

Woodhouse, S. T. Allen, E. G. Batt, S. B. Donkin, A. R. Everest, A. D. Cramb, P. V. Hunter, J. P. Gregory, W. Lee, Lieut.-Col. F. A. Cortez Leigh, R. B. Mitchell, W. Pearson, J. S. Peck, C. Rodgers, T. Roles, F. Wallis and P. Good.

Holland.—C. Feldmann, Mr. Tromp, Mr. Roskopf and Bellaar Spruyt.

Italy.—G. Semenza (president I. E. C.), E. Morelli, Mr. Ucelli and Ernesto Vannotti.

Norway.—H. A. Mork.

Russia.—Professor Chatelain.

Switzerland.—E. Huber-Stocker, A. Huber-Ruf, Charles Burlet, Antoine Schrafl, H. Zoelly and Paul Thut.

Poland.—C. Drewnowski and Z. Okoniewski.

Spain.—A. Artigas.

United States.—W. F. Durand, F. R. Low, C. O. Mailloux, A. E. Kennelly, C. E. Skinner, F. D. Newbury, E. A. Snyder, A. H. Moore, J. Franklin Meyer, C. A. Bates, N. W. Storer and D. W. Roper.

At the close of the meeting the delegates will tour the United States and Canada, being entertained by local committees in numerous cities, including Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburgh, Chicago, Detroit, Niagara Falls, Ottawa, Montreal, Boston and Schenectady. The Canadian National Committee will welcome the delegates at Niagara Falls and accompany them to Montreal where a public meeting will be held in their honor.

AN EASTERN SECTION OF THE SEISMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

AN eastern section of the Seismological Society of America has been formed, with the following temporary officers: *Chairman*, Dr. James B. Macelwane, St. Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri; *vice-chairman*, Mr. Ernest A. Hodgson, Dominion Observatory, Ottawa, Canada; and *secretary-treasurer*, Comdr. H. N. Heck, U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, Washington, D. C.

The society is a national organization with headquarters in California. People in the east who are interested in the problems developed by earthquakes have long felt the need of a local section, because the headquarters and activities of the society are on the west coast and eastern members received no benefit except the subscription to the bulletin.

The purpose of the eastern section is to arouse interest in earthquake study from every viewpoint: from that of the business man, architect and engineer and those who benefit by their work, the insurance companies and the insured, those studying the earthquake dangers in large cities, as well as those interested in the study of earthquakes as geologists or seismologists.

This will be accomplished in two ways. A quarterly section bulletin which will list books and articles published in regard to various phases of the

earthquake problem and special papers and abstracts. Articles written in the bulletin will be interesting reading for the layman as well as the scientists. An annual section meeting will be held in a different place each year. At this meeting papers which will interest all those mentioned above will be presented.

The first annual meeting will be held in Washington, D. C., on May 1, 1926, at the close of a series of meetings including those of the American Physical Society, National Academy of Science and American Geophysical Union.

Further information regarding the eastern section may be obtained from N. H. Heck, temporary secretary-treasurer, U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, Washington, D. C.

WORK OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL ON THE ATMOSPHERE AND MAN

AT its meeting in New Haven on March 7, 1926, the committee reviewed the progress which had been made on several specific researches which the committee initiated several years ago. Plans were made for further development of the data on daily mortality in New York City in relation to weather elements, for the period 1883 to 1888. The analysis which the committee has directed to be made during the ensuing summer may lead to important and definite conclusions in respect to the association between the several conditions of the atmosphere and human mortality. Plans were also reviewed for presenting the essential facts of certain investigations which were made for the committee by representative manufacturing establishments on the effect of indoor and outdoor air conditions on industrial efficiency.

Consideration of these latter records led the committee to suggest that graduate schools of the universities should delegate a number of specific researches within this field to qualified students. There is an evergrowing interest in the effect of atmospheric conditions on health, mortality and efficiency. The interest in problems of ventilation, lighting and in other effective control of indoor conditions was never so strong as it is at the present time. The committee hoped that it might be feasible to pool the interest of hygienists, physiologists, meteorologists and statisticians at the present time, and to present a research program which would unify the many specific endeavors now under way. The public health workers, through the American Public Health Association, have also shown a revived interest in the subject. Economic geographers, industrial hygienists, hospital administrators, psychologists, physicians in general practice and many other groups have

recently ventured into the field. Interchange of plans and experience would go far to effect maximum results from the effort now being expended on research into atmospheric conditions in their admitted relation to health and efficiency.

The committee is planning a definite report in the autumn of 1926 on the mortality and industrial data now in its possession and will then be in position to consider the further encouragement of integrated research in this important subject.

The chairman of the committee is Dr. Ellsworth Huntington, Yale University, New Haven, and the secretary is Mr. Philip Drinker, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston.

EXPEDITIONS OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

PRESIDENT HENRY FAIRFIELD OSBORN, of the American Museum of Natural History, has announced that friends of the museum had supplied more than \$240,000 to insure the continuance this year of museum expeditions in many parts of the world. The expeditions had been in danger of curtailment for lack of funds.

The following survey of the world-wide activities of the museum has been made public:

Dr. Frank M. Chapman, accompanied by assistants, began working in Panama. He has transferred his operations to Venezuela. One of his party, Mr. Jaques, has been sent to Peru to sketch life among the sea birds of Guano Island.

George H. H. Tate, with Harvey S. Ladew, who is providing the means, is on an expedition which will cover Peru, Argentina and Bolivia in search of mammals and birds.

Erich Schmidt, of the department of anthropology, who has been working under the auspices of Mrs. William Boyce Thompson, has just returned from four months of archeological work in Arizona.

Ludlow Griscom, of the department of birds, has returned from Yucatan, where he was one of the Mason-Spinden Archeological Expedition.

Carl E. Akeley has arrived in Africa and is awaiting the arrival of Messrs. Eastman and Pomeroy, who will accompany him on a long safari to photograph the wild life of Africa and to secure sketches for the physical reproduction of backgrounds of a number of groups planned, or under preparation, for the new African Hall.

Dr. James P. Chapin, of the department of birds, with De Witt D. Sage and Frank P. Mathews, are in Central Africa to collect birds of the sub-tropical zone.

H. E. Anthony, of the department of mammals, together with George C. Goodwin, is conducting a biological survey of Porto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Clarence L. Hay has just returned after examining ruins of archeological remains in Mexico and Yucatan.

Dr. W. D. Matthew, of the department of vertebrate

paleontology, will leave in March to join the Central Asiatic expeditions.

H. C. Haven, with Frederick Limekiller, will go out with the Putnam Greenland expedition to collect the narwhal, seal, walrus and shark. The funds for the undertaking have been provided by Harrison Williams.

Roy C. Andrews has left for Asia to join his party there. They will leave Peking early in April.

Dr. W. G. Van Name, of the department of lower invertebrates, through the courtesy of Mrs. Samuel Sturgis, is making a survey of Pearl Islands off the coast of Panama.

Walter Escherich soon will leave New York to join a party on the Pacific Coast where a search will be made for large specimens of the whale shark.

Dr. Frank E. Lutz has begun preparations for reopening the insect station in Palisades Park.

Earl V. Morris, with A. V. Kidder, will conduct archeological work in Canyon del Muerta.

Dr. Roy W. Miner is planning an expedition to the Bahamas.

Dr. Kempfer is working in Brazil and has recently forwarded his first shipment of bird skins.

Harry Watkins is collecting birds in Peru and the Ollalla brothers of that country have recently forwarded a new and interesting series of birds.

Rollo H. Beck, leader of the Whitney South Sea expedition, will continue his work of ocean collecting east of New Zealand.

Dr. Robert C. Murphy plans to take part in an expedition for the collection of sea birds in the Mediterranean.

James L. Clark, with William J. Morden, of Chicago, will reach Bombay within a few days and from there will search for museum specimens of the rapidly disappearing animal life of India.

Through the courtesy of Arthur S. Vernay, Herbert Lang, of the department of mammals, accompanied by Rudyerd R. Boulton, have been making a collection of mammals and birds in Angola, West Africa. Mr. Boulton has just returned to New York and Mr. Lang, after completing his work in the Cape Colony of British East Africa, will sail from Europe soon. This expedition was successful in obtaining a very large collection, which includes specimens of the rare sable antelope.

Albert Thompson is expected to resume paleontological work in Nebraska this season.

Dr. Deeds, of the department of geology, will continue his work on the clays of the Hackensack Valley.

THE DANIEL GIRAUD ELLIOT MEDAL

No nominations have been received of monographs or books in zoology or paleontology for the award of the Daniel Giraud Elliot Medal for 1925. Consequently, the committee on award has thus far made no recommendations for the year 1925 to the National Academy.

Previous awards of this medal are as follows:

1917: Frank M. Chapman—Distribution of Bird Life in Colombia.