

OBITUARY

CURTIS J. HESSE

With the death of Curtis J. Hesse, curator of the Museum of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, not only has the museum lost an excellent custodian and the college an able geologist, but the community has lost a congenial friend.

Mr. Hesse was born on September 28, 1905, in Wamego, Kansas, and died at Bryan, Texas, on May 12, 1945, after recurring heart attacks. He is survived by his mother, Mrs. C. V. Hesse, and a brother, C. G. Hesse, both of Lawrence, Kansas.

Mr. Hesse entered the field of paleontology when he was 14 years of age, at which time he became connected with the Museum of Paleontology at the University of Kansas, and held this position until 1929. During the time he was with the University of Kansas Museum, Mr. Hesse completed work for his bachelor of arts degree, which was conferred by the university in 1927. In 1929, he went to the University of California on a teaching fellowship and later became laboratory and field assistant for the Museum of Paleontology. During his connection with the University of California, he received his master of arts degree in 1933.

In 1938, Mr. Hesse came to Texas A. and M. as assistant curator of the museum and in 1943 he was made curator, which position he held until the time of his death. In addition to duties with the operation of the museum and field trips over Texas and other states in its interest, Mr. Hesse gave a portion of his time to work on the teaching staff of the department of geology. Even though he carried a full schedule with his teaching load and work at the museum, still he found time for numerous articles on the results of research which he was conducting in different phases of geology. The esteem in which he was held by his colleagues and students and the papers he has contributed to important scientific journals are

a tribute to his scientific accomplishment and inspirational force.

Mr. Hesse was secretary of the Texas A. and M. Chapter of the American Association of University Professors, treasurer of the Texas Academy of Science, and held membership in the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Geological Society of America, American Society of Vertebrate Paleontologists, Texas Archeological and Paleontological Society, Sigma Xi, Texas Geographic Society, American Society of Mammalogists and the American Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists.

His services to these organizations are evidence of his willingness to contribute beyond the line of duty to the advancement of scientific endeavor.

To his scholarship was added an intense interest in the development of good citizenship in American youth. He gave much of his time to fostering Boy Scout activities in this section of the state and in this capacity became a leader. He was Scoutmaster for Troop 102 of College Station, which maintained headquarters in the museum. Mr. Hesse had the reputation of being one of the best and most efficient scoutmasters in this area and his troop was regarded as a model for proper scouting activities.

Being always ready to address the boys and girls of Bryan and College Station schools, he was frequently called upon and prepared for these talks in the spirit of embracing an opportunity to turn the thoughts of youth in the right direction.

Mr. Hesse possessed the admirable characteristics of being trustworthy, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind and cheerful. With these traits, it is not extraordinary that his personality won him the friendship of his associates.

HAROLD VANCE

AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL
COLLEGE OF TEXAS

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

GERMAN UNIVERSITIES AND MUSEUMS

DR. JOHN W. WELLS, of the department of geology of the Ohio State University, has sent to SCIENCE the following information in regard to German universities and museums:

Jena: Mineralogisches Institut totally demolished and apparently not wholly evacuated before the main bombing three weeks before the capture of the city. Geographisches Anstalt somewhat damaged by blast, mostly evacuated. The building temporarily houses the Geologisches Institut of the University of Breslau.

Erlangen: Undamaged. Nothing evacuated from Geologisches Institut. Most of staff, with exception of Krumbeck and another, in German army.

Heidelberg: Undamaged, but most of collections of the Geologisches-Paläontologisches Institut evacuated, including large quantities of material from the Mauer deposits. For last few years there have been three regular staff members, of whom only one, Florian Heller, was there at time of visits. The head of the Institut is Wilser; additional teaching aid was given by Salomon and Jaworski.

Wurzburg: Geographisches Institut completely demolished, but most of equipment apparently moved to the country. Geologisches Institut slightly damaged by blast, nothing evacuated, and, being one of the few habitable buildings in the city, was being used for army billets.

Darmstadt: Geologisches Institut and Hessisches Geologisches Landesanstalt totally demolished.

Frankfurt a/M.: Geologisches Institut of Goethe Universität wholly demolished. Senckenberg Museum in very bad shape, reduced almost to a hollow shell, but research collections, stocks of publications and library are safe. R. Richter, the director, was in Bucharest at time of capitulation of that city, and is now interned by the Russians. In 1943 he published a long paper on the rules of nomenclature and nomenclatural problems. The director *pro tem* is Reuling. The only actual losses at the Senckenberg, aside from the building itself, were a large number of large plaster casts, including the large one of *Diplodocus carnegiei*, the type specimen of *Hallotherium*, and a large ornithological collection.

Bonn: Geographisches Institut a total loss, but material mostly evacuated across the Rhine. Geologisches-Paläontologisches Institut slightly damaged by blast, but all important collections, including that of Goldfuss, safely evacuated. Cloos is still director.

Cologne: Geographisches Institut in bad shape, not evacuated.

Munich: The main university building is very badly damaged. Geographisches Institut relatively undamaged, but rooms have been taken over by the Universitäts Kanzlei. Technische Hochschule not badly damaged; Wilhelm Credner, of the Geographisches Institut, has been very active during the war, like most German geographers. The Bayerische Akademie building is a total wreck, and of the vast geological, paleontological and mineralogical collections, only about 250 cases, a very small part, were saved. All the fossil vertebrate collections were destroyed, as was also the Zittel Collection. The building of the Geographisches Gesellschaft was wholly destroyed and the entire library lost. At the Bavarian Geological Survey, two geologists, one Dutch, one German, reported that they had been in Berlin as late as February, 1945. The Preussische Geologische Landesanstalt and the Museum für Naturkunde are quite destroyed. The library and archives of the former were safely evacuated, but only a few types were saved from the museum. The splendid skeleton of *Brachiosaurus* is lost. At that time both Schindewolf and Stille were well and active.

Innsbruck: University undamaged. Geographisches Institut, headed by Kinzi, in working condition, although most of non-current library was evacuated. From the Geologisches-Paläontologisches Institut in the Alte Universität, the collections and library were largely evacuated, and are now being moved back in. The Mineralogisches-Petrologisches, still presided over by Sander, is carrying on.

THE CHINESE JOURNAL OF PHYSICS

READERS of SCIENCE will be interested in the editor's note published in the *Chinese Journal of Physics*, Volume V, No. 1, July, 1944. This note gives us a slight indication of the difficulties under which scientists in China have been laboring. It reads as follows:

To the reading public of this journal, we owe a note of explanation. Since our last appearance there has been an extraordinarily long silence of nearly four years.

Nevertheless, this is not to be interpreted as a suspension of publication by choice, nor any lack of enthusiasm in research work on the part of Chinese physicists, but rather a concrete example of the severity of wartime conditions. We have indeed tried to publish the No. 2 of Vol. 4 of this journal, to follow up the last issue (No. 1 of Vol. 4), at a time strangely coincident with the outbreak of the war in the Pacific (*i.e.*, December of 1941). Not only was the publication held up, but also the manuscripts and all other previous documents, including our only copies of the last issue of this journal, were utterly lost. Thus this child of ours was never born.

As time goes on, we find it more and more imperative to revive our publication as a channel of expressing our scientific endeavors, which have been maintained quite vigorously though in face of very great difficulties. The journal thus comes to life again as a response to this universal sentiment among the Chinese physicists. This time, however, we start with Vol. 5 anew, instead of finishing up the remaining numbers of Vol. 4, because we are unfortunately not in a position to designate the correct sequence for the new pages, not knowing what the page number of the last issue was. Incidentally, just to remind our readers and librarians, please note that there have been only two numbers (Nos. 1 and 2) to Vol. 3, due to some rather trivial reasons.

If apologies are in place, we wish to offer our humble ones for the poor printing, crude paper, typographical errors, irregular time of publication and countless other shortcomings. Much as we should like, we find ourselves quite powerless to combat these various troubles in times like these. May we also plead, for the sake of doing justice to our contributing authors, that the public will kindly grant the time of reception to be nearly the time of publication for, due to inadvertent delays, we feel that we are the guilty party. While the statement should apply in general, this present issue represents an almost absurd extreme, where the papers are just those of which the manuscripts were read for publication but finally lost three years ago.

J. W. BUCHTA

GRANTS OF THE SUGAR RESEARCH FOUNDATION

ADDITIONAL grants amounting to more than \$50,000 for seven leading universities and laboratories have been made by the Sugar Research Foundation, bringing to the sum of more than \$300,000 the grants made by the foundation.

Recipients of these grants include the Medical School of McGill University, the University of Pittsburgh, Yale University Medical School, the University of Utah, the New York University Medical School, the Cornell University Medical School and the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute.

The studies will seek new industrial uses of sugar and further explore the nutritional values of sugar. Eight of the projects call for allotments of \$41,500, and involve research into entirely new fields. An ad-