

University, Washington, D. C., died on August 31. He was born at Elliott's Mills, Maryland, on January 5, 1870. He was educated at the Johns Hopkins University, from which he was graduated A.B. in 1896, and at Boston University, where he received the degree of S.T.B. in 1899. Following his ordination to the Methodist Episcopal ministry, he served as pastor to several churches in Massachusetts, meanwhile pursuing graduate work at Boston University under the eminent American philosopher, Borden P. Bowne, being graduated Ph.D. in 1910.

With the organization of the curriculum at the American University in 1914, Dr. Collier was called to take charge and served as dean of the Graduate School and professor of philosophy until 1928, when he relinquished the deanship, retaining the chair of philosophy. He retired from active teaching in 1936.

Dr. Collier's courses in philosophy were of unusual appeal to the scientific students at the Graduate School. He was broadly versed in the literature, history and method of science and had a deep and competent grasp of fundamental scientific principles. His discussions of the foundations of scientific knowledge were revelations to his students, developing new concepts and presenting points of view of great educational value. Collier's approach to a problem was liberal and receptive. His appeal was ever to the intellect; mere authoritarianism he detested. After a course with Collier the scientific student could be called educated as well as trained.

Dr. Collier rendered a service to biology and biologists at the time of the assault on the teaching of evolutionary theories during the middle 1920's. His book, "John Wesley among the Scientists," described the evolutionary opinions of that divine and was credited with persuading the Methodist Episcopal Church to withhold support from the fundamentalist cause.

A generation of students mourns his passing.

JAMES F. COUCH

#### ERMON DWIGHT EASTMAN

DR. ERMON DWIGHT EASTMAN, professor of chemistry at the University of California, died suddenly

on May 19 following a heart attack. He was fifty-three years old. He had been associated with the University of California since 1917, the year in which he received his Ph.D. from that school. In 1932-33 he held a Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship for research at the University of Munich.

Dr. Eastman made many outstanding contributions in the field of chemical thermodynamics. By experimental data and theoretical considerations he aided in the exact statement of the third law of thermodynamics. His research on the specific heat of hydrogen at low temperatures gave a highly important experimental value. He called attention to the entropy of transfer in electrolytic cells, a quantity which had not been recognized, and his work on thermal cells gave values for the absolute entropies of the aqueous ions which is noteworthy as one of the few reasonably accurate absolute values for any property of a single ion in solution. He also published a number of papers relating to the structure of the atomic nucleus.

At the time of his death Dr. Eastman was director of a war research program for the Army.

W. M. LATIMER

#### RECENT DEATHS

DR. HERBERT EUGENE WALTER, professor of biology, emeritus, of Brown University, died on October 1 at the age of seventy-eight years.

DR. W. S. DYER, associate professor of physical chemistry in the University of Arkansas, died on September 27 at the age of forty-four years.

DR. HERBERT O. CALVERY, for the past nine years chief of the division of pharmacology of the Food and Drug Administration, Federal Security Agency, died on September 23. He had been directing also a number of research projects under the auspices of the Office of Scientific Research and Development.

DR. P. DEL RIO HORTEGA, formerly director of the Instituto Nacional del Cancer at Madrid, and more recently head of the laboratory of histology and histopathology at Buenos Aires, died on June 1 at the age of sixty-three years.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### THE SPRING MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

UPON the removal of restrictions on the holding of conventions by the Office of Defense Transportation, the officers of the association at once began to explore the possibilities of holding a meeting during this coming winter or spring.

After an extended investigation of the possibilities, it has been decided to hold a general meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in St. Louis, Missouri, in the period March 27-30, 1946. A conference of the secretaries of the sections of the association and of the principal affiliated societies who live in the East will be held at the Pennsylvania Hotel in New York City at 10 o'clock A.M., on