

CAPTAIN LEO M. BEILIN, M. C., U. S. Army, of Springfield, Ill., started for Siberia, on February 15, where he is to be placed in charge of a unit to combat typhus.

DR. L. A. BAUER left Washington early in March for England, where he will organize an expedition for magnetic and electric observation during the solar eclipse of May 29, 1919 at a station in South Africa; he expects next to proceed to South America and arrange for similar observations during the eclipse there. His eclipse station will probably be La Paz, Bolivia. While in South America he will visit various institutions and return to Washington next July.

MR. HENRY WIGGLESWORTH, of the General Chemical Company, has accepted a commission for the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce to study the dyestuff and textile conditions in France.

PROFESSOR L. M. WINSOR, B.S., specialist in irrigation and drainage for the Utah Experiment Station in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, who has been granted a leave of absence, recently left for South America to determine the possibilities of bringing a large tract of arid land under cultivation in Chile by irrigation. The land is controlled by the Guggenheim mining interests.

AT the meeting of the Baltimore City Medical Society, held in Osler Hall on February 21, Brig.-Gen. William S. Thayer, chief consultant of the medical division, and Major-Gen. John M. T. Finney, chief consultant of the surgical division, Medical Corps, United States Army, spoke on the work in France.

PROVOST EDGAR F. SMITH, of the University of Pennsylvania, delivered an address on "Early Mineralogists and Chemists" at the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, on Tuesday evening, February 18.

THE sixth lecture of the series of The Harvey Society lectures will be by Dr. Yandell Henderson on "Physiology of the Aviator" at the New York Academy of Medicine on Saturday evening, March 29, at 8:30. The Harvey Lectures are open to the public.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL A. M. PATTERSON, professor of anatomy in the University of Liverpool, who has held the office of assistant inspector of military orthopedics for several years, has died at the age of fifty-six years.

M. COGGIA, assistant in the Marseilles Observatory for more than fifty years, died on January 15, at the age of seventy years.

THE work on volcanology at Kilauea has been placed under the U. S. Weather Bureau. The transfer was effective on February 15 and the appointment of the Director Professor T. A. Jaggar has been approved. An appropriation of \$10,000 for the year is made by the government for continuing the work heretofore maintained by the volcano Research Association.

THE thirtieth session of the Biological Laboratory at Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, will be held from June to September, 1919. Regular class work will be held for six weeks beginning July second. The courses of instruction include field zoology by Drs. Walter Kornhauser and Parshley; bird study by Mrs. Walter; comparative anatomy by Professor Pratt; animal bionomics by Dr. Davenport; systematic and field botany by Dr. John W. Harshberger and Mr. C. A. Stiteler; advanced botany by Dr. Harshberger; heredity by Professor Harold D. Fish and training course for field workers in eugenics by Drs. C. B. Davenport, H. H. Laughlin and Harris H. Wilder. Copies of the announcement may be obtained from the Biological Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, N. Y.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

DR. SAMUEL W. LAMBERT, professor of clinical medicine and dean of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of Columbia University, has resigned.

MAJOR J. H. MATHEWS, Ordnance Dept., U. S. A., has been released from military service and has returned to the University of Wisconsin, where he has been promoted to a full professorship in charge of the courses in physical chemistry.

C. F. CURTIS RILEY, who has been special lecturer in animal behavior in the department of forest zoology, at the New York State College of Forestry, at Syracuse University, for the past year and a half, has been appointed assistant professor of forest zoology, in the same institution.

DR. LUTHER C. PETER has been elected professor of ophthalmology in the graduate school of the University of Pennsylvania.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE AN APPEAL FROM BELGIUM

THE following letter has been received from the Curator of the Entomological Section of the Royal Museum of Natural History of Belgium:

[TRANSLATION]

BRUSSELS, 11-1-1919.

Dear Sir:

It is absolutely necessary that you write some notices in the American scientific journals in order to save the Selys Catalogue. I have lost twenty subscriptions in Europe and I must retrieve them in the United States. Financial aid from the deSelys family is impossible for a long time. Each new subscription will bring a little capital to the reconstitution of this work which can be brought to a termination with a little energy and with the aid of all. The great institutions, libraries, etc., ought to put some of their pennies into subscriptions.

Here we have suffered much from the slow and inexorable hunger, from the nervous depression of our abominable slavery that no one can describe. Our museum and our collections are saved, but I have lost one of my two sons who was at the front, a fine boy of 24 years, a captain of engineers. I have lost a part of my small fortune and my health, but more I fear that the sufferings from hunger have compromised the future of my younger son and of my grandchildren.

The balance sheet is sad and I have little courage to take it up. I would not, however, see the Catalogue, to which I have devoted myself for years, founder. This is why I call for your aid. Write to your entomological friends and sustain me.

Yours sorrowfully,  
G. SEVERIN.

The Baron Edmond de Selys Longchamps (1813-1900) was known as the chief authority

on the taxonomy and geographical distribution of the Odonata. He formed an extensive collection of these insects and of other "neuropteroids" from all parts of the world, and of the vertebrates and some other groups of Europe. These collections were presented after his death to the Brussels Museum by his two sons.

The publication of the "*Catalogue Systematique et Descriptif des Collections Zoologiques du Baron Edm. de Selys Longchamps*," "designed to realize the supreme desire of their late possessor and at the same time to serve science," was begun in 1906 under the care of the two sons, M. Severin and a number of zoologists, who undertook, as specialists, the preparation of certain parts thereof.

It was planned to appear in 32 fascicules of a varying number of pages, of large quarto size, illustrated by text figures and some plates. The subscription price for the complete work was fixed at 25 centimes (20 centimes for the fascicules on Orthoptera, Lepidoptera and Vertebrata) per page of text, 2.75 francs per colored plate and 2 francs per black and white plate, with an increase of 25 per cent. for subscription to separate parts only.

At the beginning of the war 21 fascicules had appeared, treating of the Orthoptera, Embiidæ, Perlodides, Megaloptera, Trichoptera, Ascalaphidæ, Libellulinæ, Cordulinæ, Aeschninæ, Birds, Mammals, Amphibia and Fishes, at a total price of 703.50 francs. The eight fascicules on the Libellulinæ by Dr. F. Ris, of Rheinau, Switzerland, constitute the most extensive monograph on that subfamily ever produced, and several other groups have been dealt within a similar fashion. Several fascicules are in such an advanced state of preparation or of printing that they can be issued in a short time.

There are many reasons—scientific, humanitarian, international, appreciative of the nation which has suffered so fearfully—why the Selysian catalogue should be carried to completion and it is to be hoped that readers of this appeal will personally do all in their