ous disciplines of research exemplified by Darwin, Pasteur, Mall, Manouvrier and Hrdlička stamped him. He was more interested in the substance of science than the surface trimmings. His writings were straightforward and clear, never polished and never ornate. His guide to English style was Albutt, whose "Notes on the Composition of Scientific Papers" he followed for precept, not example. Taught by a Catholic aunt, a regular attendant at the Presbyterian Church as a youth, Dr. Bean later became a member of the Episcopal Church, of which he was a loyal supporter and vestryman. He had more regard for underlying principles than dogma. An abiding belief in simple Christian virtues characterized his dealings with his fellow man. He was always a friend and often a counselor of his students. His generosity and anonymous benefactions in the community still come to light from time to time. During a period when moral and scientific standards have often given place to laxity and opportunism, he remained true to the highest ideals; and his teachings and example were such that memory of him is a reaffirmation of faith in human dignity and honor.

WILLIAM BENNETT BEAN,
Major, M.C., AUS

RECENT DEATHS

DR. ROBERT K. BREWER, head of the department of physiological chemistry of the College of Medicine of Syracuse University, died on March 22.

DR. HENRY LANE BRUNER, professor emeritus of biology and geology of Butler University, with which he had been connected for forty-six years, died on March 17 at the age of eighty-four years.

DR. GEORGE W. HUTCHISON, since 1933 secretary of the National Geographic Society, died on March 24 at the age of fifty-eight years.

ROBERT HALLOWELL RICHARDS, professor emeritus of mining engineering and metallurgy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, died on March 27. He was one hundred years old.

DR. LELAND RUSSELL VAN WERT, consulting metallurgist and chief of the metallurgical division of the Leeds and Northrup Company, Philadelphia, makers of electrical measuring instruments, died on March 27 at the age of fifty-five years.

DR. NEVIL MONROE HOPKINS, consulting and research engineer, died on March 26. He was seventy-one years old.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE BRITISH THERAPEUTIC TRIALS COMMITTEE[1]

DR. F. H. K. GREEN, of the administrative staff of the Medical Research Council, describes in the *British Medical Bulletin* the work of that council's Therapeutic Trials Committee. In response to representations by the Association of Chemical Manufacturers, the Medical Research Council organized in 1931 a scheme for the clinical testing of new remedies, and the Therapeutic Trials Committee was set up as a disinterested intermediary between the manufacturers and the medical profession, some medical men having been reluctant to carry out tests at the request of commercial firms. It was agreed that foreign as well as British remedies should be tried out and also the products of academic as well as of commercial laboratories. Manufacturers desiring trials by the Medical Research Council must agree to certain conditions. The composition and nature of the substance to be tested must be fully revealed to the council; manufacturers must not, without the council's permission, arrange for other independent trials, and the council is interested only in new substances which have not been therapeutically tested.

When a substance is to be tested, arrangements are made with clinicians of high standing to make tests, usually at more than one hospital, and the council reserves the right to decide whether the results, favorable or not, shall be published or revealed only to the manufacturer. If a clinician's results are published, they are published under the clinician's name as a report to the Therapeutic Trials Committee. Since the scheme was organized in 1931, more than forty new substances have been tested clinically. Outstanding examples are the classical papers embodying the results of clinical trials of "prontosil rubrum," which established the therapeutic possibilities in man of the first sulphonamide drug, which had been discovered in Germany; some of the earliest controlled clinical tests of sulphanilamide; trials of stilbestrol and other synthetic estrogenic agents. During the war clinical tests of penicillin have been organized and are still going on, and British-made equivalents of important foreign pharmaceutical products are being tested. The control of infections of wounds and burns is also being studied. Ultimately, according to Dr. Green, it is at the bedside that the clinical value of any new remedy is decided.

[1] From *Nature*.

MEMORIAL LOAN FUND FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS IN SCIENCE

As a memorial to the late Professor H. H. Whetzel, his former students and associates in the Department

of Plant Pathology at Cornell University are raising a graduate student loan fund to be administered by the university. Professor Whetzel, who was always much interested in the welfare of the graduate student in science, was concerned over the inadequacy of funds for loans, and gave considerable time and thought to ways of correcting the situation. In more recent months before his death he was especially concerned with the problem of depleted ranks in both undergraduate and graduate students, as the result of the war, and saw in a graduate student loan fund the means of helping some promising students who otherwise could not finance their graduate work. He did not live to see any of his plans for obtaining money materialize, but it is believed that the Memorial Loan Fund may serve to fulfil his purpose in part. While solicitations are being restricted largely to former students and associates, and close friends, contributions from any one desiring to assist will be most welcome. Further information may be had from Professor L. M. Massey, of the Department of Plant Pathology, College of Agriculture, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

THE CLEVELAND PHYSICS SOCIETY

PHYSICISTS, meeting at the Case School of Applied Science, have formed the Cleveland Physics Society, which is intended to serve the academic and industrial physicists of Greater Cleveland in a manner similar to that in which the engineering societies serve the engineers.

Over one hundred members attended the meeting (March 22) which was addressed by Professor P. M. Morse, of the department of physics of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His topic was "Recent Developments in Room and Auditorium Acoustics."

Officers elected were as follows: *President,* Leonard O. Olsen, assistant professor of physics, Case School of Applied Science; *Vice-president,* Clifton G. Found, director of physical research, General Electric Company, Nela Park; *Secretary,* John T. McCarthy, assistant professor of physics, Western Reserve University; *Treasurer,* W. Byron Brown, physicist, N.A.C.A. Engine Laboratory. Elmer Hutchisson, dean of the faculty of the Case School, was elected a member of the executive council.

It is planned to hold regular monthly meetings which will be addressed by prominent physicists who will speak on subjects of rather general interest. In addition informal seminars will be held occasionally on more specialized subjects.

Information concerning meetings or membership in the society may be obtained from the secretary, Professor John T. McCarthy, at Western Reserve University by mail or telephone.

MEDALS OF THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE

IN addition to the Medals of the Franklin Institute announced in SCIENCE last week the Franklin Medal has been awarded to Dr. Harlow Shapley, director of the Harvard College Observatory, "in consideration of his many valuable contributions to the science of astronomy, and especially of his work in the measurement of the vast distances necessary for the determination of the nature and extent of our galaxy, as well as those of other galaxies external to ours."

The Potts Gold Medal for 1945 has been awarded to Edwin A. Link in recognition of "valuable contributions in the field of training devices for aviators." The medal was established in 1906 by the bequest of Howard N. Potts to be given for distinguished work in science or the mechanic arts.

The Edward Longstreth Medal has been awarded to Sanford Lockwood Cluett, vice-president of Cluett, Peabody and Company, Troy, N. Y., "in view of the fundamental nature and mechanical ingenuity displayed in the development of the process for the preshrinking of woven fabrics, known as Sanforizing."

The Louis E. Levy Medal has been awarded to Dr. Rupen Eksergian, consulting engineer for the Edward G. Budd Manufacturing Company, Philadelphia, for his paper entitled "On the Reaction of Fluids and Fluid Jets," which appeared in the issue of the *Journal* of the institute for May, 1944.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Washington section of the American Chemical Society presented on March 8 the Hillebrand Prize for 1944 for an outstanding contribution to the science of chemistry during the three preceding years to Raymond M. Hann, of the National Institute of Health, in recognition of his work on the chemistry, structure and synthesis of methylene and benzylidene acetals of sugar alcohols.

AT the thirty-second annual meeting in Chicago of the American Social Hygiene Association, the William Freeman Snow Medal for distinguished service to humanity was presented to Major General Merritte W. Ireland, formerly surgeon general of the U. S. Army.

AT the seventh annual Forum on Allergy, meeting at Pittsburgh, the first Marcelle award was conferred on Dr. Mary Hewitt Loveless, of the New York Hospital, and the second award was presented to Dr. Charles F. Code, of the Mayo Foundation, Rochester, Minn.