

University, Washington, D. C., died on August 31. He was born at Elliott's Mills, Maryland, on January 5, 1870. He was educated at the Johns Hopkins University, from which he was graduated A.B. in 1896, and at Boston University, where he received the degree of S.T.B. in 1899. Following his ordination to the Methodist Episcopal ministry, he served as pastor to several churches in Massachusetts, meanwhile pursuing graduate work at Boston University under the eminent American philosopher, Borden P. Bowne, being graduated Ph.D. in 1910.

With the organization of the curriculum at the American University in 1914, Dr. Collier was called to take charge and served as dean of the Graduate School and professor of philosophy until 1928, when he relinquished the deanship, retaining the chair of philosophy. He retired from active teaching in 1936.

Dr. Collier's courses in philosophy were of unusual appeal to the scientific students at the Graduate School. He was broadly versed in the literature, history and method of science and had a deep and competent grasp of fundamental scientific principles. His discussions of the foundations of scientific knowledge were revelations to his students, developing new concepts and presenting points of view of great educational value. Collier's approach to a problem was liberal and receptive. His appeal was ever to the intellect; mere authoritarianism he detested. After a course with Collier the scientific student could be called educated as well as trained.

Dr. Collier rendered a service to biology and biologists at the time of the assault on the teaching of evolutionary theories during the middle 1920's. His book, "John Wesley among the Scientists," described the evolutionary opinions of that divine and was credited with persuading the Methodist Episcopal Church to withhold support from the fundamentalist cause.

A generation of students mourns his passing.

JAMES F. COUCH

ERMON DWIGHT EASTMAN

DR. ERMON DWIGHT EASTMAN, professor of chemistry at the University of California, died suddenly

on May 19 following a heart attack. He was fifty-three years old. He had been associated with the University of California since 1917, the year in which he received his Ph.D. from that school. In 1932-33 he held a Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship for research at the University of Munich.

Dr. Eastman made many outstanding contributions in the field of chemical thermodynamics. By experimental data and theoretical considerations he aided in the exact statement of the third law of thermodynamics. His research on the specific heat of hydrogen at low temperatures gave a highly important experimental value. He called attention to the entropy of transfer in electrolytic cells, a quantity which had not been recognized, and his work on thermal cells gave values for the absolute entropies of the aqueous ions which is noteworthy as one of the few reasonably accurate absolute values for any property of a single ion in solution. He also published a number of papers relating to the structure of the atomic nucleus.

At the time of his death Dr. Eastman was director of a war research program for the Army.

W. M. LATIMER

RECENT DEATHS

DR. HERBERT EUGENE WALTER, professor of biology, emeritus, of Brown University, died on October 1 at the age of seventy-eight years.

DR. W. S. DYER, associate professor of physical chemistry in the University of Arkansas, died on September 27 at the age of forty-four years.

DR. HERBERT O. CALVERY, for the past nine years chief of the division of pharmacology of the Food and Drug Administration, Federal Security Agency, died on September 23. He had been directing also a number of research projects under the auspices of the Office of Scientific Research and Development.

DR. P. DEL RIO HORTEGA, formerly director of the Instituto Nacional del Cancer at Madrid, and more recently head of the laboratory of histology and histopathology at Buenos Aires, died on June 1 at the age of sixty-three years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE SPRING MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

UPON the removal of restrictions on the holding of conventions by the Office of Defense Transportation, the officers of the association at once began to explore the possibilities of holding a meeting during this coming winter or spring.

After an extended investigation of the possibilities, it has been decided to hold a general meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in St. Louis, Missouri, in the period March 27-30, 1946. A conference of the secretaries of the sections of the association and of the principal affiliated societies who live in the East will be held at the Pennsylvania Hotel in New York City at 10 o'clock A.M., on

October 14, for the purpose of discussing plans for the St. Louis meeting; a similar conference of the secretaries who live in the Middle West will be held at the Stevens Hotel, Chicago, at 10 o'clock A.M., on October 21.

F. R. MOULTON,
Permanent Secretary

EXPEDITION TO NYASALAND OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

THE American Museum of Natural History, New York, has announced plans for its first large-scale expedition abroad since 1941.

Arthur S. Vernay, trustee of the museum, who has sponsored numerous expeditions to remote parts of the world for the past twenty-five years to collect material for exhibition and research, will lead an expedition to Nyasaland, South Africa, next April, where it is planned to make extensive collections of mammal and plant life. His last expedition for the museum, with Lieutenant Colonel C. Suydam Cutting and Dr. Harold E. Anthony, was in northern Burma in 1939, a few months prior to the war.

Members of the expedition will include Dr. Harold E. Anthony, chairman and curator of the Department of Mammals; Leonard Brass, botanist, and Captain Guy Shortridge, director of the Kaffrarian Museum of King William's Town, South Africa.

Dr. Anthony will represent the museum in the study of the mammals collected. Unless some very unusual specimen of large game is encountered, the energies of the party will be devoted to the intensive study of the smaller and less conspicuous fauna.

The native plants of Nyasaland are little known. Mr. Brass, who accompanied the Richard Archbold Expeditions to New Guinea, which in 1939 discovered the hidden "Shangri-La" Valley, will collect herbarium and living botanical specimens. This material will go to the New York Botanical Garden, which is cooperating in the project.

The expedition will be in the field for five months, working during the dry season, from May to October of 1946. A complete record in motion picture and color photography is planned in conjunction with the collecting work. Trained natives will assist in hunting and in the preparation of material.

PREDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS IN THE NATURAL SCIENCES

THE National Research Council announces that it is now ready to receive nominations and applications for the predoctoral fellowships in the natural (*i.e.*, mathematical, physical and biological) sciences which it is administering under a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation. These fellowships are intended to

assist young men and women, whose graduate study has been prevented or interrupted by the war, to complete their work for the doctorate. It is hoped that these fellowships will do much to accelerate the recovery of the scientific vigor and competence of the country which is so seriously threatened by the loss of almost two graduate school generations of scientifically trained men and women.

This program will be administered by a Committee on Predoctoral Fellowships of the National Research Council whose members are Henry A. Barton, Charles W. Bray, Detlev W. Bronk, Luther P. Eisenhart, Ross G. Harrison (chairman—National Research Council, *ex officio*), W. A. Noyes, Jr., and John T. Tate, *chairman*; Enid Hannaford, *secretary*.

The annual stipend will be \$1,200 for single persons and \$1,800 for married men. In general it is expected that each recipient will spend at least eleven months per year on academic work. An additional allowance up to \$500 per year will be made for tuition fees. Fellowships granted to individuals who are eligible for educational support from the "G.I. Bill of Rights" will be at such stipends as to bring the total income from these two sources to that which would be received at the above rates.

Each fellow, before entering on his graduate studies, will submit for review by the Committee on Predoctoral Fellowships a schedule, approved by the dean of his graduate school, for the completion of his work for the doctorate. This schedule, as approved by the committee, will constitute an informal agreement upon the basis of which stipend payments will be made. At the discretion of the university concerned the fellowship stipend may be supplemented by university grants. All such supplementary sources of income should be made a matter of record with the committee. The progress of the fellows will be subject to periodic review by the committee which reserves the right to cancel fellowships when in their judgment satisfactory progress is not being maintained.

Prospective candidates for these fellowships are urged to apply at once even though they may be unable to undertake their graduate study in the immediate future. Information concerning the fellowships and nomination-application blanks are being mailed out widely to graduate schools and wartime research laboratories. They may also be obtained by writing directly to the Secretary, Committee on Predoctoral Fellowships, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington 25, D. C.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR EDWARD A. STEINHAUS, of the University of California, writes:

Readers of SCIENCE may be interested in the following fragmentary information concerning Dr. A. Paillot,