

dred miscellaneous specimens of fishes and reptiles. He is now carrying on local field work, having in view the collection of material for several butterfly groups.

R. W. Miner, of the department of invertebrate zoology, is continuing field studies in southern New Jersey in connection with the construction of a new rotifer group. Assisting him is Research Associate Frank J. Myers, whose well equipped laboratory at Ventnor, New Jersey, is the basis of operations.

Dr. Russell J. Coles is collecting material for the department of ichthyology off the coast of North Carolina. Mr. Louis L. Mowbrey has sent in some important material for this department from the Florida waters.

Dr. G. K. Noble, of the department of herpetology, accompanied by Mrs. Noble, has left for the Dominican Republic. The chief object of this expedition is to secure data, photographs and material toward the construction of the two habitat groups for the new Hall of Reptiles in the museum. The West Indian region is rich in reptilian and amphibian life. Perhaps the two most striking creatures in this locality are the rhinoceros iguana and the giant tree frog. Both these forms are confined to the island of Santo Domingo. The expedition will travel over a large part of the island in the course of its investigations. The rhinoceros iguana is found to-day chiefly in the arid southwestern portion of the island in the vicinity of a dead sea, the surface of which is more than a hundred feet below sea-level. The giant tree frog has been taken only in the Central Cordillera and on the Quita Espuála, a range of mountains in the northeastern part of the island. It will be necessary for the expedition to carry on its work during the height of the rainy season in order to secure information in regard to the life history of the giant tree frog. Although this species is the largest and most spectacular tree frog in the world, its life history is entirely unknown, and the expedition hopes to secure valuable scientific data as well as exhibition material.

While field work in the department of anthropology is necessarily restricted for the present year, nevertheless, Mr. Nelson, of the Division of Archeology, is in Europe, engaged

in a study of the paleolithic and neolithic collections in the museums abroad, and will endeavor to secure specimens to round out the exhibition series in this museum. During his trip Mr. Nelson will visit Norway, Sweden, Spain and Belgium.

Earl H. Morris, who for a number of years has been engaged on the Huntington Expedition work at Aztec, New Mexico, in company with Charles L. Parnheimer, of this city, is now busy making a general reconnaissance of the Navajo mountain region of New Mexico. Dr. P. E. Goddard, of this department, accompanied by Lieutenant G. T. Emmons of Princeton, left early in June for a trip to the Northwest Coast. It is the intention of this party to secure specimens and authentic data which will make possible an early completion of the North Pacific Coast Hall.

PROPOSED FEDERATION OF AMERICAN BIOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

THE second conference called to consider the question of cooperation or federation among biological societies met in Washington in the rooms of the National Research Council, on April 23, 1922. This meeting was held in pursuance of a resolution adopted at an informal conference in Toronto, December 27, 1921, and approved by the societies there in session. The conference organized under the chairmanship of Professor L. R. Jones, who had also presided over the Toronto gathering.

Plans for the 1922 meeting, in so far as they could be arranged by agreement among the officers of the several societies, were entrusted to a committee consisting of the secretaries of the American Society of Naturalists, Botanical Society of America, and American Society of Zoologists, in cooperation with the permanent secretary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The view was generally expressed that the conference should, if it decided to recommend any form of federation, present a definite plan of organization. A committee was accordingly raised to formulate such a plan. This committee, of which Professor F. R. Lillie was chairman, reported to the conference the fol-

lowing recommendations, which were adopted:

1. That the vote of the Toronto conference in favor of the idea of federation be reaffirmed.

2. That the proposed federation be styled the Federation of American Biological Societies.

3. That the members of the federation be societies, not individuals, and that all societies represented in this conference (a list of which is given below) be eligible to charter membership.

4. That a council of the federation be established, consisting of two representatives from each society, these to be the president and secretary unless otherwise designated by the society.

5. That the council choose an executive committee from its own membership.

The committee that made the foregoing report was continued as an executive committee *pro tempore* of the conference, and to it was intrusted the task of drawing up a constitution and by-laws in accordance with the above general plan. The instructions of this committee call for completion of its work at a reasonably early date, and the transmission of its decisions and recommendations to the officers of the several societies by correspondence. It is expected that it will be possible to distribute the proposed constitution and by-laws to the members of the societies early next fall.

The executive committee *pro tem.* has the following personnel: Frank R. Lillie, University of Chicago; C. W. Greene, University of Missouri; I. F. Lewis, University of Virginia; C. E. McClung, University of Pennsylvania; A. Franklin Shull, University of Michigan; R. E. Thatcher, Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva; H. B. Ward, University of Illinois; and B. E. Livingston, representing the American Association (Herbert Osborn to substitute for latter at August 4 meeting).

Considerable discussion was devoted to the problem of improving biological publications, a question likely to come before the council, if the plan of federation shall be adopted. This problem was considered so important that it was deemed advisable by the conference that some action be taken without waiting for the establishment of the federation. A special committee was, therefore, appointed to work in cooperation with a committee on the same subject from the Division of Biology and Agriculture of the National Research Council, to study the whole question of biological publica-

tions and report to the conference or to the federation if formed. The personnel of this committee is as follows:

A. P. Hitchens, Army Medical School.

I. F. Lewis, University of Virginia.

C. A. Kofoed, University of California.

D. R. Hooker, Johns Hopkins University.

The corresponding committee of the Division of Biology and Agriculture of the National Research Council is composed of the following members:

E. D. Ball, Department of Agriculture.

C. E. McClung, University of Pennsylvania.

J. R. Schramm, National Research Council.

A. F. Woods, University of Maryland.

The biological organizations represented at the Washington conference were as follows:

American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Sections F (Zoology), G (Botany), N (Medical Sciences), and O (Agriculture) of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology.

The Executive Committee of the Division of Biology and Agriculture of the National Research Council.

American Society of Naturalists.

American Society of Zoologists.

Botanical Society of America.

Genetics Sections of the Botanical Society of America and the American Society of Zoologists.

American Genetic Association.

Ecological Society of America.

American Phytopathological Society.

American Society for Horticultural Science.

Society of American Foresters.

Society of American Bacteriologists.

American Society of Agronomy.

Entomological Society of America.

American Association of Economic Entomologists.

American Society of Animal Production.

American Dairy Science Association.

A. FRANKLIN SHULL,
Secretary of the Conference

HUIA ONSLOW

At Cambridge, England, on June 27, Mr. Huia Onslow died. He was born in New Zealand on November 13, 1890, where his father, the Earl of Onslow, was then governor-general. To commemorate the place of his birth, he was