working against time, but one who was quite willing to stop to give advice to a younger colleague.

His research activities seemed to fill and permeate his whole life—he regarded research as a sacred torch to be kept burning at all times. In one of his addresses he writes: "Greater even than the greatest discovery is it to keep open the way to future discovery. This can only be done when the investigator freely dares, moved by an inner propulsion, to attack problems not because they give promise of immediate value to the human race, but because they make an irresistible appeal by reason of an inner beauty. . . . In short, there should be in research work a cultural character, an artistic quality, elements that give to painting, music and poetry their high place in the life of man."

A truly great international figure has passed. His many pupils, friends and acquaintances can not help but feel the loss, but can be reconciled to it by his long life of accomplishments and by the fact that he "died in harness" as he had wished.

The words of Socrates, which he once used to describe his old teacher Carl Ludwig, might well be said of John J. Abel. "A man whose desires are drawn towards knowledge in every form and who is therefore absorbed in the pleasures of the soul—one who is harmoniously constituted, who is not covetous or mean, or a boaster or a coward and can never therefore be unjust or hard in his dealings—he has no secret corner of meanness and is a searcher after and lover of the truth in all things."

He is survived by two sons, George H. Abel, of Philadelphia, and Robert Abel, of Boston.

E. K. MARSHALL, JR.

RECENT DEATHS

DR. BEVERLY T. GALLOWAY, who retired as pathologist of the Bureau of Plant Industry in 1933, died on June 13. He was in his seventy-fifth year.

DR. ROBERT MONTGOMERY BIRD, professor of organic chemistry at the University of Virginia, died on June 4 at the age of seventy-one years.

DR. GEORGE E. BURGET, for twenty years head of the department of physiology at the Medical School of the University of Oregon, died on June 4. A correspondent writes: "Dr. Burget's distinguished service to the school was not confined to his own department but permeated the entire school and community at large. It was felt especially in all scientific meetings and in the upbuilding of the Medical School Library. His presence was a great stimulus to productive scholarship and genuine research and the reverse to pseudo efforts."

BROTHER GEOFROY ARSÈNE BROUARD, of St. Michael's College, died at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on May 25, at the age of seventy-one years. A correspondent writes that "his collections of Mexican plants were among the most extensive and important ever assembled in that country. Especially noteworthy were his contributions to knowledge of mosses, hepatics and lichens, not only in Mexico but also in Louisiana and New Mexico."

DR. WILLIAM ARTHUR BONE, professor emeritus of chemical technology at the Imperial College of Science and Technology of the University of London and inventor of the Bone system of surface combustion, which he applied to industrial heating appliances, died on June 11. He was sixty-seven years old.

CHARLES FRANCIS MASSY SWYNNERTON and Dr. B. D. Buritt, of Tanganyika Territory, Africa, authorities on sleeping sickness, were killed in an airplane crash near Singida early in June. Mr. Swynnerton, who was director of tsetse fly research in Tanganyika, had devoted the last fifteen years to its study. Dr. Buritt was the government's tsetse research botanist.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE CAMBRIDGE MEETING OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

THE British Association for the Advancement of Science has issued a preliminary program for the annual meeting, which will be held at Cambridge from August 17 to 21 under the presidency of the Right Honorable Lord Rayleigh.

The inaugural general meeting will take place in the Regal Cinema, on Wednesday evening, August 17, when Lord Rayleigh will deliver the presidential address on "Natural Vision and Vision Aided by Science." The address will show how, taking the eye as a prototype, most of the observational methods of modern science may be regarded as derived from it by successive modifications. A further part of the address will deal with science and warfare and will be directed to show that the relation between them is of the nature of an accidental by-product, and has in no sense been the primary goal of investigation.

The presidential addresses before the sections are as follows:

A.—Dr. C. G. Darwin, on "Fundamentals in Physical Theory."

B.—Professor C. S. Gibson, on "Recent Investigations in the Chemistry of Gold."

C.—Professor H. H. Swinnerton, on "Development and Evolution."

D.—Dr. S. W. Kemp, on "The Future Development of Oceanography."

E.—Professor T. Griffith Taylor, on "Correlations and Culture, a Study of Technique."

F.—H. R. F. Harrod, on "Scope and Methods of Economics."

G.—Professor R. V. Southwell, on "The Changing Outlook of Engineering Science."

H.—Professor V. Gordon Childe, on "The Orient and Europe."

I.—There will be no meeting of this section on account of the simultaneous meeting of the International Physiological Congress at Zurich.

J.—Dr. R. H. Thouless, on "Eye and Brain as Factors in Visual Perception."

K.—Professor W. Stiles, on "The General Physiology of the Plant Cell and Its Importance for Pure and Applied Botany."

L.—J. Sargent, on "The Proper Function of Administration in Public Education."

Two evening discourses will be given, one by Dr. H. Godwin, on the "History of the Fens" and one by Professor M. L. Oliphant on "The Contribution of the Electrical Engineers to Modern Physics."

In the first statute adopted on the foundation of the association is this clause:

> . . . To obtain more general attention for the objects of science, and the removal of any disadvantages of a public kind which impede its progress.

The preliminary program states:

> Having in view these aims, the council, in cooperation with the sections, has considered the growing strength of the public demand for a more systematic presentation of selected subjects of scientific investigation in their bearing on the life of the community. Every item in the program potentially possesses such a bearing: The results of any scientific research may, immediately or ultimately, affect the public welfare. It is intended, however, to group together in a definite series each year certain communications in which the more immediate public interest will be stressed.

Exhibits will be arranged in various laboratories and an elaborate program of excursions to points of interest around Cambridge and visits to scientific institutions and industrial laboratories has been planned.

The third meeting of the British Association was held in Cambridge in 1833, the Rev. Professor Adam Sedgwick being president. Three subsequent meetings have been held there, in 1845 under the presidency of Sir John Herschel, in 1862 under that of the Rev. Professor R. Willis and in 1904 under that of the Right Honorable A. J. Balfour.

ASSEMBLY OF LABORATORY DIRECTORS AND SEROLOGISTS

PLANS are being developed for an assembly of laboratory workers interested in the control of syphilis, under the sponsorship of the Committee on Evaluation of Serodiagnostic Tests for Syphilis of the United States Public Health Service which has had the cooperation of the American Society of Clinical Pathologists. All such workers, both from private, hospital and public health laboratories, as well as physicians and health officers are invited to attend. Surgeon General Thomas Parran will be chairman of the assembly, which will be held on October 21 and 22, at Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas.

Its aims will be to consider means and methods to improve and to make more generally available the serologic tests, which are so important in syphilis control work. Tentative arrangements call for the presentation of the program in four sections.

The first section will consider the need for adherence to conventional technic in the routine performance of reliable serodiagnostic tests. This subject will be considered in papers by Drs. Harry Eagle, William A. Hinton, Reuben Kahn, Benjamin Kline and John A. Kolmer, with special reference to the tests which each of these workers has described.

Need for training of laboratory personnel will be the subject of the second section. The qualifications and training for both laboratory directors and technicians will be presented in separate papers.

The third section will discuss the prosecution of the studies to evaluate the performance of serologic tests within the states. The efficiency of branch state laboratories and of municipal, hospital and private laboratories can not be studied on a national basis. The subject is much too large. Should this be made a function of the state or large municipal department of health? Actual experience with such studies in the States of Maryland and New Jersey and in the City of Cleveland will be described.

The fourth section will consider the desirability of licensing or approving for the performance of serodiagnostic tests for syphilis, laboratories within the states by the respective state departments of health. This discussion will be conducted from the standpoint of the private laboratory director by Dr. Frederick H. Lamb, of Davenport, Iowa. The health officer's side will be presented by Dr. A. Wadsworth, State Department of Health, Albany, New York.

A separate committee will draft recommendations for each of the four sections for presentation to the assembly. The respective chairmen of these four section meetings will be Drs. Walter M. Simpson, Dayton, Ohio; Arthur H. Sanford, Rochester, Minn.; F. E. Senear, Chicago, and H. H. Hazen, Washington, D. C.