OBITUARY

Richard Newman Brackett was born September 14, 1863, on his grandfather's farm, near Columbia, South Carolina. He was the son of Gilbert Robbins Brackett and Louisa Theresa Newman Brackett. He received his early schooling in Charleston, where his father was pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church for more than thirty years. In 1878 he entered the sub-freshman class of Davidson College, receiving his A. B. degree in 1883. Then he went to Johns Hopkins University and was awarded the Ph. D. degree in 1887.

For four years, from 1887, he was Chief Chemist of the Arkansas Geological Survey. In July 1891 he was elected Associate Professor of Chemistry at the new Clemson Agricultural College, although the doors of the institution did not open for another two years. During that time Dr. Brackett assisted with the fertilizer inspection and analysis work. Starting in 1893 with a class of thirty-six students, he taught Analytical Chemistry, and later General, Organic, Inorganic, and Agricultural Chemistry.

In 1910 Dr. Brackett succeeded Colonel M. B. Hardin as Director of the Chemistry Department and Chief Chemist of Fertilizer Inspection and Analysis, which positions he held until his partial retirement in 1933. He then taught History of Chemistry.

DEDICATION

In grateful appreciation of a lifetime of loyalty and service to Clemson and to Clemson men, this issue of the Chemistry News Notes is dedicated to Dr. Richard Newman Brackett, formerly Director of the Chemistry Department, and the last member of the original Clemson faculty.

Dr. Brackett spent forty-six years of his life at Clemson, during forty-four of which he was actively connected with the Chemistry Department. Since 1933 he had been Curator of the Chemical Library, and he never lost his keen interest in the welfare of the school, and especially the Chemistry Department. His passing was an occasion of sorrow to us all at Clemson, and to literally thousands of his friends among the Alumni and the various chemical societies of which he was a member.

IN MEMORIAM

Richard Newman Brackett
1863 - 1937
for another year, and from 1933 until his death last fall, was Curator of the Chemical Library.

Among the honorary societies and associations to which he belonged were the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists, of which he was President in 1916, the American Chemical Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, which bestowed an Emeritus Life Membership upon him in 1936, and the South Carolina Academy of Science.

Dr. Brackett is survived by his wife, Mrs. Bessie Craig Brackett; a son, Dr. Newton Craig Brackett, Pickens, S. C.; a daughter, Mrs. Turner Waddell, Cheraw, S. C.; four grandchildren; and a sister, Mrs. A. E. Fitzgerald, Baltimore, Maryland.

INVITATION

About a month before his death Dr. Brackett received an invitation from Secretary of Agriculture Wallace to attend the Pioneer's Program in Washington on November 14th commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities and the Department of Agriculture. The program was planned to honor the men and women who have given virtually a lifetime of service to American Agriculture.

Not being able to go to Washington for this celebration, Dr. Brackett wrote Mr. Wallace a most interesting letter, telling of his long connection with agriculture and the fertilizer industry in the South. This letter, a copy of which is in our possession, is a valued personal record of the life and activity of one who made a real contribution to the welfare of the southern farmer.

BIRTHDAY

In September Dr. Pollard conceived the idea of informing Dr. Brackett's former students of the date of his 74th birthday, September 14th, and asking them to write to him at that time. We sent out about two hundred letters, and Dr. Brackett heard from more than a hundred chemists who wished him well as he passed this milestone. He always cherished the thoughtfulness of his former students, and he was touched and delighted to receive on the 14th fifteen telegrams, thirty-five birthday cards, and forty-seven personal letters from busy professional chemists who remembered their teacher with respect and affection. He also received a dozen or so gifts, which kept the local post office busy indeed for a day. Dr. Brackett thought it a grand joke that they ran out of birthday telegraph forms, and were forced to use Christmas and then Easter blanks at the local telegraph office. He told us about it when, a day or two later, he brought the pile to the Dean's Office so that we might make a list of the men who had written to him.

A number of the letters were tremendously interesting. One we copied, and would like to quote here in part. It was from Dr. J. F. E. Breaux, of the University of Arizona, at Tucson. He is a graduate of the first class of 1896, and his letter ran as follows:

"Although it does not seem so
long, it has really been over forty years since twelve of us boys climbed over piles of lumber and bricks and met you and Col. Hardin for our first class in Chemistry. These are the boys as I remember them: H. G. Cliff, Charlie Furman, Frank Thompkins, Frank Taylor, Carter Newman, Napier, Jules Shanklin, Jim Guignard, Gen Langley, Bob Welch, and your humble servant, Hugh Whitten, Olin Pegues and Rudolph Lee came in a few days later. You will probably remember that our classroom on the second floor was not finished, and so the Colonel took us in his office and talked to us about recent changes in nomenclature. They had just adopted 'oxid' instead of 'oxide', 'aluminum' instead of 'alluminium.' In a few days we got into the classroom and you prepared some copper filings and sulphur in a test tube and heated it. I well remember how young you looked, and you really were young—yet in your twenties. A few days afterwards we reported to you in the back laboratory upstairs, and you had us make a wash bottle and some stirring rods. As I remember, that glass tubing wouldn't bend for me and I couldn't pull out the tube to a fine point........

"They say that little is known about the course of study for the first six months, but I remember, and it is as clear in my mind as if it happened yesterday. I remember the first assembly in Memorial Hall and the positions of the different faculty members on the rostrum. Colonel Hardin was a little to the left of the speaker's stand. His boots were well shined and his left leg was crossed over his right. Incidentally, he never varied two inches from that position during the time I stayed at Clemson. In the semicircle sat President Craighead, also Professors Newman, Thompkins, Strode, Clinkscales, Furman, Morrison, Harrison, DuPre, Clinton, Hart, Williams Welch, Chris Welch, Lieut. Donaldson and yourself. You are probably the only one of these now connected with the college. Many of them have answered the Long Roll."

From C. W. Suggs, Class of '18, with the Barrett Company, in Atlanta: "I take pleasure in extending to you my congratulations on your approaching birthday. I surely hope you will have a most happy day on this occasion and wish for you many more birthdays to come. I often think of you and recall the association with you during my years at Clemson, as well as the several visits I have had with you in recent years."

From John C. Summers, '06, now in Huntington, West Virginia, with Standard Brands, Incorporated: "One of the most pleasant and helpful recollections of my college career was my instruction in Chemistry, given by yourself. This, to a great extent, prepared me for my life's work, as I am today following the chemistry profession in practicing applied chemistry. I often think of the old college and my college days, and wish that it were possible for me to make frequent visits to the campus."

From Dr. J. C. Metts, Class of 1919, Savannah, to Dr. Pollard: "Dr. Brackett deserves far more than a passing remembrance. I am enclosing a letter, and am mailing a package for him in your care. If you will see that he gets these on his birthday, I will be extremely grateful."
EDITOR'S NOTE

It is the hope of those in the School of Chemistry who were associated with Dr. Brackett that some way may be found of obtaining for the Chemistry Department the very fine portrait of Dr. Brackett painted several years ago by Mrs. B. F. A. Fernow, of Clemson. Those Alumni who had visited Dr. Brackett at his home during the last few years will probably remember seeing the portrait, which was loaned him by the artist and hung in the living room of his home until his death last November.

Mrs. Fernow is an artist of wide reputation and outstanding talent. She has a miniature in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and recently executed a miniature of the director of the Museum. Her portrait of Dr. Brackett was exhibited a number of years ago in Atlanta, and was included in an exhibit in Charlotte in February of this year.

from the Grand Recorder, a chapter is assured for Clemson in the near future, provided we can meet certain routine requirements.

This should be of particular interest to all Chemistry graduates.

The News Notes sent out last year seemed to fill a long-felt need. Many former Clemson men wrote in to say that, after they received the directory of graduates in Chemistry, they sat down and wrote to members of their classes whom they had not seen or heard from in many, many years. We also had a fine response with regard to mistakes made in the addresses or occupations of former students. The Chemistry Department possesses an unusually complete record of its graduates. We wish to keep this record up to date, and ask your cooperation in letting us know of any change of address or position which you may have made in the last year.

In this connection, there were several names on our list of Chemists whose letters were returned at the time of Dr. Brackett's birthday. We would greatly appreciate any information as to the location of these men, and we are listing them below, by class:

J. B. Bankhead          Class of 1919
H. Standord             "   " 1920
H. E. Laurey            "   " 1922
J. L. Betsill           "   " 1923
R. T. Tyler             "   " 1927
G. H. Carroll           "   " 1928
N. P. Siegler           "   " 1931
R. D. Chapman           "   " 1932
G. N. Constan           "   " 1933
J. F. Robinson          "   " 1933
J. R. Ellis             "   " 1934

A NATIONAL CHEMICAL FRATERNITY

Since 1933 Chemistry students who have been members of Athanor, local honorary chemical fraternity, have made concerted efforts to become affiliated with a national honorary chemical fraternity. This year the members of Athanor applied for a charter from Alpha Chi Sigma, and we were recently informed that the application has been passed upon favorably by the Grand Council.

The present senior class has worked untiringly toward this goal, and we hope that a chapter can be organized here before Commencement. According to the letter received
NEW WING

At their June, 1937, meeting the Board of Trustees authorized the erection of a two-story wing parallel to the wing of the Chemistry Building which was built in 1900, but with lower ceilings than those of the old wing. Permission was also given to remodel portions of the old building. The new laboratories of Physical and Colloidal Chemistry are now located in the second story of the new wing, while the inadequate laboratory in the old building was turned into a classroom. On the same floor a room was set aside for a small auditorium, which is a common lecture room for large or small groups.

On the first floor of the new wing two laboratories devoted to Organic and Agricultural Chemistry are located. Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis, formerly given in a laboratory on the second floor of the old building, has been moved to the first floor, and this room added to the freshman laboratory, giving to the freshman work twice the space that it had before.

Under this new set-up, the freshman Chemistry, Organic, and Physical and Colloidal Chemistry are well housed. The Qualitative and Quantitative laboratory is still too small. Even with the new addition there are not sufficient classrooms to take care of the two hundred students who are majoring in Chemistry and the twelve hundred other students whose major lines of work require a year or two of Chemistry.

However, the addition of the new wing will enable the School of Chemistry to carry on its work with the same high standards of efficiency that have characterized it in the past. As time goes on, we hope to make further additions to our building and its equipment.

OBITUARY

Mr. Benjamin Freeman, Chemist with the Fertilizer Inspection and Analysis Department, died at his home on the campus March 4, 1938. He had been in declining health for several months.

While not a member of the Chemistry faculty, Mr. Freeman had been for many years a familiar figure to Chemistry students, his laboratory being adjacent to Dr. Calhoun's office. All those among the Alumni who knew Mr. Freeman will regret his passing. He had been connected with the college for thirty-two years, and was fifty-five years old. He is survived by his wife and five children. His oldest son, Ben, Jr., graduated from Clemson in 1930, and Pickens is a member of the present freshman class.

Mr. Freeman was a Chemistry graduate of the Class of 1905.

CAMPUS CHANGES

The campus is humming with activity this spring. Everywhere the sound of road work and of riveting falls on the ear. The new Textile Building is going up behind the Calhoun Mansion, five houses having been moved bodily to make room for it. Now State Highway trucks are swarming over the place, for the Department is preparing to pave all the heretofore unpaved campus roads. By Commencement the paving will be done, and we hope the Textile
Building will be ready for occupancy by next year.

The next building? CHEMISTRY

The campus is changing in many ways. We are even feeling a private building boom. At least a dozen new houses have been built by faculty members and others within the last sixteen months.

And things are changing around the Chemistry Building. Another familiar figure to old Chemistry graduates who has departed this life since the last issue of the News Notes is "Ike", (Isaac Brown) janitor for a quarter of a century in the Chemistry Building. Ike died early in February, and the Department sent a large floral tribute. Several faculty members attended the funeral services in a church near the campus. Dr. Pollard, who is from New York State and had never been in such a gathering, represented the Department in Dr. Calhoun's unavoidable absence, and made an appropriate speech when the "white folks" were called on. It was an occasion which Dr. Pollard will not soon forget, we think. He was mildly terrified when the veiled widow began to scream, and more than a bit startled when they opened the casket and invited all present to take a "last look."

Still another familiar character which is no longer in these halls is "Bo", the constant companion and canine friend of Prof. Lippincott. "Bo" had the distinction of an obituary in the TIGER at the same time that Ike did.

"Bo" will be remembered by hundreds of graduates of the last ten years who took Mr. Lippincott's course in Organic Chemistry. "Bill" has lost a faithful companion, as all of us who love dogs know.

IN LIGHTER VEIN

When you lend your fountain pen, keep the cap. Nobody will stick an uncapped pen into his pocket.

Small Boy: "What is 'college bred', pop?"
Father: "College bred is a four-year loaf made from the flavor of youth and the dough of old age."

"Is that man rich?"
"Is he? He's so rich he doesn't know his son's in college."

College Graduate: "Can you pay me what I'm worth?"
Employer: "I'll do better than that; I'll give you ten dollars a week."

A young man taking an examination for a position, came across the question: "What is the distance of the sun from the earth?"
His answer was as follows: "I cannot state accurately, but I don't think it is near enough to interfere with a proper performance of my duties if I am hired."
He got the job.
Since our last issue, we have had the following corrections as to addresses, titles, or change of occupation. This sheet may be removed and clipped to the Directory which we sent you last year, bringing your record up to date.

W. E. MCLendon (1901) is now in Washington with the U. S. D. A.

W. H. Scott (1901) has been made General Sales Manager of the Duiron Company in Dayton, Ohio.

E. R. Gilmore (1914) has been transferred to Charleston, S. C. He is Chemist with the State Department of Agriculture.

G. F. Moore (1915) is with the U. S. Phosphoric Products Company, in Tampa, Florida, as Chief Chemist.

Dr. J. D. Clark (1916) is now with the Hercules Powder Company, Experimental Station, Wilmington, Delaware.

Dr. T. L. McMeekin (1921) is now in the Dept. of Physical Chemistry, Harvard Medical College, Boston, Massachusetts.

Dr. T. J. Webb (1921) is now with Merck and Co., Rahway, N. J. He is living at 744 Watchung St., Plainfield, New Jersey.

R. T. Halstead (1922) is Research Chemist with the Johns Manville Corp., Manville, N. J.

R. E. Howell (1923) is at 204 Forest Ave., Marietta, Ga.

Capt. R. L. Griffin (1924) is stationed at Headquarters, U. S. Marine Corps, Washington, D. C.

E. W. Herlong (1925) is now Chief Chemist, Chemical Division, E. R. Squibbs & Son, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Dr. J. B. Hester (1926) is Soil Chemist at the Campbell Soup Company's Farm #1, at Riverston, New Jersey.

C. H. Patrick (1928) is now Superintendent of the Union Bleachery, Greenville, S. C.

E. R. Purvis (1928) is now at the Virginia Truck Experiment Station, in Norfolk.

R. L. Smith (1929) is now at the Edisto Exp. Sta., Blackville, S. C.

H. C. Snowden (1929) is Chief Chemist, Consolidated Chemical Industries, All Petroleum Bldg., Houston, Texas.

Dr. G. G. Durst, Jr., (1930) is intern at General Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio.

C. McMillan (1930) is Asst. Coach at Clemson.

A. W. Meetz (1930) is with Proctor & Gamble, Ivorydale, O.

T. R. Wannamaker (1930) is at 1464 W. 37th St., Chicago, Ill.

J. W. Sanders (1932) is Grad. Asst., Chem. Dept., Georgia School of Tech., Atlanta, Ga.

J. F. Robinson (1932) is in Easley, S. C.

G. W. Robinson (1934) is at Apt. 3B, 431 W. 121st Street, New York City.

F. S. Sadler (1934) is connected with the Southern Cotton Oil Company in Savannah, Georgia.
F. B. SCHIRMER (1934) is taking graduate work at Cornell. He is living at William Street, Ithaca, New York.

E. D. GANTRY (1935) is with the Gaspar-Ware Studios, Atlanta, Georgia.

H. B. KIRKEGARD (1935) is with the American Agricultural Chemical Co., Box 1139, Greensboro, North Carolina.

C. H. HOLLIS (1935) is now at Clemson as Chemist with the Fertilizer Inspection and Analysis Department.

J. L. FLOYD (1935) is with the R. L. Grace Company at Hacienda Cartavio, Trujillo, Peru, S. A.

S. P. TAYLOR (1936) is now with Seymour Mfg. Co., in Seymour, Conn. He lives at the YMCA in Ansonia, Conn.

J. M. BENNETT (1937) is with the Ware Shoals Mfg. Co., Ware Shoals, S. C.

LIEUT. J. F. DUNLAP (1937) is at the Basic School, Navy Yard, Philadelphia, Pa.

C. N. CALHOUN (1937) is at L. S. U. in Baton Rouge, La.

D. L. FARR (1937) is with the duPont Company in Wilmington, Del.

EDWARD HEAP (1937) is with the Barrett Company in Birmingham, Ala.

E. E. HEIKKILA (1937) is with the Barrett Company in Philadelphia. He lives at 1512 Overington, Frankford, Pa.

GORDON NICHOLS (1937) is now Grad. Asst. at Clemson. He has a fellowship at Cornell for 1938.

H. S. PRICE (1937) is now Asst. Cashier, Bank of Walterboro, S. C.

DEWITT STONE (1937) is with the American Agr. Chem. Co., in Carteret, N. J. He lives at 128 Emerson Street.

R. B. WEARN (1937) is with the National Adhesive Corp., and lives at Apt. 3B, 431 W. 121st Street, New York City.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Last year at this time nearly all of the members of the graduating class had been placed. This year very few have been successful, so far, in securing positions.

Any help that any Alumnus can give us in placing the members of the Class of 1938 will be much appreciated. Many of these boys are outstanding, not only scholastically, but in personality and character as well.

CHEMISTRY GRADUATES 1938

W. C. CURRIN
Williston, S. C.

T. E. HALL
Dillon, S. C.

D. E. HUGGIN
Greenville, S. C.

G. C. PAULSEN
Ehrhardt, S. C.

E. C. RAY
Andrews, S. C.

W. E. RUFF
Ridgeway, S. C.

M. J. SARLIN
Liberty, S. C.

E. L. ZALANTZ
Greenville, S. C.