

1939. His widow and daughter Phyllis, together with a brother who resides in Canada, survive him.

Professor Edgecombe was a quiet, self-effacing man with a high regard for the truth, as he saw it, both in his scientific investigations and in his dealings with his fellow man. He was essentially a very religious man, although not an active participant in religious activities in his maturer years. He believed so strongly in the tenets of right living and peace that such holocausts as World War II were to him well-nigh incomprehensible and inexplicable. He was first stricken in February, but carried on by sheer courage and determination until the day of his death. His adult life might be accurately epitomized by the statement of his belief that assiduity should be the principal criterion for success.

HANFORD TIFFANY

## RECENT DEATHS

CHARLES LOUIS POLLARD, the botanist, librarian of the Martha Canfield Free Library at Arlington, Vt., died on August 16 at the age of seventy-three years.

DR. GEORGE RAYMOND GAGE, professor of botany at Vanderbilt University, died on August 18 at the age of fifty-five years.

DR. CHARLES B. WING, emeritus professor of structural engineering at Stanford University, died on August 23 at the age of eighty-one years.

DR. HUGH HAMPTON YOUNG, surgeon and neurologist at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, died on August 23. He was seventy-four years old.

It is reported that Dr. Hans Przibram, of the department of experimental zoology at the University of Vienna, has died of hunger in a concentration camp.

DR. H. S. VAN KLOOSTER writes to SCIENCE that "Professor Ernst Cohen, emeritus professor of physical chemistry and formerly director of the Van't Hoff laboratory in Utrecht, Holland, died in Germany sometime in September, 1944. The cause of his death and the place where he died are not known. After having been apprehended early in 1943 and released shortly afterwards, he was again arrested in March, 1944, and transported to Germany. Thus disappeared in his seventy-fifth year a noted Dutch scientist, well known to many American chemists, who after the first World War had made strenuous efforts to re-establish relations between Germany and her erstwhile enemies in the field of science."

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS FOR INDIA

It is reported in *The Times*, London, that Lord McGowan has written to Professor Wadia, president of the National Institute of Sciences of India, offering on behalf of the Imperial Chemical Industries (India) a number of research fellowships for the encouragement of Indians in chemistry, physics and biology, to be held at Indian universities and institutions. The sum offered is 336,000 rupees—equivalent to £25,200—over the next five to seven years.

In his letter Lord McGowan states:

The National Institute of Sciences is, we believe, destined to play in India a part similar to that which the Royal Society of London has performed for nearly 300 years in leading the scientific progress of this country. The Royal Society until recent years was hampered by lack of funds and provision for the maintenance of scientific workers. This difficulty was eventually overcome by the generosity of various benefactors, including industrialists such as Mond and Messel. We thought, therefore, that there could be no better way of encouraging the advance of science in India and with it the general prosperity of the country than by the offer of these fellowships which under the wise administration of your council will, we hope, lead to an augmentation of the dis-

tinguished successes in science already attained by so many of your fellow countrymen.

Each fellowship will be worth 400 rupees a month and will be tenable in the first instance for two years, with a possibility of extension up to three years. In addition there will be a grant for research expenses to be made to the fellowship-holders according to their needs of special apparatus and materials. For this purpose the National Institute will have at their disposal an average of 600 rupees per annum for each fellowship.

There will be a grant of 13,200 rupees a year to the National Institute for five years to enable them to pay for administration and the travelling expenses of such fellows of the institute as may be selected to visit the fellowship-holders at their universities or institutions.

The fellowships will be open to persons, irrespective of sex, race or religion, resident or domiciled in India (British India or the States), and under thirty-five years of age.

### PLANT BREEDING AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY

THE Cooperative Grange League Federation Exchange, Inc., with headquarters at Ithaca, New York, has made available to Cornell University, through and

on behalf of the New York State College of Agriculture, grants amounting to approximately \$10,000 per year for the furtherance of investigations in the Department of Plant Breeding. These grants are made for two purposes: (1) the breeding and testing of forage plants for New York State and vicinity, with major emphasis on those species which appear to have special value in providing greater growth during the summer season of normally low production, and (2) production of new grain corn hybrids and the increase and distribution of foundation seed stocks of the hybrids most desirable for New York State and adjacent areas. The work with forage crops is under the direction of Dr. S. S. Atwood, in cooperation with Dr. H. A. MacDonald, of the department of agronomy, and the research with hybrid corn is conducted by Dr. R. G. Wiggans. Provision is made for two graduate assistantships in each project.

These grants, as well as the grant made previously by this organization for research with small grains under the direction of Dr. H. H. Love, of the department of plant breeding, make possible considerable expansion of important investigations in the field of crop improvement.

#### GEOGRAPHY AT SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

DR. PRESTON E. JAMES, who has been at the University of Michigan since 1923, except for the past four years when he has been in Washington with the Office of Strategic Services, first as chief of the Latin American Division and later as assistant chief of the Europe-Africa Division, has been appointed professor of geography at Syracuse University. He holds the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the U. S. Army.

Richard Edes Harrison has been appointed on a part-time basis as lecturer on map-making.

Professor George B. Cressey will spend the coming academic year on leave at Stanford University, where he will assist in the development of a new Pacific-Asiatic-Soviet program.

The staff also includes Professor Eric H. Faigle, recently promoted to associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts, specializing on Canada; and Miss Eleanor E. Hanlon, acting as chairman of the department for 1945-46. Two members of the department are still on military leave, Professor Sidman P. Poole and Professor Joseph A. Russell. Colonel Poole and Lieutenant Colonel Russell are serving in the Topographic Branch of Military Intelligence in the Pentagon Building. Their major interests are the geography of Europe and of the Pacific, respectively.

With the enlarged staff, the new program of the university is designed (a) to contribute to the liberal education and international thinking of undergraduates, (b) to provide unsurpassed professional training to the doctorate in a few fields, (c) to promote geographic research and publication, and (d) to serve the needs of business, public policy and international relations.

#### SCIENTIFIC MEN ABROAD

A LETTER has been received by Professor A. B. Garrett, of the Ohio State University, from Dr. Jan-nick Bjerrum, of Copenhagen. It reads in part: "Here in Denmark we feel very happy in getting rid of the Germans and we are very thankful to the allied forces, who gave us our freedom again. As a whole, Denmark has escaped relatively well from the war. Our university activities went on quite regularly until that day in September, 1944, when the Germans arrested our police, and the students went home or underground. Now we are busy in making up for lost time and are giving extra lessons. In the autumn several hundred Norwegian students and some few Dutch will study here. In both these countries the universities have been closed for a long time. Here in Denmark we are very anxious to get our English and American periodicals for the last four to five years. We do not know much about the scientific news from your country."

Dr. Wm. Randolph Taylor, University of Michigan, has received a letter from Professor Henrik Printz indicating that he has come through the five difficult years in Norway fairly well and is anxious to re-establish scientific contacts abroad. Professor Printz is widely known for his work on the "green" algae. Dr. Taylor has also received a card from Dr. Rolf Grönblad, Karis, Finland, who writes that he and his scientific collections are all right. He wishes to re-open communication with American students of Desmids, for which large groups of algae he is a foremost authority.

Dr. Harold Kirby, professor of biology at the University of California at Berkeley, writes to SCIENCE that Professor Pierre P. Grassé has sent information that the laboratory of Wimereux was completely destroyed by the Nazis in 1942. The library, which had been a rich one, was reduced to ashes.

Dr. Edgar Lederer, chemist, Paris, is living at Lyon and working in Professor Fromageot's laboratory. This laboratory was missed by ten yards by a bomb but has been rebuilt since.