

standing pressures greater than those at the greatest known ocean depth. The camera was tested for the National Geographic Society, which has sponsored research on the instrument. Edgerton also has tested successfully a braided nylon line for lowering the 100-pound camera and electronic lights.

■ A new clotting factor in human blood, factor X, has been discovered by Francois Duckert, P. Fluckinger, and Fritz Koller of the University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland. It is considered significant that patients with the two liver diseases, hepatitis and cirrhosis, have blood deficient in the newly found factor.

■ Discovery of a strain of mice with hereditary muscular dystrophy has been announced by the Roscoe B. Jackson Memorial Laboratory, Bar Harbor, Me. Although diseases arising primarily in striated muscle have frequently been found in human beings, spontaneous diseases of muscle appear to be very rare in experimental animals. This newly reported mutation in mice is apparently the first recorded instance of primary pathological involvement of muscular tissue in an experimental animal of known genetic background. Ann M. Michelson, Elizabeth S. Russell, and Pinckney J. Harman describe the work in a paper that appeared in a recent issue of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

■ A bank of antisera to be used in identifying major virus diseases that attack cereal crops is being built by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and cooperating research groups at the Nebraska Experiment Station in Lincoln. Rabbits are being used in this bank as living sources of antibodies. With these antibodies, tests can be made to determine the presence of barley-stripe mosaic, brome-mosaic virus, and other similar diseases that cause heavy losses to growers of small grain in this country each year. This method of virus identification will speed up breeding for resistance to disease because it will enable breeders to rid stock of infected material before the plants have matured.

■ The shoreline at Point Barrow, Alaska, is receding southward at a rate of about 7 feet a year. It is probable that the land extended at least 500 feet farther north 75 years ago, an assumption borne out by the disappearance of a recorded Eskimo village. According to G. E. MacGinitie of California Institute of Technology in a report published recently by the Smithsonian Institution, the recession is caused by very low land and by ocean currents and wind tides that

sweep northeastward. MacGinitie was director for a year at the Navy's Arctic Research Laboratory at Point Barrow.

■ Rolls Royce, Ltd., London, England, disclosed on 10 Feb. that it had been working for 18 months to develop an atomic airplane engine. A spokesman would not predict when such an engine might be tested. A nuclear research laboratory devoted exclusively to light-engine research will be put in operation by Rolls-Royce within 2 months.

■ The median starting salary for chemists and chemical engineers with the bachelor's degree in the Delaware Valley area has reached a record high of \$390 a month, according to B. R. Stanerson, assistant secretary of the American Chemical Society. On 16 Feb. he reported at the society's first Delaware Valley regional meeting that the chemist who is being graduated from college this year can look forward to a starting salary some 16 percent higher than the \$335 rate that prevailed 4 years ago. The median starting figures for persons with master's and doctor's degrees are \$450 and \$590, respectively, also an increase of approximately 16 percent over the comparable 1952 rates.

### Scientists in the News

JAMES BRYANT CONANT, chemist and president of Harvard University who is now U.S. Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, has been chosen to receive the American Chemical Society's Charles Lathrop Parsons award for outstanding public service. The award, which cannot be given more frequently than once every 3 years, consists of a scroll and the privilege of choosing the recipient of a \$2000 scholarship for graduate study in chemistry, chemical engineering, or some related field. Presentation of the award to Conant will be made at a ceremony in Columbus, Ohio, during a meeting of the ACS board there next June.

JACQUES OUDIN, immunochemist at the Pasteur Institute, Paris, France, has completed a 3-month appointment as visiting scientist in the Laboratory of Biochemistry of the National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Md. He has been invited to visit and lecture at a number of laboratories in the United States and Canada.

F. S. SPRING of the Royal Technical College, Glasgow, Scotland, will deliver the final lecture of Wayne University's "Frontiers in Chemistry" series on 23 Apr. when he will discuss "Some triterpenoid studies."

CLAUDE E. SHANNON, research mathematician at the Bell Telephone Laboratories, Murray Hill, N.J., has been appointed visiting professor of electrical communications at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. While at M.I.T. during the spring term, Shannon will continue as an active member of the Bell staff.

MILDRED TROTTER, professor of gross anatomy at Washington University, was honored as one of the ten "Women of Achievement" in St. Louis, Mo., by the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* for work as a physical anthropologist. Last spring Trotter was elected president of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, the first woman to hold this office.

CONSTANTINE J. ALEXOPOULOS, professor of botany at Michigan State University, will resign in June to become professor and head of the department of botany at the State University of Iowa.

RODERICK MURRAY, deputy director of the division of biological standards at the National Institute of Health, has been appointed director. CARL L. LARSON, who has been acting director since the division was established in June 1955, will return to his former duties as director of the Public Health Service's Rocky Mountain Laboratory, Hamilton, Mont.

MACFARLANE BURNET of Melbourne, Australia, delivered the 1956 annual John Wyckoff lecture at the New York University College of Medicine on 28 Feb. Burnet, a well-known immunologist and virologist, is director of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research and professor of experimental medicine at the University of Melbourne.

PAUL SCHWARZKOPF, president of the Schwarzkopf Development Corporation, the American Electro Metal Corporation, and the Metallwerk Plansee in Reutte, Tyrol, Austria, has received the Wilhelm Exner medal, one of Austria's highest decorations in the field of technical science.

SIDNEY R. ELSDEN is serving until 15 Aug. as visiting professor in the department of bacteriology at the University of Illinois, Urbana. He is senior lecturer in charge of the department of microbiology at Sheffield University, England, and honorary director of the Agricultural Research Council's Unit of Microbiology. During his stay at Illinois, Elsdon will give a series of lectures in microbial metabolism.

MARIO STEFANINI, a specialist in hematology, is the director of Joseph Stanton Memorial Research Laboratories, which were recently opened at Saint Elizabeth's Hospital in Boston, Mass. He will directly supervise research in blood. ROBERT SPELLMAN has been appointed to supervise surgical research. The \$500,000 laboratories will offer facilities for research to members of the visiting and resident staffs, as well as to medical students from Tufts University School of Medicine.

MARTIN A. ELLIOTT, research professor at Illinois Institute of Technology, has been appointed director of the Institute of Gas Technology. The institute, education and research facility of the nation's gas utility industry, is affiliated with I.I.T. and has headquarters at the I.I.T. Technology Center. The gas institute's staff of 62 scientists and technicians provide specialized education for present and future employees of the industry and perform research relating to the production, transmission, distribution, and utilization of natural and manufactured gas.

ERNEST C. HERRMANN, JR., formerly head of the virus laboratory of E. R. Squibb and Sons, and a research associate in the Institute of Microbiology at Rutgers University, has been appointed chief of the newly established virology and tissue culture section of the Schering Corporation's biochemical research department in Bloomfield, N.J.

EDGAR A. POST, former superintendent of navigational aids for United Air Lines, has been appointed manager of the radio systems laboratory at Stanford Research Institute. He will supervise the engineering division's research in electronic communication and navigation equipment and direct the studies in systems engineering.

MORRIS F. KETAY, an electrical engineer and president of the Norden-Ketay Corporation, has received the Cooper Union Alumni Association's Gano Dunn medal for outstanding professional achievement.

J. P. McKENZIE, technical director of the Copolymer Rubber and Chemical Corporation, Baton Rouge, La., and J. D. SUTHERLAND, a chemical engineer in the company's research and development division, are winners of the Best Paper award of the American Chemical Society's Division of Rubber Chemistry for their paper, "A glass polymerization vessel for small-scale laboratory studies," which described an apparatus made from a standard industrial electric light globe.

## Recent Deaths

THOMAS D. ALLEN, Evanston, Ill.; 67; associate clinical professor of ophthalmology at the University of Illinois; 14 Feb.

ROBERT S. BREED, Geneva, N.Y.; 78; internationally known authority on dairy bacteriology and professor emeritus of bacteriology at Cornell University; 10 Feb.

J. HOWARD BROWN, Baltimore, Md.; 71; professor emeritus of bacteriology at Johns Hopkins Medical School; 9 Feb.

WARNER BROWN, Berkeley, Calif.; 73; professor emeritus of psychology at the University of California, Berkeley; 3 Feb.

A. BURTON COHEN, East Orange, N.J.; 73; consulting engineer; 12 Feb.

EMMETT DUNN, Haverford, Pa.; 61; professor of biology at Haverford College; internationally known herpetologist; 13 Feb.

HENRY P. GAGE, Corning, N.Y.; 69; retired head of the Corning Glass Works optical laboratory; 9 Feb.

ERNST A. HAUSER, Cambridge, Mass.; 59; professor of chemistry at Massachusetts Institute of Technology; 10 Feb.

G. MORTON ILLMAN, Philadelphia, Pa.; 78; associate professor of medicine at Temple University; 12 Feb.

JULIUS A. KOCH, Ocala, Fla.; 91; dean emeritus of the Pittsburgh College of Pharmacy; 10 Feb.

JOSEPH LE PRINCE, Memphis, Tenn.; 83; sanitary engineer who aided Gorgas to combat malaria and yellow fever during the construction of the Panama Canal; 10 Feb.

FRED MULLER, Saint Petersburg, Fla.; 65; electrical engineer; 6 Feb.

CORNELIUS L. SHEAR, Monroe, La.; 90; plant pathologist; 2 Feb.

KURT G. STERN, New York, N.Y.; internationally known biochemist; 3 Feb.

MICHAEL STREITCHER, Chicago, Ill.; 58; associate professor of medicine at the University of Illinois; 9 Feb.

WALTER TIMME, Saint Petersburg, Fla.; 81; first professor of neuroendocrinology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University; 12 Feb.

ESTHER G. UHRBROCK, Cincinnati, Ohio; 62; psychologist; 11 Feb.

ROBERT WIDMER, Hawthorne, N.J.; 69; retired textile chemist; 10 Feb.

NATHANIEL W. WINKELMAN, SR., Philadelphia, Pa.; 64; professor of neuropathology at the University of Pennsylvania; 13 Feb.

ROBERT M. YERKES, New Haven, Conn.; 79; professor emeritus of psychology at Yale University; originator of the World War I psychological ex-

amination program for the Army; founder of the Yale Laboratories of Primate Biology at Orange Park, Fla., and a pioneer in psychobiology; vice-president of AAAS Section H in 1919; 3 Feb.

## Education

■ Twelve technical writers from business and industry will be among the lecturers in the fourth annual Technical Writing Institute that is to be conducted at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute from 11 to 15 June by members of the institute's faculty in language and literature. Jay R. Gould is the director. Nearly 200 representatives of 100 large companies have attended the previous annual sessions of the institute. The seminar of lectures and workshop testing is designed to bring help to those who supervise technical writing in business and industry and to those who are entering the technical writing field.

■ There are more dental students in the United States today than ever before in the history of the profession, according to the new 1955-56 *Dental Students' Register* published by the American Dental Association. This year's total of 12,730 students represents an increase of more than 50 per cent in the past 10 years.

■ A long-range study program, designed to determine the methods by which a medical center can best relate its programs of medical teaching, research, and patient care to the current and future needs of the community, has been launched at New York University-Bellevue Medical Center. The numerous facets of the study program will be correlated by a newly formed study group that will function with Allen O. Whipple, educator and surgeon, as consultant. Whipple will serve on a part-time basis. Two members of the faculty have been assigned to the study group on a full-time basis: William N. Hubbard, Jr., associate dean of the N.Y.U. College of Medicine, and Raymond S. Jackson, associate professor of medicine, N.Y.U. Post-Graduate Medical School.

Members of the faculties of the center will supply the basis for the study program by evaluating the present activities of the Medical Center and by submitting recommendations for improvements based on their findings, judgment, and experience. These will in turn be applied to pilot experiments at the Medical Center. The study program, which will also include a comparison of developments in medical education throughout the United States, has been made possible through a recent grant from the Commonwealth Fund.