

vin, fellow in research medicine, University of Pennsylvania; nurses, Mrs. M. E. Spry, long chief clinic nurse of University Hospital; Miss Jackson and Miss Wagner; anesthetist, Miss Frazer. Explaining the undertaking and its purpose, Dr. White said: "In the early winter the executive committee of the American Ambulance Hospital decided, in the interests of medical science and teaching, and for the purpose of increasing the efficiency of the hospital in the case of large numbers of wounded, to invite certain American universities to send staffs from their respective medical schools to take charge of a floor of 150 beds for periods of three months each. The Western Reserve University took the term of January, February and March; Harvard, April, May and June, and is now on duty. Pennsylvania accepted for the earliest period she could obtain, viz., July, August and September. The other institutions invited were Johns Hopkins and the University of Chicago, which are expected to follow in the order named.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE Circuit Court of St. Louis has confirmed the will of James Campbell, who left his entire estate to St. Louis University School of Medicine subject to a life tenure of his wife and daughter. His estate is valued at from six to ten million dollars.

THE late Ward N. Hunt, of Needham, Mass., has made Dartmouth College residuary legatee for \$20,000, to establish scholarship funds to be known as the Hunt scholarships.

It is stated in *Nature* that the Hutchinson Museum has been acquired by the Medical School of the Johns Hopkins University. The collection comprises original colored drawings; colored plates taken from atlases, books and memoirs; engravings, woodcuts, photographs and pencil sketches, in some cases with the letterpress or manuscript notes attached. The collection illustrates the whole range of medicine and surgery, but particularly syphilis and skin diseases.

SIR JOSEPH JONAS has given the University of Sheffield £5,000 to found a laboratory in connection with the applied science department, for testing metals and minerals, espe-

cially those involved in the production of steel.

DR. HENRY SUZALLO, professor of the philosophy of education in Teachers College, Columbia University, has been elected president of the University of Washington.

DR. HERMON C. BUMPUS, formerly professor of zoology of Brown University and director of the Museum of Natural History, will be installed as president of Tufts College on June 12.

AT the University of Oklahoma, Professor F. C. Kent has resigned, and Dr. H. C. Gosard has been appointed instructor in mathematics.

DR. MOYER S. FLEISHER, who has been assistant in the department of pathology of the St. Louis Barnard Free Skin and Cancer Hospital, has been made assistant professor of bacteriology in the St. Louis University School of Medicine.

DR. SAMUEL H. HORWITZ has been appointed instructor in research medicine in the Hooper Foundation for Medical Research of the University of California, San Francisco.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

##### ZOOLOGISTS, TEACHERS AND WILD LIFE CONSERVATION

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: In spite of the fact that we are familiar with the idea of historic cycles, it is a constant surprise, in watching advances in thought and action, to see that they are usually made not only without the cooperation, but often even with the opposition of those vitally concerned. This is true not only of the prophets of national defense, but is equally so of the protection and conservation of wild life. Strange as it may seem, the most experienced and best informed leader of this movement in this country states that the very people from whom every one should naturally expect the heartiest support—the professional zoologists and teachers of zoology—have been practically a negligible quantity in this defensive and constructive movement. Why is this true? There appears to be some fundamental weakness in this position. Can a factor in the problem be that we have become so engrossed in important

laboratory activity and in domestic animals that there is little interest and concern about wild life? Professor W. K. Brooks once said:

Is not the biological laboratory which leaves out the ocean and the mountains and meadows a monstrous absurdity? Was not the greatest scientific generalization of your times reached independently by two men who were eminent in their familiarity with living things in their homes?

Certainly Hornaday's "Wild Life Conservation in Theory and Practise" (1914) is a volume which should be read by every student of zoology and by all interested in general conservation problems. It is the outcome of a course of lectures given to the students of forestry at Yale, and is clearly an effort to enlist the interest and intelligent support of a *younger* generation of men, as it is on them that the hope for future progress largely depends. Hornaday clearly and forcibly shows the strenuous efforts which have been made in protecting our wild life from the plume hunters and the ordinary ignorant and selfish hunters of all kinds.

To bring out the sound rational foundation upon which protection is based, the economic value of birds is presented to show how they reduce the excessive numbers of insects in fields, orchards and forests, and the aid which hawks and owls give in helping keep down the number of vermin. The proper use of game is shown to be capable of producing millions of dollars worth of valuable food, as well as furnishing recreation for many people. Some of the New England states have already begun to profit by this on a large scale. In his enthusiasm for the cause of protection Hornaday does not go to the extreme and ignore the harm done by certain kinds of animals, or even occasional harm by kinds usually neutral or beneficial. The whole discussion is eminently sane and judicious.

Hornaday makes a strong appeal to the citizen not to allow a few people, a special class, who are reckless in the destruction of animals, and who really care nothing for their obligations to future generations, to advance unhindered in their devastation of our valuable fauna, which, if once lost, can never be restored. He says:

Seventy-five per cent. of the men who shoot game in America, in Europe, Asia and Africa are thoroughly sordid, selfish and merciless, both toward the game and toward posterity. As a rule, nothing can induce any of them to make any voluntary sacrifices for the preservation cause. They stop for nothing, save the law.

Such a view will appear strange and extreme to many, but at the same time it is, to some degree, a measure of one's familiarity with this aggressive campaign. And what will zoologists think of this statement?

And think, also, what it would mean if even one half the men and women who earn their daily bread in the field of zoology and nature-study should elect to make this cause their own! And yet, I tell you that in spite of an appeal for help, dating as far back as 1898, fully 90 per cent. of the zoologists of America stick closely to their desk-work, soaring after the infinite and driving after the unfathomable, but never spending a dollar or lifting an active finger on the firing-line in defense of wild life. I have talked to these men until I am tired; and the most of them seem to be hopelessly sodden and apathetic.

While this is equally true of educators at large, the fact is they are *far* less to blame for present conditions than are many American zoologists. The latter have upon them obligations such as no man can escape without being shamefully derelict. Fancy an ornithologist studying feather arrangement, or avian osteology, or the distribution of sub-species, while the guns of the game-hogs are roaring all around him and strings of bobolinks are coming into the markets for sale! Yet that is precisely what is happening in many portions of America to-day; and I tell you that if the birds of North America are saved, it will not be by the ornithologists at large. But fortunately there are a few noble exceptions to this ghastly general rule.

This quotation is not given to antagonize zoologists, but in the hope that some of their lethargy will be thrown off. If any one doubts the truth of this statement and resents it he is just the sort of person who should read this book. To the open-minded individual who has given no attention to this subject this book will be a revelation. The last chapter is replete with valuable practical suggestions for future constructive protective work. Repeatedly in this book important plans for the

future are outlined, such as the *conversion of our national forests into game preserves*. It is encouraging to know that there are already three endowments devoted to animal protection, one of \$340,000, a second for \$51,000 and a third of \$5,000. Of course these funds should be greatly increased as the period of relatively easy conquest is now over and the opposition is organized with powerful financial support. This contest is a permanent obligation.

The two concluding chapters of the volume are contributed by F. C. Wolcott. One is a valuable summary of the present status of private game preserves, and the other is a very useful bibliography on preserves, protection and the propagation of game.

With this volume and Hornaday's "Our Vanishing Wild Life" (1913) any intelligent person can become informed upon the present status of this phase of conservation.

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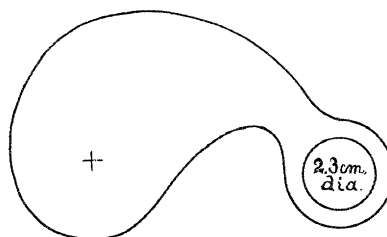
#### AN EYE SCREEN FOR USE WITH THE MICROSCOPE

MOST beginners, as well as many practised observers, usually close one eye when using the microscope. This practise of "squinting" when one is using the microscope for any length of time causes a decided eyestrain. The other alternative of keeping both eyes open requires first of all considerable practise, and if it does not tend to strain the muscles of the eyes, it does give rise to a mental strain, if it may be so expressed; *i. e.*, one has to concentrate his attention constantly on what is seen with the one eye through the microscope, otherwise the objects seen with the other eye will prove very distracting.

The writer, after having tried many different shapes and kinds of eye screens, has worked out one that seems to be the most efficient. It does away with the eyestrain of both types described above, and is very simple and inexpensive.

The accompanying sketch shows the outline of the screen. The material from which it is made is a composition called "vulcanized fiber board," 1.5 mm. in thickness and black in

color. This composition board is very tough and durable. It may be obtained from the Diamond State Fiber Company, Ellesmere, N. J. The screen is cut from this board with a knife or with heavy shears. A hole 2.3 mm.



in diameter (a hair larger than the outside diameter of the standard eyepiece) is bored by means of an extension bit at one end of the screen. The distance from the center of this hole to the middle point of the broad wing of the screen is 8 cm. The extreme length and width of the screen is 12.5 cm. by 7.5 cm.

If the composition board is not available, aluminum 1 mm. thick, painted black or dark green on both sides, will be found a good substitute.

The eyepiece of the microscope is slipped through the hole in the screen. The sketch shows the eye screen in position for use with the right eye, and to change to the left eye it is a matter of only a few seconds to take the screen from the eyepiece and invert it.

It will be found that the black surface of the screen is very restful to the eye not in use, and when one alternately uses the right and left eye, it is possible to use the microscope for a much longer period before the eyes become tired than without the eye screen.

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#### EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: The Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain is holding its sixtieth annual exhibition in August and September of this year. This is the most representative exhibition of photographic work