

of the Italian Biochemical Institute at Milan, known for his studies of vitamins, was killed in an automobile accident on July 24.

*Nature* reports the death of Dr. L. S. Bagster, pro-

fessor of chemistry in the University of Queensland, Brisbane, aged fifty-three years, and of Dr. Samuel Klein, professor of the historical geography of Palestine in the Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### THE HALL OF INVENTIONS AT THE WORLD'S FAIR

THE Hall of Inventions at the World's Fair in New York celebrates the one hundred and fiftieth birthday of the U. S. Patent System. It illustrates the beginnings of industrial and technical life in America and includes early working models of devices and machines from which many of the most important industries have developed.

There are 4,000 items presented in the various exhibits. These include the cotton gin, sewing machine, automobile, railway devices, production machinery and household helps. One of the displays consists of a scale model of the snow cruiser now with Byrd's Expedition in Antarctica. Patented and trademarked formulas, and even patented plants and flowers, have their part in the exhibit.

It was the practice formerly to submit actual working models when applying for a patent. Many of these original models are on exhibition in the Hall of Inventions. They come from the Drexel Institute and the Franklin Institute; the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; the Stevens Institute of Technology, and the Smithsonian Institution.

There is also a fully equipped experimental shop where machines and projects are built from early blueprints. The shop includes 6" and 10" lathes, drill presses, shapers, grinders, vises, tools and attachments manufactured by the Atlas Press Company, Kalamazoo, Mich.

The exhibit is open from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. daily.

### THE AMERICAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON CORROSION

THE second annual meeting of the American Coordinating Committee on Corrosion was held on June 27, at Atlantic City. Dr. F. N. Speller, of Pittsburgh, consultant on corrosion, was formally named chairman for the coming year. Dr. R. M. Burns, of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, was named vice-chairman and Dr. G. H. Young, Mellon Institute of Industrial Research, secretary-treasurer.

The committee was organized two years ago to coordinate research activities in the field, and is patterned after similar organizations in England, Holland, Belgium and other countries abroad. Cooperation has been promised by all the major companies and independent laboratories that are actively engaged in corrosion investigations.

The committee is at present composed of official delegates from the American Chemical Society, the American Electroplaters Society, the American Foundrymen's Association, the American Gas Association, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, the American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Society of Refrigerating Engineers, the American Society for Metals, the American Society for Testing Materials, the American Water Works Association, Battelle Memorial Institute, the Electrochemical Society, Mellon Institute of Industrial Research, the National Bureau of Standards, the National District Heating Association, the Society of Automotive Engineers and the Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry.

At the meeting just passed, the American Welding Society, the Chemical Foundation, the Engineering Foundation and the National Research Council were also elected to membership.

### TRIBUTE TO THE LATE DR. W. E. BRITTON, STATE ENTOMOLOGIST OF CONNECTICUT

A TRIBUTE and biographical sketch of the late Dr. W. E. Britton, the first state entomologist of Connecticut, is printed as an introduction to the thirty-ninth report on entomological work in Connecticut. It is the first report of Dr. Roger B. Friend, Dr. Britton's successor.

The report, which occupies 112 pages, contains, in addition to the introduction, a complete review of the year in entomology, sections of which were contributed by members of the staff. There are chapters on the insect record of 1939; reports on inspection of nurseries and bees, control of the gipsy-moth, the Japanese beetle, carrier of the Dutch elm disease; miscellaneous insect notes, and the department publications of the year.

This report is the latest of an unbroken series that has been published annually since the office of state entomologist was created by an act of the General Assembly in 1901. Dr. Friend writes:

The state entomologist undertook his duties with energetic enthusiasm. He not only met various situations as they arose, but, prophetically, anticipated future problems and was prepared for emergencies. The demands on his