

Butler, director of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and president of Columbia University, and Dr. Henry S. Pritchett, president emeritus of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

THE ninth William Thompson Sedgwick Memorial Lecture will be given in the central lecture room of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on Tuesday, December 1, at four-thirty o'clock by Dr. Henry E. Sigerist, institute for the history of medicine, University of Leipzig, Germany, on "The Philosophy of Hygiene."

IN honor of the late Charles S. Sargent, for many years director of the Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University, a memorial arch will be erected across Center St., Jamaica Plain, near the Arboretum.

THE twenty-fifth anniversary of Schaudinn's discovery of the *Spirocheta pallida* was celebrated by the College of Physicians of Philadelphia at a special meeting held on November 9. During the day there was a historical exhibit of incunabula, rare books, prints, portraits and medals relating to the whole history of syphilis, and a technical exhibit of equipment used in the various modern methods of diagnosis, with repeated demonstrations. About 2,000 persons visited these exhibits. In the evening the following papers were read to an audience of about three hundred: "Is Syphilis America's Gift to the World?" by Dr. Jay F. Schamberg; "Fracastoro and his Poem," by Professor Henry E. Sigerist, Leipzig; "Schaudinn," by Dr. John H. Stokes.

UNDER auspices of the New York Museum of Science and Industry, Dr. Elihu Thomson, director of research of the Thomson Laboratories of the General Electric Company, and Professor Dugald C. Jackson, head of the electrical engineering department of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, spoke at an especially arranged meeting in observance of the Michael Faraday Centenary. The addresses were delivered to an invited group of scientists, technologists and industrial leaders in the auditorium of the Engineering Societies Building, New York City.

## RECENT DEATHS

DR. JOSEPH CLARK STEPHENSON, professor of anatomy at Louisiana State University Medical Center, died in New Orleans on November 10 at the age of forty-five years.

DR. GEORGE ROGER ALBERTSON, formerly professor of anatomy and dean of the School of Medicine at the University of South Dakota, died on November 3 at the age of eighty-five years.

DR. WALTER FRANCIS REID, one of the original members of the Society of Chemical Industry, of which he was president in 1910, the inventor of smokeless powder, died on November 18. He was eighty-one years old.

THE death is announced of Dr. James Sholto Cameron Douglas, professor of pathology in the University of Sheffield and dean of the Medical School.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### EXPECTED MEASLES EPIDEMIC IN LONDON

THE *British Medical Journal* says that an epidemic of measles in London, according to a report of the Central Public Health Committee of the London County Council, is expected during this autumn and winter. Measles epidemics in London appear to occur biennially, beginning in the late autumn, reaching their meridian in March, and taking some six or seven months to complete the circle of London. The last epidemic occurred in the autumn and winter of 1929-30, and the next is therefore almost due. During each measles epidemic in London not fewer than 50,000 children are affected. The committee points out that measles is an infection which does not lend itself ideally to hospital treatment, and therefore home nursing should be encouraged in all cases where it can be carried out under reasonably favorable conditions. Where satisfactory home nursing can not be obtained,

every effort should be made to secure the patient's admission to hospital at as early a stage of the illness as possible. The council has 4,634 beds in its town fever hospitals, and 2,868 more in outlying and convalescent hospitals. During measles epidemics every case of scarlet fever that can either be kept at home or sent to one of the outlying hospitals renders a hospital bed available for measles. It is considered that if measles cases are admitted before complications have developed, a period of fourteen days is usually adequate for hospital treatment. The number of beds that can be set apart for measles depends largely on the incidence of diphtheria, which must be given priority of admission over both scarlet fever and measles; much depends also upon the incidence of small-pox. If the fever hospital accommodation is unduly taxed for other conditions, arrangements will have to be made for assistance from the general hospitals under the council's control during the period of expected