

Arthur Amos Noyes.

THE death of Professor Noyes, Director of the Gates Chemical Laboratory at the California Institute of Technology, which occurred at Pasadena on June 3, 1936, as the result of an attack of pneumonia at the age of sixty-nine years, has deprived physical chemistry of another of its pioneers of the Ostwald school. Noyes may be regarded, indeed, as the American prototype of Sir James Walker, who died last year. Just as Walker was Ostwald's first British student at Leipzig, Noyes was the first American. Of them, Ostwald remarks in his Autobiography: "Both are not only distinguished as investigators and teachers, but belong also as men to the best examples of this diversified race."

For nearly twenty years the research laboratory of physical chemistry of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which Noyes directed and to which he personally contributed half the expenses of maintenance, was the centre of this branch of science in the United States, and many of the leading American physical chemists may be counted among his students. His own contributions to the ionic theory of electrolytes and to the principles of qualitative analysis were of primary importance in the modern development of these two fields.

Modesty and thoroughness were the chief characteristics both of Noyes's work and of his character. He sought no honours: he leaves many friends.

He was elected an Honorary Fellow of this Society in 1923.

J. P. K.