

## OBITUARY

### HERBERT E. GREGORY (1869-1952)

The passing of Herbert Gregory on January 23, 1952, closes the active career of a noted and colorful figure from the ranks of American geologists and geographers. He died in his beloved Hawaii, which had been his home for the last 30 years.

Gregory was born in Middleville, Michigan, October 18, 1869, and in the fullness of time entered the Class of '96 at Yale with advanced standing, graduating with that class which gave several of its members to the Yale Faculty for long and distinguished service to their Alma Mater. Gregory took his Ph.D. in 1899 and immediately thereafter was appointed an instructor in physical geology. He was promoted to the rank of Assistant Professor in 1901, and was made Silliman Professor of Geology in 1906, a title he retained until he became Emeritus in 1936.

According to an agreement between Yale University and the Bishop Museum by which the presiding officer of the latter became a member of the Yale faculty if he was not already such, Gregory was appointed Acting Director of the Museum in 1919, Director in 1920, and Director Emeritus in 1936. By the terms of the original agreement the Director of the Museum was to spend part of each academic year in his professorial capacity at Yale. This Gregory did for a number of years before relinquishing his professorial periods when his permanent residence in Hawaii was established.

Gregory was not content with filling these two offices with their exacting duties but extended his influence and activities to other fields, notably as assistant and later (1909) geologist of the United States Geological Survey. In this connection he was for some years concerned with the problem of "finding water for the poor Indians," as he expressed it, especially the Navajos of Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah. Later he did extensive field study and mapping in the vicinity of Zion National Park and neighboring parts of the Colorado Plateaus. Of several resulting publications, one appeared shortly before his death.

The years 1916 to 1920 found Gregory serving as Super-

intendent of the Connecticut Geological and Natural History Survey; then his interest turned largely to the Pacific, with headquarters in Hawaii, although he still returned to the continent for his summer work in southern Utah.

The establishment of the National Research Council gave Gregory an additional duty in the Division of Geology and Geography and from 1920 to 1946 he served as chairman of the Committee on Pacific Investigation, becoming chairman of the Pacific Scientific Council in 1946. He was also chairman of the Board of Regents of Hawaii and a member of the Yale Expedition to Peru in 1912 and 1913. Thus Gregory's interests covered a wide geographical area—Connecticut, Arizona, Utah, Peru, Hawaii, and the Pacific Islands, as well as Australia.

Several learned societies, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, and the Geological Society of America, among others, welcomed Gregory to their fellowship and he served the last as councillor and Vice-President.

This venerable publication, the American Journal of Science, founded by Silliman in whose honor Gregory's Professorship at Yale was established, bore Gregory's name on its cover as Associate Editor for 24 years, from 1904 to 1928. The Journal reveres his memory and offers this inadequate tribute to a loyal and eminent man.

R. S. LULL

## REVIEWS

*Some Recent Researches in Solar Physics*; by F. HOYLE. Pp. x, 131. London and New York, 1949 (Cambridge, University Press, \$3.00).—The aim of this monograph, which appears in the series "Cambridge Monographs On Physics," is said to be to provide a concise account of the present state of solar physics. However there is no discussion of the deeper layers of the solar atmosphere, the structure of which has become well understood only quite recently. Although these matters have been adequately reviewed in the astronomical literature, their omission from a monograph intended to reach physicists at large, perhaps, is regrettable. Throughout the book has a strongly personal flavor, and more than one third of it deals solely with a theory by Hoyle and Lyttleton, which tries