paleontology and stratigraphy. Throughout her thirty-three years of teaching she remained on the fourth floor of Dalton Hall, geology slowly encroaching upon the storage space of the other departments. By the time Bryn Mawr built a new science building and geology moved to adequate quarters, Miss Bascom had retired.

As a teacher Miss Bascom put the maximum of material into her courses, and she required the maximum of effort on the part of her students. Geology is a dramatic subject, and it is easy to make it so exciting that large classes result. This was not Miss Bascom's way. She had so much respect for her subject and for real scholarship that she put into her teaching that earnestness of purpose that was always characteristic of her. The result was that her elementary class was always small, never numbering more than about thirty, but her advanced classes grew. Soon graduate students were coming to her from all parts of this country and from foreign countries as well, and her students went out to all parts of the world.

In 1896 Miss Bascom was appointed assistant on the U. S. Geological Survey. She later became geologist and was assigned that section of the Piedmont that lies in Maryland, Pennsylvania and part of New Jersey. For many years she spent her summers mapping the schists and gneisses of this area, studying thin sections of the rocks in such time as she had in the winter. It is an area of great complexity which her careful study has done much to clarify. After her retirement from teaching she carried on work on the area assigned, working first at Bryn Mawr and later in Washington. It is characteristic of her that when the universal stage became an adjunct of the petrographic microscope she mastered its use and restudied many of her slides. The results of her study of this area are comprised in her part of the U. S. Geological Survey Folios, Philadelphia (1909); Trenton (1909); Elkton-Wilmington (1920); and in two Bulletins, Quakerstown-Doylestown (1931); and Honeybrook-Phoenixville (1938).

In addition to her major work, Miss Bascom wrote numerous short papers, some of them in the field of geomorphology. She was greatly interested in gravels and collected them from many places. Her interest lay in studying thin sections and in trying to trace by this means the source of the gravel. Only one joint paper resulted from this line of study. In that she traced the source of the Pensauken gravel to the quartz nodules of the Kittatinny limestone. The senior author of the paper on the Pensauken gravel was Marius R. Campbell. The paper appeared in the *American Journal of Science* in 1933. Her entire bibliography comprises about forty titles.

She was the first woman to be elected fellow of the Geological Society of America. In 1924 she became a councilor and in 1930 vice-president of that society, the only woman who has ever held these offices. She was an editor of *The American Geologist;* a member of the National Academy, of the National Research Council, of the Geophysical Union and of many other scientific societies.

Miss Bascom was the last of a brilliant family; no near relatives survive her. She will be mourned by former students in many parts of the world who will miss her ever ready counsel and advice.

IDA H. OGILVIE

RECENT DEATHS

DR. EDWARD WILBER BERRY, since 1917 professor of paleontology at the Johns Hopkins University, dean from 1929 to 1942, died on September 20 at the age of seventy years.

DR. FREDERIC KING BUTTERS, professor of botany at the University of Minnesota, died on August 1 at the age of sixty-seven years.

DR. WILLIAM A. GROAT, until his retirement two years ago professor of clinical pathology at Syracuse University, for forty years connected with the College of Medicine, died on September 9. He was sixty-eight years old.

DR. HERMAN M. PARTRIDGE, assistant professor of chemistry and director of broadcasts at New York University, died on September 16 at the age of forty-two years.

DR. HAMILTON BRADSHAW, assistant director, retired, of the department of chemistry of E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company, died on September 6 at the age of sixty-three years.

DR. CHARLES SPEARMAN, professor emeritus of psychology of the University of London, died on September 17 at the age of eighty-two years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

PUBLIC LANDS CONTAINING RADIOACTIVE MINERALS

PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S order prohibiting the sale of all public lands containing radioactive minerals, reads:

By virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, it is hereby ordered as follows:

(1) Subject to valid existing rights, all public lands of the United States, including Alaska, which contain