

ject. The sixth revision, in 1933, although the work of a man of 83 and not wholly brought into line with the latest ideas, shows no signs of being superseded. His "Elementary Course of Infinitesimal Calculus" went into a third edition in 1919, which was significant of the new and more logical treatment of the exponential function on the basis of its fundamental property. His "Dynamical Theory of Sound" appeared in 1910, his "Statics" in 1912, and his "Dynamics" in 1914. The series was completed by his "Higher Mechanics" in 1920.

To Lamb, who so ardently taught that science was its own reward, there fell more than the usual share of honors. In the case of the Royal Society, honors were accompanied by duties, for he served on its council for three periods of two years and was twice vice-president. He was awarded the society's Royal Medal in 1902 and its highest honor, the Copley Medal, in 1924. Seven universities honored him with their doctorates. He was a foreign member of the Reale Accademia dei Lincei and Trinity College, Cambridge,

made him an honorary fellow. He was president of the London Mathematical Society from 1902 to 1904, and De Morgan medallist in 1911. As a sectional president of the British Association in 1904, he devoted his address ostensibly to the place of Stokes in mathematical physics, but really covered the whole evolution of the science; and in presiding over the whole association at Southampton in 1925 he dealt specifically with the progress of geophysics. His Rouse Ball lecture at Cambridge in 1924 gave him another opportunity to dilate refreshingly on the evolution and character of his science. He was knighted in 1931.

#### RECENT DEATHS

DR. ROLAND BURRAGE DIXON, professor of anthropology at Harvard University since 1916, died on December 20. He was fifty-nine years old.

DR. MILO SMITH KETCHUM, dean emeritus of the College of Engineering at the University of Illinois and director of the Engineering Experimental Station, died on December 19, in his sixty-third year.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### SYMPOSIA ON DISTILLATION AT THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

THE first of a series of symposia under the auspices of the division of industrial and engineering chemistry of the American Chemical Society will be held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on December 28 and 29, for discussion of the chemical engineering features of distillation.

The meeting will bring to Cambridge the leading authorities from all parts of the country to discuss the latest developments in this field.

Distillation is an operation that is becoming of increasing importance in a wide variety of industries for separating liquids into fractions of desired physical and chemical properties. The commercial production of solvents, gasoline, kerosene, fuel oils, alcohol, glycerine, compressed oxygen and many other valuable materials in daily use has been made possible by the effective design of distillation apparatus.

The men responsible for these developments are scattered throughout the country in industry and in academic pursuits, and the forthcoming meeting will enable them to exchange information and ideas and advance their general knowledge by informal round table discussion. Some of the papers to be presented will deal with the general theory of distillation and rectification design, others will describe its application to industry and its importance to the practical operating man, while the remainder will give detailed experimental data on the separation of complicated mixtures containing three components. The authors

have been selected from the petroleum industry, the chemical industry, the manufacturers of distillation equipment and the teaching profession. Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, Columbia University, Cornell University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Illinois, University of Michigan and Yale University will all be represented on the program by members of their faculties.

The meetings of the symposium will be held in the Eastman Research Laboratories of Physics and Chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, under the chairmanship of Professor F. W. Adams. The first session on Friday afternoon, December 28, will be devoted to a technical session followed by a round table discussion of design methods. The balance of the technical program will be presented on Saturday morning, December 29, starting at 9 A. M. An informal dinner meeting has been arranged for Friday evening when Professor Warren K. Lewis will address the gathering. A group luncheon on Saturday will complete the social side of the program.

A large attendance is expected at the meeting, not only from New England, but from all over the country. By having the symposium during the Christmas holiday period it will be possible for students as well as others interested in distillation to meet the leaders in this field.

### DEDICATION OF THE WASHINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, FIELD MUSEUM

THE new building of the Washington Field Museum, Washington, North Carolina, as reported in