, Pa., a member of the faculty for twenty-six years, died on January 1 at the age of seventy-three years.

DR. GEORGE T. AVERY, professor of education at the Colorado State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, formerly dean of the summer session and for the past two years director of training at the Joshya Hendy Iron Works, Sunnyvale, Calif., died suddenly on December 26 at the age of sixty-four years.

MISS LAURA M. LUNDIN, professor of physics and mathematics at Russell Sage College, Troy, N. Y., died on December 29 at the age of sixty-six years.

DR. JAMES O. RALLS, assistant professor of biological chemistry of the School of Medicine of the University of Buffalo, of which he had been a member of the staff for the last seventeen years, died on December 28.

SIR JOSEPH A. ARKWRIGHT, bacteriologist at the Lister Institute for Preventive Medicine, London, died on November 22 in his eighty-first year.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

GIFT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE OF A COLLECTION OF SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS AND BOOKS

AN exhibition of historic scientific instruments and books, presented by R. S. Whipple to the University of Cambridge, is described in *The Times*, London, as follows:

The collection is notable for its range and variety as well as its representative examples of fine craftsmanship from those centers in all countries where science flourished for nearly four centuries. Among astronomical instruments shown are astrolabes, nocturnals, and a remarkable collection of sundials of various shapes, sizes and materials by English and Continental makers from the sixteenth century onwards. Refracting and reflecting telescopes are well represented, and a feature of the exhibition is a Newtonian reflecting telescope in perfect condition made and used by Sir William Herschel, with 8-inch speculum mirror of 10-foot focal length, together with a finder telescope and a complete set of eye-pieces. The instrument was presented to the present collection for Cambridge by the late Howard Marryat.

The collection of microscopes contains examples of each important type from the times of Robert Hooke and Leeuwenhoek to the end of the last century and is a re-

markable exhibit. Among other exhibits are numerous surveying, mathematical and physical instruments, scales and weights, and a case of miscellaneous optical instruments containing an ingenious walking-stick and umbrella complete with telescope, spy-glass, compass, microscope, thermometer and sundial, *c.* 1860. Among the 1,500 volumes of books are first editions of the works of Gilbert, Bacon, Galileo, Boyle, Hooke, Newton, Darwin and other scientific classics.

Mr. Whipple made the formal presentation of his collection to the university at a ceremony held in the Regent House on November 4 at which the vice-chancellor, who received the gift on behalf of the university, presided. The presentation was followed by the opening of the exhibition of the collection by Sir Henry Dale, O.M., president of the Royal Society. He emphasized the importance of the study of the history of science, not only by scientists who needed to appreciate the human side of their work, but also by those who read classics, history and theology. Sir Henry Dale said that he hoped that Cambridge would take steps to make the Whipple Collection the nucleus of a History of Science Museum and Library, which at first with a reader-curator and later a chair would become a vital center of university study and research.

THE TEXAS ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

THE Texas Academy of Science met in Galveston on November 9, 10 and 11, with the Medical Branch of the University of Texas as hosts. Over three hundred members were registered and all sessions were well attended. The sections on biology and medicine, geography and geology, conservation and the social sciences met at the same time as the junior and collegiate divisions that had their own programs.

There were eighty-eight papers on the program and several symposia. The general subjects of the symposia were: Conditions of Health on the Texas Coast Area (11 papers), Utilization of Natural Resources of the Coastal Area (8 papers) and Biology of the Cancer Cell (8 papers). Smaller groups covered processes of ageing in tissues and organs, international education and the geology of the coastal area. Two of the symposia will be published in the *Transactions* and the abstracts of all papers will be printed.

The evening sessions were of general interest and included an address on "Creative Engineering" by the retiring president, Professor W. H. Woolrich, dean of engineering at the University of Texas; "The Conservation of Human Resources," by Dr. Homer P. Rainey; "The Rise of Parícutin," by Professor F. M. Bullard, who has lived with the volcano for many months, and a color film of invertebrate life in the Gulf of Mexico as a prelude to the discussion of a biological station for this coast.

There were special exhibits of old and rare texts of medical history, scientific poetry, scientific illustration and two difficult physiological preparations.

The new officers will serve under the presidency of Dr. Walter P. Taylor, of College Station, Texas.

At the final business session, the academy took a strong stand for the betterment of scientific education in the secondary schools of Texas and also gave its support to academic freedom in higher education.

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

THE twenty-fourth annual meeting of the New Hampshire Academy of Science was held in the Assembly Room of the New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, N. H., on November 3 and 4, 1944.

At the Friday afternoon meeting, ten papers were presented by members, covering a wide range of scientific subjects. On Saturday morning two additional papers were presented, concluding the strictly scientific phase of the meeting.

On Friday evening, Mr. Jacob Freedman, of the Geological Survey, presented a lecture illustrated with kodachrome slides entitled "Alaska To-day." Mr. Freedman has but recently returned from his season's work in Alaska, where he carried on important geological investigations.

At the annual business meeting on Saturday morning, the secretary summarized the activities of the council since the last meeting of the academy at the University of New Hampshire in November, 1941. Earlier in 1944 the council had voted to recommend that the American Association for the Advancement of Science award their grant-in-aid to Miss Mabel Turner, of Antrim, to assist in defraying expenses in collecting and preparing herbarium specimens for her study on the flora of Hillsboro County, N. H. The council, earlier in 1944, had authorized also a second reprinting of one thousand copies of the popular Bulletin 1, "Geology of the Presidential Range," by Richard Goldthwait.

The following officers were elected for 1944–45: *President,* Professor Thomas G. Phillips, University of New Hampshire; *Vice-president,* William W. Bowen, Dartmouth College; *Secretary-Treasurer,* Professor A. R. Hodgdon, University of New Hampshire; *Member of the Council,* Professor Guy Williams, Colby Junior College, for a four-year term.

The final part of the program was the address of the retiring president, Professor Guy Williams, of Colby Junior College, which was entitled "Science in Post-War Education."

A. R. HODGDON,
Secretary-Treasurer