DR. FRANK LAWRENCE COOPER, instructor in physics at Yale University, died on February 25 in his sixty-ninth year.

DR. HARRY FLETCHER BROWN, vice-president of E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company, who from 1904 to 1911 was director of the department for smokeless powder, died on February 28 in his seventy-seventh year.

PERLEY J. BUCHANAN, director of Process Development and Chemical Control of the American Agricultural Chemical Company, died on February 23 at the age of sixty years.

DR. JAMES BRODBECK, president and chairman of the board of the Society of Chemical Industry at Basle, Switzerland, died on February 26 at the age of sixty-one years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND INDUSTRY IN GREAT BRITAIN

RECOMMENDATIONS are made by the London Chamber of Commerce in a report on scientific and industrial research, which was adopted at a recent meeting. *The Times,* London, states that

The report was submitted by a special committee, appointed on June 8 last year, "to ascertain in what manner the chamber could assist in promoting research in industry." The chamber has reached the conclusion that in order to galvanize research in this country into full and fruitful activity there are three basic essentials: A centralized and planned direction, through a Central Research Board, a far greater stream of money flowing into research, and a larger, better trained, and better paid staff.

The report suggests that the proposed Central Board should act as a coordinating and directing body for all research organizations, and be the link between the Government and the research activities of the country at large. The need for better facilities for specific research on behalf of the small firm is held to be evident.

The Central Research Board should have the right to intervene and require research associations, in consideration of the public funds placed at their disposition, to undertake fundamental research in directions which it judges to be in the national interest, and to require greater activity on the part of associations, which, in its view, are proving unequal to their responsibilities. It should be the duty of the board to consider the effect on national trade and industry as a whole of discoveries of a fundamental nature, and to direct the use of those discoveries so that they may be of the maximum advantage to the nation.

Dealing with finance, the Chamber believes that the universities, as the bodies entrusted with the vital task of carrying on pure research, should maintain a far larger staff than at present of graduates and of skilled laboratory technicians. It is recommended that the number of research fellowships at the universities should be substantially increased.

The Chamber strongly supports the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee in its recommendation that a sum of £10,000,000 should be spent over the first five post-war years in equipping and enlarging university laboratories, and that the program, estimated before the war to cost £12,000,000, to increase the provision of technical and art colleges and to expand and bring up-to-date those already in existence, should be carried out.

EXHIBIT OF THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE U.S.S.R. AT THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

AN exhibition portraying the history and activities during the last twenty-five years of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences has been placed on display in the Library of Congress.

Founded by Peter the Great in 1724, the academy to-day consists of approximately 136 academicians, more than 30 honorary academicians, about 224 corresponding members and over 5,000 scientific and technical assistants. Sixteen American scientific workers are now honorary or corresponding members of the academy. The portraits of some of the more prominent academicians have been included in the exhibition through the cooperation of the Embassy of the U.S.S.R. Representative volumes of the more important works by members of the academy have been selected for display from the extensive collection of Russian materials in the Library of Congress, probably the richest to be found in any library in the Western Hemisphere.

The organization of the academy groups its activities in eight departments, to each of which a section of the exhibit is devoted: the departments of physico-mathematical, chemical, geology-geographical, biological and technical sciences; history and philosophy, economy and law, and language and literature. Under these eight departments, the academy maintains 76 institutions, 11 laboratories, 47 stations, 6 observatories and 24 museums. There are also eight branches of the Academy of Sciences throughout the Soviet Union, under the supervision of which are 39 institutes, 28 stations, 3 astronomical observatories, 8 botanical gardens, 3 sanctuaries and 17 other scientific research establishments. The exhibit includes publications issued by each of the departments of the academy and some of its branches.

The peace-time work of the academy was suddenly interrupted on June 22, 1941, when Germany invaded Russia. From the very beginning of the invasion,