easily and effectively from early years, but always upon his own occasions. He was a beautiful surgical operator, a fact so evident in the nerve ablation experiments which distinguished his later career. He was better than a good sculptor. He rejoiced in this dexterity and relied upon it. Yet I remember how characteristically he spoke at lunch in the Brigham Hospital years ago. At the beginning of the Ford era he purchased a car, the first in a long series. These Fords had character. On cranking, they responded to a definite formula or balked aggressively. Each car was an object of affectionate regard by the entire Cannon family, but Dr. Cannon never learned the anatomy and physiology of the Ford as known to millions throughout the land. He had too many vivid interests to burden his consciousness with the idiosyncrasies of even the most worthy Ford, remarking characteristically that he relied upon the "Vis medicatrix Fordi!" to keep the current old faithful in motion!

It is our habit to seek for influences which start men of great accomplishments upon their careers. Usually such efforts result in highly artificial syntheses inappropriate to the man involved. At his twenty-fifth anniversary dinner, Dr. Cannon described himself as the grandson of Ludwig and the son of Bowditch. But no teachers really influenced him. He had his own "self-starter" which never failed to stir and stir in his agile brain. His spirits rose and fell as he saw himself progressing or baffled in the current research. What Dr. Cannon accomplished was all his own. No one else had the ideas, no one else labored painstakingly over pupils, giving ideas and counsel without thought for self. What he published came wholly from his brain. His other contribution, the researches of pupils scattered all over the world, will speak Dr. Cannon's obituary as he would wish. Questions being answered, never an end of questions! In the study of living processes something is always beyond the horizon. Indeed, our progress is devoted to pushing back the horizon so that as we gain knowledge we are never satisfied with our gains. Dr. Cannon enjoyed this struggle. He judged contemporaries and pupils by their ability to ask good questions. Amongst his files I have come upon one large folder labelled "Questions." Here, upon varied bits of paper but always in his legible hand, are scores of questions noted as they came to him, and usually without comment.

Peptic ulcer from simultaneous stimulation vagus and sympathetic?

Factors affecting the growth of hair?

Milk secretion as affected by fright, rats (hissing sound)?

Effect of secreted adrenalin on bronchioles in dog?

Unilateral effect of convulsants?

Catnip in relation to sex? Spayed cats?

Dr. Cannon was fortunate in that much of his life was spent in the Harvard Medical School while it was under the administrative direction of Dr. Edsall. These two men saw eye to eye in their desire to extend productive scholarship through every department of the school. They worked and died together, leaving an example of accomplishment their pupils will be hard set to equal.

CECIL K. DRINKER

DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. JOHN CAMPBELL MERRIAM, from 1920 to 1938 president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, died on October 30 at the age of seventy-six years.

THE death, at the age of seventy-six years, is announced of Robert Hagelstein, honorary curator of Myxomycetes at the New York Botanical Garden.

AT the annual Robert Kennedy Duncan Memorial Luncheon on October 29 the Robert Kennedy Duncan Club of Mellon Institute conferred honorary membership on Dr. Rufus Henry Fitzgerald, chancellor of the University of Pittsburgh. The club is in honor of the late Robert Kennedy Duncan, the originator of the industrial fellowship system; it is the center of the social and professional life in the institution.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

NUCLEAR PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH in nuclear physics, the branch of science which helped develop the atomic bomb, will be made broader at Harvard University during the next five years. The Harvard Corporation has appropriated the sum of $425,000 for use of a committee on nuclear physics and chemistry during this period. Dean Paul H. Buck, provost of the university, will head the committee, members of which have not yet been announced.

Two other developments emphasize the university's interest in the atom and its possibilities in times of peace. The Harvard cyclotron, which did service with the Manhattan project of bomb development at Los Alamos, is to be returned to Cambridge for additional atom-smashing labors.

Three new associate professors of physics, all