

10, namely, Wandsworth (+ 34.3), Lewisham (+ 26.2) and Fulham (+ 11.7). On the other hand, six show a decrease of more than 10 per cent., namely, City of London (— 27.0), Holborn (— 16.9), Finsbury (— 13.3), City of Westminster (— 12.4), St. Marylebone (— 11.3) and Chelsea (— 10.1). Only one constituent of London's "Outer Ring" actually decreased in population, namely, the urban district of Penge (— 0.6). The population in the rural part of the "Outer Ring" increased by 54,799, no less than 14,591 of this change being credited to the rural parish of Mitcham.

#### CHARLES OTIS WHITMAN<sup>1</sup>

THE corporation and trustees of the Marine Biological Laboratory record their great sorrow and loss in the death, on December 8th last, of Professor Charles Otis Whitman, for twenty-one years director of the Marine Biological Laboratory and virtually its creator. His connection with the laboratory began at the time when it was first located at Woods Hole and before it had achieved recognized standing; with untiring energy and enthusiasm he strove to make it a national center for research in every department of biology.

"The great charm of a biological station," he wrote, "must be the fullness with which it represents the biological system. Its power and efficiency diminish with every source of light excluded." To zoology, which was the only subject represented at first, he added botany and physiology, and, so far as he was able, made provision for all the newer fields and methods of biological investigation. But his breadth of sympathy was associated with exacting thoroughness. By his own careful and critical work, as well as by his appreciation of the fundamental problems of biology, he set a high standard for the scientific work of the laboratory.

If the laboratory was to be truly national, Professor Whitman believed that it must be founded upon the cooperation of individuals and institutions. He recognized the fact that

<sup>1</sup> Resolution prepared by Professor Edwin G. Conklin, and adopted by the corporation of the Marine Biological Laboratory on August 8, 1911.

common ideals must form the basis of such cooperation, and he sought to bring into close connection with the laboratory every person and institution that shared these ideals with himself. By his kindness, sincerity, generosity, and devotion to the laboratory, he called forth similar qualities in others, so that it has been peculiarly characteristic of Woods Hole that a spirit of mutual cooperation and service prevails.

Finally, Professor Whitman stood for the complete autonomy of the laboratory. Although much needed aid might have been had more than once from universities and institutions by surrendering the independence of the laboratory, he steadfastly and consistently refused to do this, maintaining that the laboratory must be left free to grow and develop as its own needs and the interests of science demand, and that its government must remain in the hands of those most interested in it. Though there was formerly much difference of opinion as to the expediency of this stand, we are now all agreed as to Professor Whitman's foresight and wisdom in this matter.

Catholicity, cooperation, independence—these are the ideals which Professor Whitman succeeded in making part and parcel of the Marine Biological Laboratory and which we count among our most cherished possessions.

Professor Whitman was the founder and for many years the editor of the *Journal of Morphology*; he founded the *Biological Bulletin* and the annual volume of *Lectures* from the Marine Biological Laboratory. He was at one time director of the Lake Laboratory, one of the first research institutions in this country. He rendered eminent service in universities of this and other lands. He contributed to the advance of science by research work of fundamental importance. Biology owes much to his high ideals, his generous enthusiasm, his rigorous criticism, but most of all to the enterprise which always lay nearest his heart—the Marine Biological Laboratory. Here, if it had been possible, he would gladly have spent his life; to this place his thoughts returned with longing after every absence; to this place friends bore his body and laid it to

rest almost within sight of the laboratory which he greatly loved, and which is his enduring monument.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. R. W. WOOD, professor of experimental physics at the Johns Hopkins University, has been elected a corresponding member of the Royal Society of Sciences of Göttingen.

DURING Dr. T. C. Mendenhall's recent visit to Japan, where he held the chair of physics in the Imperial University from 1878 to 1881, the Emperor bestowed on him the decoration of the Sacred Treasures, 2d class, and the National Educational Society conferred on him its gold medal.

AT the recent centenary celebration of the University of Breslau, an honorary degree was conferred upon Dr. Theobald Smith, professor of comparative pathology at Harvard University.

THE Royal Statistical Society of London has awarded a Guy medal in gold to Mr. G. Udny Yule.

DR. EDWARD SCHÄFER, professor of physiology at Edinburgh, has been elected a member of the Imperial Academy of Sciences at Halle.

THE Imperial Academy of Japan has awarded a medal and testimonial to Dr. Kimura for his discovery of the term in the variation of latitude known by his name.

PROFESSOR A. A. MICHELSON, head of the department of physics at the University of Chicago, has been the exchange professor at the University of Göttingen during the summer semester of 1911.

AMONG Americans who had expressed their intention to be present at the meeting of the British Association beginning this week in Portsmouth are: Professor Cleveland Abbe and W. J. Humphreys, U. S. Weather Bureau; Professor Carl Barus, Brown University; Professor A. A. Michelson, the University of Chicago; Professor F. W. Clarke, U. S. Geological Survey; Professor J. W. Spencer, Washington; Professor H. Webster, Univer-

sity of Nebraska; Dr. A. Goldenweiser, Columbia University; Professor H. C. Cowles, University of Chicago, and Professor A. A. Noyes, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

PROVOST EDGAR F. SMITH, of the University of Pennsylvania, is on his way to Europe as the representative of his university at the celebration of the five hundredth anniversary of the founding of the University of St. Andrews in Scotland and the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of King Frederick University in Christiania, Norway. By August 17 he hoped to reach the University of Göttingen in order to celebrate on that day the thirty-fifth anniversary of his receiving the degree of doctor of philosophy at this university.

DR. L. H. BAILEY, whose resignation as director of the New York State College of Agriculture was announced last month, states that he will remain at Cornell until his successor is chosen.

MR. F. W. TAYLOR, of Denver, has been appointed director of agriculture in the Philippines.

DR. FITTING, associate professor at Halle, has been appointed director of the Hamburg Botanical Institute.

It is announced in *Nature* that Mr. C. E. Adams, of the Department of Lands, New Zealand, has been appointed astronomical observer at Wellington in succession to Mr. T. King, who has resigned. Mr. T. Southwell, scientific adviser to the Ceylon Company of Pearl Fishers, Ltd., and inspector of pearl banks, Colombo, has been appointed deputy director of fisheries, Bengal.

MR. ARTHUR A. ALLEN, instructor in neurology and vertebrate zoology in Cornell University, will spend the next year in South America as chief of an expedition organized by the American Museum of Natural History. The expedition will go to Colombia, its immediate object being to explore ruins and collect antiquities.

THE death is announced of Dr. Frank P. Foster, for more than thirty years editor of