

purposes and the construction of the necessary buildings.

It was on July 1, 1901, that the Bureau of Plant Industry came into official being and under it there were combined into a single major administrative organization the several independent plant divisions, the heads of which had previously reported directly to the secretary. Shortly after Dr. Corbett came to the department, the Office of Horticulture was organized under his direction as one of the coordinate units in the Bureau of Plant Industry and in which the vegetable work of the Department was placed. Later, investigations in floriculture and landscape gardening were added. As the pioneer work at Arlington Farm was gradually accomplished, thus requiring less of Dr. Corbett's attention, the vegetable and floricultural work was given an increasingly large proportion of his time. In 1913, he was appointed assistant chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry. At the same time the Office of Horticulture and the Office of Pomology were combined into a single administrative unit in charge of the late A. V. Stubenrauch. When the latter, in July, 1914, resigned to return as professor of pomology to the University of California with which he had previously been connected, Dr. Corbett rather gladly transferred back to division work, succeeding Mr. Stubenrauch as the administrative head of the Office of Horticulture and Pomology.

In the fall of 1920, he made a trip to England and the Continent, particularly France and Holland, visiting the nursery growing centers of these countries in the interests of the root-stock investigations which were being inaugurated here.

Dr. Corbett served as head of the Office of Horticulture and Pomology until November, 1928, when he welcomed a transfer from administrative work to a field of research in which he had long been greatly interested, namely, a study of the causes leading to the development of horticultural industries in particular areas and their subsequent history, including both advancement and decline in different instances. This involved the appraisal of many factors as the suitability of the varieties grown, time of ripening, competing crops, regional costs of production, distribution facilities and other factors which might influence trends in the industries under investigation. The most of his time until his retirement, January 31, 1938, was devoted to this line of research, but during the last year of his service, he made a three months' plant exploration trip to South America on a special assignment in the Bureau of Plant Industry.

In the earlier years of his professional work he was a prolific writer, being the author of a considerable number of bulletins from the South Dakota and West Virginia Experiment Stations, and of a much larger

number relating principally to vegetable growing and ornamental horticulture after he came to the Department of Agriculture. He also contributed to several yearbooks of the department and to numerous publications outside the department; he was the author of two books—"Garden Farming," a rather comprehensive work on vegetable culture, and "Intensive Farming."

Dr. Corbett was born at Watkins, N. Y., on October 21, 1867. In addition to the degree of B.S. conferred on graduation from Cornell University, he received the degree of M.S. in 1896 from the same institution, and the honorary degree of doctor of agriculture in 1921 from the University of Maryland. He held membership in numerous scientific and other organizations, including the American Association for the Advancement of Science of which he was a fellow, Vegetable Growers' Association of America, American Society for Horticultural Science of which he was president in 1914, National Potato Association of America, National Geographic Society, Washington Academy of Sciences, Botanical Society of Washington, Cosmos Club, and others.

Surviving Dr. Corbett are his widow, Mrs. Louise Phillips Corbett; and five children by his deceased wife, Mrs. Evelyn Northrup Corbett—Ruth, Frances (Mrs. Colston E. Warne, Amherst, Mass.); Dr. Roger B., director, Extension Service, University of Connecticut, Storrs; Laurence W., with Northrup, King and Co., seedsmen, Minneapolis, Minn.; Lee Thurston, lawyer, Rochester, N. Y., and a number of grandchildren.

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RECENT DEATHS

THE body of Dr. John Eliot Wolff, professor emeritus of geology at Harvard University, was found after a twenty-seven-hour search on August 12 in the Mojave Desert, where he had gone on a one-day camping trip. He was eighty-two years old.

DR. FREDERICK EHRENFELD, head of the department of geology and mineralogy at the University of Pennsylvania, a member of the faculty for forty-three years, died on August 16. He was sixty-eight years old.

DR. MILICENT WASHBURN SHINN, specialist in child psychology, editor of the *Overland Monthly* from 1883 to 1894, died on August 14 at the age of eighty-two years.

FRANKLIN HENRY HOOPER, editor-in-chief of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* from 1932 until 1938, who was associated with the publication for thirty-nine years, died on August 14 from injuries received when struck by a truck. He was seventy-eight years old.

ARTHUR H. FLEMING, lumber manufacturer of Los Angeles, died on August 11 at the age of eighty-four years. He gave a sum amounting to more than five million dollars to found the California Institute of Technology at Pasadena. Dr. R. A. Millikan, chairman of the executive committee of the institute, made the following tribute: "It takes great courage and boldness to start any new enterprise, and it was Mr. Fleming's energy and boldness that made it possible

to start California Institute on its present type of career."

SIR ALFRED BOURNE, formerly professor of biology in the Presidency College, Madras, died on July 14 at the age of eighty years.

DR. WILLIAM RUSSELL, emeritus professor of clinical medicine at the University of Edinburgh, past president of the Royal College of Physicians, died on August 11. He was eighty-eight years old.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE BEIT MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIPS

At a meeting of the trustees of the Beit Memorial Fellowships for Medical Research, which was held on July 17, Dr. A. J. Clark, professor of materia medica in the University of Edinburgh, was appointed a member of the Advisory Board in the place of Professor W. Bulloch, who resigned after twenty-nine years' service. Dr. Paul Fildes was appointed honorary secretary on the resignation of Professor T. R. Elliott, who had served for ten years. Out of the twenty-seven present fellows nine have at their own request given up their fellowships for more direct service during the war.

The following elections were made, all with permission for each fellow to be relieved at any time for war work.

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP, (£700 a year)

T. A. H. Munro, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.P. (Edinburgh). To continue his studies of inheritance in mental disorders. At the Royal Eastern Counties Institution, Colchester.

FOURTH YEAR FELLOWSHIPS, (£500 a year)

J. G. Chalmers, B.Sc. (Glasgow). A.I.C. To continue his chemical studies of polycyclic hydrocarbons in experimental cancer formation. At the research department of the Glasgow Royal Cancer Hospital.

T. R. R. Mann, M.D. (Lwow, Poland), Ph.D. (Cambridge). To extend his work on intracellular metalloprotein compounds, especially of red blood cells. At the Molteno Institute of Biology, University of Cambridge.

JUNIOR FELLOWSHIPS, (£400 a year)

M. Abercrombie, B.A. (Oxford). Junior research fellow, Queen's College, Oxford. To study amputation neuromata and the degeneration and regeneration of mammalian nerves. At the department of zoology, University of Oxford.

D. A. K. Black, M.D. (Gold Medal) (St. Andrews) M.R.C.P. (London). Research student of Medical Research Council. To study metabolic and bone marrow changes in the repair of severe anemias. At the Nuffield department of medicine, Oxford.

G. C. Butler, Ph.D. (Toronto). 1851 Exhibition Science Research Scholar. To study the purification and properties of gonadotropic hormone from the pituitary

gland. At the department of pathological chemistry, University College Hospital Medical School, London.

J. L. Madinaveitia, D.F. (Madrid), Ph.D. (Edinburgh). Honorary research fellow in chemistry, Manchester University. To study diffusing factors in bacterial filtrates and snake venoms. At the department of chemistry, University of Manchester.

S. M. Partridge, B.Sc., Ph.D. (London). Lister Institute student in biochemistry. To study the chemical nature of the antigen of Shiga dysentery bacteria. At the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine, University of London.

D. Whitteridge, B.A., B.M., B. Ch. (Oxford). Demonstrator in physiology, Oxford. To study electrical records from brain after concussion or severe injury. At the Nuffield department of surgery and the department of physiology, University of Oxford.

P. C. Williams, B. Sc. (London). Research grantee of Medical Research Council. To study pituitary hormones and their excretion in clinical pathological conditions. At the Courtauld Institute of Biochemistry, Middlesex Hospital, London.

THE TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE OF OCTOBER 1

An expedition will be sent to observe the total solar eclipse in Brazil on October 1, under the joint auspices of the National Geographic Society and the National Bureau of Standards, to be led by Dr. Irvine C. Gardner, chief of the Optical Instruments Section of the bureau. Other members of the party are: Dr. E. O. Hulburt, of the Naval Research Laboratory; Dr. Paul A. McNally, S.J., director of the Observatory of Georgetown College; Dr. Carl C. Kiess, spectroscopist, and Dr. Theodore R. Gilliland, radio research specialist, the National Bureau of Standards, and Richard H. Stewart, staff photographer of the *National Geographic Magazine*.

The expedition will sail on August 24 for Recife, Pernambuco. After reaching Recife it will journey overland by truck and automobile through the city of Campina Grande to the neighborhood of the village of Patos, nearly 200 miles from the coast. Patos lies five miles south of the center line of the total eclipse; the instruments will be set up directly on that line. The