DR. JOHN J. B. MORGAN, professor of psychology at Northwestern University, died on August 16 at the age of fifty-six years.

RICHARD BLAIR EARLE, known for his work in the development of synthetic rubber, died on August 13 at the age of sixty-nine years.

THE death is announced at the age of eighty-six years of Alexei Favorsky, of Leningrad, the organic chemist, well known for researches in the production of synthetic rubber.

THE Rochester, New York, Section of the American Chemical Society announces the inauguration during the coming year of an annual lecture to be established as a memorial to the late Dr. Harrison E. Howe to be known as the Harrison Howe Lectures. Dr. Howe was active in founding the Rochester Section and was one of its charter members. From 1921 until his death in 1942 editor of *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry,* he was nationally known as a lecturer. The lectureship is designed to provide discussion of topics of current importance in chemistry by outstanding authorities in the field. They will be presented each year before the Rochester Section as a part of its program. Provision is made for some variation in the form of the lectureship from year to year, the annual plans and selection of the speaker being entrusted to a lecture committee appointed each year. Instead of a single lecture, a series of two or three lectures on consecutive days may be decided upon if the subject is of special importance. An alternative form may be a symposium on a timely topic to permit presentation of papers by several speakers.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE BRITISH IRON AND STEEL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

THE plan of the British steel industry of spending £120,000,000 on re-equipment will be backed by the expenditure of £400,000 a year on a new central research association.

This organization, according to a report in *The Times,* London, will receive up to £250,000 a year from the industry and its total revenue will be in the neighborhood of £400,000 a year. Dr. C. F. Goodeve, F.R.S., at present assistant controller for research and development of the Admiralty, has been made director. It will be known as the British Iron and Steel Research Association. To some extent, cooperative research has already been fostered by the work of the Research Council of the British Iron and Steel Federation, while the technical research workers in the industry have maintained mutual contact individually through the Iron and Steel Institute. The present plan, however, is to extend the field of cooperative research and exchange of information and also to encourage central research on matters of common interest.

Dr. Goodeve, before the war, was reader in physical chemistry at University College, London, and was for many years consultant and technical adviser to a number of industrial companies. At the Admiralty, as senior executive covering research and development for the Navy, he took a leading part both as scientist and as organizer of the work of other scientists in the technical discoveries which played a leading part in defeating magnetic mines, U-boats and other lesser but equally difficult weapons.

According to the present plan, research centers of the industry will work in connection with those of the universities. Teams are already working in Sheffield, Cambridge, Swansea, Glasgow, London, Birmingham and Newcastle. Full-scale development work will take place in or alongside works of member firms. The headquarters of the Research Association will be in London. The association will, on behalf of the industry, work with technical bodies studying raw materials, such as coal and refractories and design of plant used in making iron and steel. It will also bring together for common study of problems the users, such as the railways, shipbuilders and construction engineers, and the makers of iron and steel.

A PERMANENT STANDARDS ORGANIZATION

THE Executive Committee of the United Nations Standards Coordinating Committee, after an extensive survey of present conditions in the field of international standards and the rapidly changing events on the international scene, has come to the conclusion that the time is now ripe for setting up a permanent standards organization. The Executive Committee consists of the British Standards Institution, the Canadian Standards Association and the American Standards Association.

Invitations to attend the meeting have been sent out to the national standardizing bodies comprising the United Nations Standards Coordinating Committee. These are:

The Standards Association of Australia, Associacao Brasileira de Normas Tecnicas, The Canadian Standards

Association, The Chinese Standards Committee, The Association Française de Normalisation, The British Standards Institution, The New Zealand Standards Institute, The South African Standards Institution, The American Standards Association.

It is anticipated that representatives from practically all the countries will attend.

A full program of the detailed discussions to be undertaken at the meeting will be announced at an early date. In a general way, however, it can be said that the meeting will concern itself with the immediate problem of establishing the closest practical relations between the national standardizing bodies of the countries of the world; with the providing a forum through which these bodies can harmonize their activities internationally, and finally the meeting will deal with the major problem of integrating national standards and harmonizing them for the benefit of the total economy of the world.

THE MOENKOPI FORMATION OF NORTHERN ARIZONA

AT a meeting held in Flagstaff in the first week of July, an agreement was reached between the Museum of Vertebrate Paleontology of the University of California and the Museum of Northern Arizona for a joint cooperative study of the Moenkopi Formation of northern Arizona. In an announcement made by Dr. Harold S. Colton, director of the local museum, it is stated that the program of research will be conducted over a period of several years, and that the work done this summer is in the nature of reconnaissance. The meeting was attended by Dr. Sam Welles and Dr. Lyman Daugherty, of the Museum of Vertebrate Paleontology, and by Dr. Colton and E. D. McKee, of the Museum of Northern Arizona.

According to the announcement issued by the museum, "the Moenkopi formation is composed largely of red sandstone and shale with some limestone and gypsum. It covers the surface of the Plateau over wide areas, especially east and north of Flagstaff, where it lends color to the Painted Desert. Formed originally on a desert flood plain where streams deposited their sediments along the margins of an ancient sea that covered Nevada and parts of Utah, these rocks contain the bones of many peculiar and primitive animals, especially reptiles and amphibians. Inasmuch as this formation was formed at a critical period in the history of life and the earliest types of mammals appeared at that time, its study is believed to have considerable importance."

Excavation and examination of the skeletal remains will be done largely by Dr. Welles, who is an authority on the subject. Mr. McKee will attempt to work out the stratigraphy or interrelationships between the various rock types involved.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

DR. WM. RANDOLPH TAYLOR, of the University of Michigan, writes to SCIENCE that a letter received from Dr. Julienne Payen, student of the chemical constituents of the algae, indicates that difficulties in securing transportation to collecting areas interfered with her research during the war. She will now resume work at the Laboratoire de Cryptogamie, Museum d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris. A card has also been received from Dr. Ad. Davy de Virville, phycologist, indicating that he has become Directeur du Laboratoire des Travaux pratiques de Biologie végétale of the Sorbonne. His scientific collections escaped, though he had some personal losses due to the war.

A CARD signed by Professor Pierre Dangeard, Laboratoire de Botanique, Université de Bordeaux, France, dated April 12, reads in part: ". . . et j'ai le plaisir de vous informer que nos laboratoires et nos collections n'ont pas jusqu'ici souffert de la guerre. . . ."

A LETTER from Professor Roger Meslin, Caen, reads in part as follows:

> Malheureusement notre vieille Université a été complétement anéantie par le feu et les bombes deux jours avant l'entrée des Alliés. En quelques heures des laboratoires, les collections zoologiques . . . , la riche bibliothèque universitaire ont detruits par l'incendie. Au Jardin des Plantes, les serres ont été egalement bombardées de même que la galerie des collections botaniques. Heureusement il n'y a pas en d'incendie et dans les decombes j'ai pu récoupérer la plus grande partie des herbiers algologiques, notamment celui de Lamouroux. Mais entrepôtes dans un local sans vitres, le herbiers ont beaucoup souffert des intempéries de l'hiver. Le laboratoire botanique, occupé par les allemands durant tout le mois de juin, a été pillé par eux, et le materiel volé ou demoli!

The collection of J. V. F. Lamouroux is one of the early nineteenth century algal collections most important for its reference value to phycologists, and its salvage a matter for sincere congratulation.

DR. J. H. F. UMBGROVE, Technische Hoogeschool, Delft, Holland, writes to Professor Marshall Kay, Columbia University: "My family has come through without any injury, though we have been through most trying times. . . . We have seen no English and American scientific magazines since May, 1940. Could you send as many reprints of geological, paleontological and geophysical articles as you and your colleagues can. I am really longing for them."

THE editor of *Chronica Botanica* reports that, ac-