

ernment publication. It is to be hoped that such action may soon be taken. It would, of course, be highly desirable that a group of scholars should edit the work, and collaborate to make it so complete and perfect that American scholars may point to it with the same pride that Englishmen point to "The New English Dictionary."

A second enterprise of the same colossal nature I chanced upon at Princeton University. Professor William Libbey, professor of geography, has for nearly 50 years been engaged in making a card catalogue of the articles in the geographical journals which are in his library. This index includes all the articles which have ever appeared in such journals as Petermann's *Mittheilungen*, *Journal of the American Geographical Society*, the Royal Geographical Society of London, the journals of the French and German geographical societies, the *Annales de Geographie*, *Le Globe*, and others of the leading geographical periodicals, totaling over 20 journals. The catalogue is both a subject and author catalogue and includes about 150,000 cards. Any one familiar with scholarly work of this nature will recognize immediately the great usefulness to other scholars of a comprehensive catalogue of this kind. In printed form the catalogue would require four volumes of about 1,000 quarto pages each, and would cost approximately \$20,000.

One can not measure achievements such as these in dollars and cents. Such works can properly be compared only with great works of art and monumental engineering enterprises. The courage which enables a man to carry through such a disinterested task for the general welfare of science deserves recognition and especially the recognition of publication by some American organization.

LOUIS C. KARPINSKI

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

ALEXANDER DYER MacGILLIVRAY

In the death of Professor MacGillivray, which occurred at Urbana, Illinois, March 24, science has lost one of its most devoted and sincere workers and education one of its most efficient teachers. He was born at Inverness, Ohio, July 15, 1868. In 1889 he came to Cornell University, intending to take a special course in entomology, as he had already made a collection of insects and given this subject enthusiastic boyish study. Acting on the advice of the writer he modified his plans, prepared for and entered the university as a regular student, and graduated with the degree of Ph.B. in 1900. In 1904, he received the degree of Ph.D. While an undergraduate he assisted in the entomological laboratory and on graduation was made instructor in entomology. Later, he was advanced first to the rank of assistant professor and then to that of associate professor. He remained at

Cornell till 1917, when he became professor of systematic entomology in the University of Illinois, which position he held until his death.

From the beginning of his teaching he showed the qualities of a thorough teacher. Although very gentle and quiet in manner, he insisted upon a perfection of knowledge on the part of the student that made him preeminent in preparing the student for future work by giving him a solid foundation. He was painstaking and patient but exacted excellence in scholarship. Many of the present generation of workers in entomology owe much to him for the training that he gave them.

Although never very strong physically, in addition to his work as a teacher he was a productive investigator, publishing many papers on systematic entomology. He also inspired and directed the preparation of important papers by his students, notably several of the "Illinois biological monographs."

In 1891, he married Fanny M. Edwards, of Forest Home, New York, and the generous hospitality of their home has been shared by many students. Mrs. MacGillivray and two sons, Malcom and John, survive him.

The death of Dr. MacGillivray is a great bereavement to the writer, for through long years of association with him I found him most lovable in character and most helpful as a colleague.

J. H. COMSTOCK

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE PACIFIC SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS

PRELIMINARY steps have been taken in preparation for the Pacific Scientific Congress to be held in Japan in 1926. Prince Kotihito Kanin has been nominated for president and Premier K. Kiyoura, Minister of Education Egi, and Minister of Foreign Affairs Matsui have been appointed honorary presidents. The committee on preparation consists of fifteen persons headed by Dr. J. Sakurai. Other officials of the congress include professors of the Tokyo Imperial and Waseda Universities. The conference will be held at the Imperial University, Tokyo.

A sum of approximately \$100,000 has been allotted for excursions and for the entertainment of delegates. Like the conference in Honolulu (1920), organized by the National Research Council, and the Congress in Melbourne and Sydney (1923), under the auspices of the Australian National Research Council, the organization and direction of the congress in Tokyo is a feature of the activities of the National Research Council of Japan.

The scope of the forthcoming congress embraces the field of physical and natural science. The primary purpose is to discuss the problems relating to