

tioned, Sumner was a member of many local and national societies devoted to the various subdivisions of biology. Personally he was a man of distinctly superior intellect, kindly and unostentatious on all occasions but fearlessly honest and always ready to champion the cause of the minority. Those who knew him will miss a friendly and always intellectually stimulating association.

WESLEY R. COE

RECENT DEATHS

DR. JOSEPH MCFARLAND, professor emeritus of pathology of the University of Pennsylvania, died on September 22 at the age of seventy-seven years.

ANNIE W. FLEMING, assistant professor of mathematics at Iowa State College, died on September 19. She had been a member of the department of mathematics since 1900.

FRANK W. GARRAN, dean of the Thayer School of Engineering of Dartmouth College, died on September 19 at the age of fifty-one years.

DR. SMITH ELY JELLIFFE, the neuropsychiatrist, died on September 25. He was seventy-eight years old.

CHARLES W. GILMORE, curator of vertebrate paleontology at the U. S. National Museum, died on September 27 at the age of seventy-one years.

EUGENE J. CARPENTER, of Portland, Ore., soil conservationist in the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, Pacific Coast Region, died on September 11.

E. LANCASTER-JONES, since 1938 keeper of the Science Museum Library, South Kensington, England, died on September 9 at the age of fifty-four years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

JOINT HEARINGS IN THE CONGRESS ON SCIENCE BILLS

IN response to President Truman's message to Congress urging the early establishment of a single Federal Research Agency as one of the legislative measures needed for the future welfare and security of the nation, Senator Harley M. Kilgore (D., W. Va.), and Senator Warren G. Magnuson (D., Wash.), announced on September 25 that joint hearings on several science bills now before the Senate would begin on October 8. Because of the similarity of purpose and related character of the bills which have been referred to the Senate Military Affairs Committee and to the Senate Commerce Committee, Senators Kilgore, Magnuson and Pepper, heading subcommittees which are to consider S. 1297 (Kilgore-Johnson-Pepper), S. 1285 (Magnuson) and S. 1248 (Fulbright) have arranged joint hearings on these measures. Senator Pepper is in Europe and is expected to participate actively in these joint hearings upon his return.

All three bills provide for increased Government support of scientific research but have different detail as to the scope of research and methods of administration. The hearings are designed to summarize expert public opinion and to develop a legislative program with respect to Federal support for research for national security, a rising standard of public health and the general welfare.

Senators Kilgore and Magnuson stated:

We are in full accord with the President's plea for early adoption of legislation to establish a central scientific agency of the government with sufficient funds to encourage and support scientific research for the national interest. In order to expedite such legislation we have

agreed to hold joint hearings on the various science bills referred to our individual subcommittees.

We also support wholeheartedly the President's decision that until such an agency can be established on a full operating basis, the Office of Scientific Research and Development and the Research Board for National Security should continue. There must be no gap between wartime and peacetime program of research if the Nation is to derive full profit in the future from what we have learned in the past.

The atomic bomb has demonstrated, perhaps more vividly than any other single happening in history, the overwhelming importance of science in our national life. The same skill and scientific know-how which helped to bring rapid and decisive victory on the war fronts must now be used for the purpose of peace and national security. By continuing to promote the progress of science and the useful arts, as the Founding Fathers so wisely ordered, we shall be able to make large strides in improving our national health, in making secure our national defense, and in promoting prosperity and full employment.

In his message to the Congress, President Truman specifically called for a single Federal research agency which would perform the following functions:

1. Promote and support fundamental research and development projects in all matters pertaining to the defense and security of the Nation.
2. Promote and support research in the basic sciences and in the social sciences.
3. Promote and support research in medicine, public health and allied fields.
4. Provide financial assistance in the form of scholarships and grants for young men and women of proved scientific ability.
5. Coordinate and control diverse scientific activities