

States and Canada for the purpose of grading and classifying them. Dean Stange was an active worker in various national professional organizations, including the United States Live Stock Sanitary Association and the American Veterinary Medical Association, the latter of which honored him with the presidency in 1924.

Scientist, educator, executive, wise counselor, he will be sorely missed by his colleagues, particularly those at Iowa State College whose purpose it will be to continue building upon the foundations which he has so securely laid in veterinary medical education and research.

H. D. B.

#### RECENT DEATHS

DR. GEORGE A. HOADLEY, since 1888 until his retirement with the title emeritus in 1914 professor of physics at Swarthmore College, died on May 18 at the age of eighty-seven years.

SAMUEL DICKEN CONNER, research chemist at the Purdue University Agricultural Experiment Station, died on April 19 at the age of sixty-three years.

DR. CHARLES B. GRAVES, retired physician of New London, Conn., and co-author of the "Flora of Connecticut," died on April 24 at the age of seventy-five years.

THE death occurred on May 4 of Dr. Alfred Cardew Dixon, emeritus professor of mathematics at Queen's University, Belfast. He was seventy-one years old.

THE death is announced of Josef Jadassohn, for many years professor of dermatology at the University of Breslau at the age of seventy-two years.

PROFESSOR VLADIMIR G. BOGORAZ, head of the department of ethnography of the University of Leningrad, died on May 12. He was seventy-one years old.

*Nature* reports the death of L. W. Hinxman, from 1905 to 1919 district geologist in the Geological Survey, Scotland, on April 29, aged eighty-one years, and of Professor D. Morrison, professor of moral philosophy in the University of St. Andrews, who was associated with Professor G. F. Stout in the editorship of *Mind*, on April 8, aged sixty-nine years.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### REPORT OF THE BRITISH NATIONAL PHYSICAL LABORATORY

THE report of the British National Physical Laboratory for 1935, published on May 5, is summarized by the *London Times*. The *Times* calls attention to work carried out in the department of physics on the absorption of the radiation from radium by such building materials as brick walls and breeze blocks, the results having direct application in the design of radium departments for hospitals. The department also devoted much time to the study of noise in buildings. In modern flats, it is pointed out, the floor is more important than the walls, because sounds caused by direct impact to the structure are transmitted much more readily than those which have to pass through the air before reaching the structure. The value of a subsidiary floor resting on, and insulated from, the structural floor has been recognized and recent work has been in the direction of improving the design of such floors.

In the tanks of the William Froude laboratory the record number of 73 ships were tested, involving the making of 160 models. Effective improvements were made in 64 of the ships as a result of the tests, and in 13 cases the improvements represented more than 10 per cent. on the fuel consumption and in four cases more than 20 per cent. Research work on small craft was begun in 1934 and has already resulted in a reduction of 30 per cent. in the power required to propel a series of ferry steamers.

In the aerodynamics department recent tests in the compressed air tunnel at the laboratory have proved that the speed of aeroplanes can be considerably increased by insuring that the surface of the wings and other parts is as smooth as possible.

In the electricity department experiments were carried out at the request of the Government of Northern Ireland on the practicability of installing an electric barrage in connection with an important eel fishery. The object is to guide the eels into the part of the river where the traps are installed, by electrifying the water where it is desired to prevent them from passing. These experiments have been extended to more natural surroundings at the Fisheries Experimental Station at Alresford, and it is hoped that full-scale experiments in the eel fisheries of an Irish river will be carried out this year. Experiments in testing colors of electric lights for street lighting were also carried out by the department.

The radio department used for the investigation of atmospherics a base line 300 miles long, one end being at Slough and the other at Leuchars, in Fifeshire. Synchronized automatic drum-recording at each station has been so developed that it is possible to record the results of 30-minutes' observation at 10 yards a second (*i.e.*, 12 miles of track) on a single sheet of paper about one yard long and 4 inches wide. These methods are being used to record the wave-form, intensity and direction of arrival of all the atmospherics occurring in selected intervals of time.