botany. The full list of his published works includes 472 titles.

Georgij Karlovich Kreyer (1887–1942), who at the time of his death on January 11, 1942, was in charge of the Section of Medicinal Plants of the Institute of Plant Industry at Leningrad, was justly considered one of the best experts on medicinal plants of Russia. Born on November 26, 1887, at St. Petersburg, he was educated in the same city and first studied the meadow and swamp vegetation of St. Petersburg province. But since 1916 he devoted himself to the task of the cultivation of medicinal plants. He made a great contribution to the solving of the extremely difficult problem of growing the quinine tree on the Black Sea coast of Caucasus. He also organized the cultivation of insecticide plants and many medicinal plants such as valeriana, belladonna, opium poppy, aloe, etc., on various stations of the Institute of Plant Industry (VIR). His most important publications are: "Medicinal plants," two volumes of which are published up to date; "The cultivation of medicinal plants," with V. V. Pashkevich (1931, ed. 2–1934); "Valeriana officinalis in Europa und im Kaukasus" (1930) and monographic studies of Atropa, Scopolia, Valeriana, etc. He is the author of more than 60 published works.

Ivan Andreevich Ohl (1884–1943), who died on February 19, 1943, in Kazan, was for many years a bibliographer and librarian of the St. Petersburg Botanical Garden (now the Institute of Botany of the Academy of Sciences) and an authority on botanical bibliography. Prior to this (1909–21) he worked at the phytopathological station of the St. Petersburg Botanical Garden and published twelve papers on mycology and phytopathology. In the field of botanical bibliography he is mostly known for his eight classified bibliographies of Russian botanical works for the years 1930–37 published in the journal *Sovetskaia Botanika* and two bibliographies of algological works (1929, 1935) compiled by him in collaboration with A. A. Elenkin. His vast knowledge of botany, botanical literature and several languages, general erudition and an attractive personality made him an ideal librarian for a large scientific institution.

Viktor Konstantinovich Zazhurilo (1909–1943), killed in action on January 8, 1943, was a young phytopathologist of great promise. Born in 1909 at Tula and graduated in 1930 from the University of Voronezh, he started his work at the agricultural experimental station at Voronezh, becoming later a senior specialist of the phytopathological station of the same city. He specialized first on the diseases of beans, and then turned his attention to the virus diseases of the Gramineae. He is the author of 26 papers on mycology and phytopathology. He proved himself a brilliant experimentator and a master of laboratorial technique.

VLADIMIR C. ASMOUS

ARNOLD ARBORETUM,
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. WILLIAM HENRY HOWELL, professor of physiology and director of the School of Hygiene and Public Health at the Johns Hopkins University from 1926 until his retirement in 1931, died on February 6 in his eighty-fifth year.

DR. IRVING S. CUTTER, dean emeritus of the Medical College of Northwestern University, died on February 2 at the age of sixty-nine years.

PROFESSOR SAMUEL J. RECORD, dean of the School of Forestry of Yale University, a member of the faculty since 1910, died on February 3. He was sixty-three years old.

DR. WAYLAND MORGAN CHESTER, professor emeritus of biology of Colgate University, died on February 8 at the age of seventy-four years.

MME. JEAN COTELLE, a former associate of Mme. Curie, has died from the effects of handling large quantities of radioactive substance.

JOSIAH WILLARD GIBBS, from 1871 until his death in 1903 professor of mathematical physics at Yale University, has been nominated for 1945 to the Hall of Fame at New York University.

A MEMORIAL meeting commemorating the scientific and industrial achievements of the late Dr. Leo Hendrik Baekeland, inventor of the first modern plastic, was held at the Hotel Roosevelt, New York City, on February 9 by the American Section of the Society of Chemical Industry and the New York Section of the American Chemical Society. About three hundred and fifty chemists and engineers participated. The speakers included Dr. Wallace P. Cohoe, a former president of the Society of Chemical Industry, and George K. Scribner, president of the Boonton Molding Company, Boonton, N. J.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

BOOKLETS OF INFORMATION FOR LATIN-AMERICAN BIOLOGISTS

As a step toward the establishment of more intimate relationships between biologists of the two Americas, the Union of American Biological Societies has recently published booklets dealing with graduate instruction and research in the biological sciences in the United States. A booklet for Spanish readers bears

the title, "Organización de los Estudious Superiores de Biologia en los Estados Unidos" and a similar publication for Portuguese readers, "Altos Estudos e Pesquisas no Domínio das Ciências Biológicas nos Estados Unidos." The booklets are being distributed to biologists and biological centers throughout the Latin-American republics.

These publications have been prepared especially for the use of Latin-American biology professors and students who contemplate coming to the United States for advanced work. Among the subjects discussed are the organization of biological studies in the graduate school and in professional schools, such as those of medicine and agriculture, and the requirements for admission and for advanced degrees. Opportunities for study at various types of biological field stations are described and also the rôle which biological societies and publications play in the promotion of research. The booklets explain the methods for making application for scholarship and fellowship aid.

Organization of university work in the United States, both at the undergraduate and at the graduate level, differs in many primary respects from that which prevails in the various Latin-American republics. It is hoped, therefore, that the publication of booklets of information will serve, not alone to stimulate interest among qualified Latin-American students in the possibilities for biological study and research in the United States, but also as an aid to such students in preparing themselves as adequately as possible for advanced work. The booklets should be of use, also, to Latin-American professors who desire to come to this country for short sojourns, either at a university or at a biological station.

In the printing and distribution of the booklets, the Union of American Biological Societies has received the cooperation of Science Service. Copies of the booklets are now being mailed directly to biologists throughout Latin America. Any one in the United States desiring a copy of either the Spanish or the Portuguese booklet may secure one by writing to Dr. E. G. Butler, president of the Union of American Biological Societies, Princeton University, Princeton, N. J.

E. G. BUTLER

THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

AT the seventy-sixth annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of the American Museum of Natural History, held on January 29, officers of the board were elected as follows: F. Trubee Davison, *President;* A. Perry Osborn, *First Vice-president, Acting President,* during the absence of Colonel Davison, now in war service; Cleveland E. Dodge, *Second Vice-president;* E. Roland Harriman, *Treasurer,* and Clarence L. Hay, *Secretary.*

Mr. Osborn gave a report on the progress of plans for future rebuilding and modernization of the museum and the contributions made by friends of the museum during 1944. According to this report:

> After two years' consideration the Management Board and the Administration have approved post-war building plans which will shortly be filed and which involve the complete rehabilitation of the fifty-year-old 77th Street buildings, with new heating, lighting and ventilation throughout as well as reconstruction of the present facade.
>
> The other main features of the plan are the erection of a substantial new three-story building from Ninth Avenue going east to the present auditorium, thus providing essential modern storage facilities, as well as new first- and second-floor exhibition space, tying in with the present Ninth Avenue dead ends; the conversion of the present Hall of Ocean Life into a large, modern auditorium with over twice the seating capacity of the present one, and the relocation and modernization of the scientific library.
>
> During the next few years, the Administration will be extremely busy in perfecting plans for the change and very little or no new exhibition can be undertaken. This time lag I believe to be a great advantage, since it will enable a truly great scheme to be developed, bringing all the latest scientific knowledge to combine with the most effective exhibition techniques. We plan to dismantle the old North American Hall on the second floor and use this space for temporary exhibits, as well as to try out new exhibition techniques and secure public reaction in experimental displays.
>
> The science of visual instruction is still young and museum plans for the modernization of at least twenty great halls, including such subjects as the ecology of nature, geology, soil, forestry and botany, paleontology, insects, fishes, reptiles, birds, mammals and man, present a challenge which only the most careful scientific research and the very best in exhibition methods can adequately meet.

THE WATSON SCIENTIFIC COMPUTING LABORATORY AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

A COMPUTING laboratory has been established at Columbia University by the International Business Machines Corporation. It will be known as the "Watson Scientific Computing Laboratory at Columbia University." It plans to serve as a world center for the treatment of problems in the various fields of science, whose solution depends on the effective use of applied mathematics and mechanical calculations.

Dr. Wallace J. Eckert, formerly director of the Nautical Almanac at the U. S. Naval Observatory, who was recently appointed director of the department of pure science of the International Business Machines Corporation, is in charge of the laboratory.

Research and instructional resources will be made available to scientific workers, universities and re-