

OBITUARY

RECENT DEATHS

SIMON HENRY GAGE, professor of histology and embryology, emeritus, of Cornell University, died on October 20 at the age of ninety-three years.

DR. CHARLES BERNARD LIPMAN, professor of plant physiology and dean of the graduate division of the University of California, died on October 22. He was in his sixty-first year.

DR. CHARLES LEWIS THORNBURG, emeritus professor of mathematics and astronomy of Lehigh University, died on October 14. He was eighty-two years old.

WILLIAM BAUSCH, chairman of the board of the Bausch and Lomb Optical Company and the last surviving son of John Jacob Bausch, who founded the company with Captain Henry Lomb in 1856, died on October 19. He was in his eighty-fourth year.

DR. JAMES A. BABBITT, professor emeritus of clinical otolaryngology of the School of Medicine of the

University of Pennsylvania, died on October 16 at the age of seventy-four years.

DR. J. C. RATSEK, for the past nine years horticulturist at the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, in charge of investigations on roses at Substation No. 2, Tyler, died on October 5 at the age of forty-one years.

DR. OLIVER ATKINS FARWELL, who retired in 1933 as curator of the herbarium and drug inspector of Parke, Davis and Company, died on September 18 in his seventy-seventh year.

PROFESSOR SIR JOHN LEDINGHAM, F.R.S., formerly director of the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine and professor of bacteriology at the University of London, died on October 4 at the age of sixty-nine years.

DR. EUGEN OBERHUMMER, professor of political and historical geography of the University of Vienna, retired, died on May 4 at the age of eighty-five years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE UNITED NATIONS STANDARDS COORDINATING COMMITTEE

MARKING the first step in the resumption of work on international standardization halted by the war, the newly organized United Nations Standards Coordinating Committee opened a New York office on October 16.

In order to carry out its work effectively, the committee will maintain two offices, one in London, at the base of European operations, and one in New York, since so many of the war and relief supplies come from this side of the Atlantic. The London office is already operating under the direction of Charles C. LeMaistre, formerly director of the British Standards Institution. The New York office is at 70 East 45th Street. Each office will work with a certain group of countries, and each will keep the other in close touch with its activities.

The purpose of the United Nations Standards Committee is to promote cooperation between the allied belligerent countries in standardization matters as an aid to the production and use of war supplies and equipment and also in relief work. It seeks to secure the maximum possible coordination of standards necessary for the war effort and for the immediate post-war period.

Planning for this committee has been done at a series of international meetings in Washington, New York, Toronto and London. The most recent meetings took place in London on August 29 and September 8. They were attended by delegates from Aus-

tralia, Canada, Great Britain, New Zealand and the United States, and by an observer from Russia. South Africa, while not able to send a representative, has expressed the intention of joining the United Nations Standards Committee and helping to support it. Invitations to join have been issued to Mexico, Brazil and China.

The committee is set up for a period of two years. A review of its work is planned at the end of that time. Participation in the work will be open to the national standardizing bodies of such of the United Nations as may desire to take part in and support the work.

The committee has been requested to undertake (1) work on building materials and equipment (requested by the Industrial Rehabilitation Division of the UNRAA); (2) standardization of flat bottom rails needed to rebuild the heavily damaged transportation systems of France and the other occupied countries (suggested by the Inter-Allied Transportation Committee); (3) a project for the suppression of radio interference (suggested by the British Standards Institution).

Herbert J. Wollner, of Washington, D. C., has been made head of the New York office. Howard Coonley, director of the Conservation Division of the War Production Board, has been appointed the official representative of the American Standards Association on the Coordinating Committee, which consists of representatives of Great Britain, Canada, Russia and the United States; and P. G. Agnew, secretary of the as-