

GEORGE E. BEYER; 1861-1926

PROFESSOR GEORGE E. BEYER was born in Meissen, Saxony, on September 9, 1861. He was educated in Dresden and Berlin, a student under Brehm, Staudinger and Engelhardt. At the suggestion of Staudinger he went to Central America in 1880, where he made valuable collections of insects. He never returned to Europe, establishing his permanent home in New Orleans in 1891, where he set up a taxidermy establishment, becoming field agent for the Smithsonian Institution. He was connected with the biological department of Tulane University from 1895 until 1918, becoming full professor of biology in 1912. In 1918 he became medical entomologist with the Louisiana State Board of Health, which position he held until his death on June 2, 1926. He had been in ill health for about two years.

Professor Beyer belonged to that grand old school of all-round naturalists, who studied all phases of natural history before these days of ultra-specialization. He was one of the pioneers in mosquito and yellow fever investigation, and took part in the successful and final yellow fever mosquito fight in New Orleans in 1905. He was sent to Vera Cruz to study yellow fever as assistant surgeon with the U. S. Marine Hospital Service, and later as special inspector for the U. S. Department of Agriculture. He was one time president of the Louisiana Naturalists Society and also of the Louisiana Audubon Society and a fellow of the American Ornithological Union, the American Microscopical Society and the American Public Health Association as well as other scientific societies of his day. His publications were largely in the field of archeology, herpetology and ornithology of Louisiana, and medical entomology.

Professor Beyer was an expert scientific artist and taxidermist and many of the products of his handiwork will be handed down for generations in the Tulane University Museum, which he virtually built single handed. His taxidermy was far superior to that of the standard of his day, his skill as a trained taxidermist being not only combined with an artistic faculty but he being an accomplished and enthusiastic scientist as well. His museum preparations display his great breadth of vision and his manifold interests, and his plan of arrangement emphasizes a faith in the essential monism of the plan of the universe. He was an excellent lecturer and a great teacher, contributing a fair share to the advancement of scientific education, and the world is better off for his sojourn therein.

PERCY VIOSCA, JR.

NEW ORLEANS, LA.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS**EXPEDITIONS OF THE FIELD COLUMBIAN MUSEUM**

D. C. DAVIES, director of the Field Museum, recently made a report to the board of trustees on the expeditionary activities of the institution for the first six months of 1926. In addition, field work is being carried on or verging on completion in four separate parts of the United States.

This year saw completion of the work of the James Simpson-Roosevelt expedition to Central Asia and the Pamirs, "roof of the world." The expedition, financed by James Simpson and headed by Theodore and Kermit Roosevelt, and George K. Cherrie, with C. Suydam Cutting, big game hunter, as volunteer photographer, bagged many large mammals, including eight specimens of the rare Marco Polo sheep. Numerous birds, reptiles and small animals were also obtained.

The Rawson-MacMillan Sub-Arctic expedition is now in Greenland and is headed for Baffinland and other sub-Arctic lands in search of zoological, anthropological, geological and botanical materials. Donald B. MacMillan, the Arctic explorer, is leader of the expedition, which is financed by Frederick H. Rawson, a Chicago banker. Accompanying the expedition are Alfred C. Weed and Ashley Hine, of the museum; James H. C. Martens, of Cornell University, accompanies the party as a collector.

Three Brazilian expeditions are being carried on under the patronage of Captain Marshall Field. The Brazilian zoological expedition is under the leadership of Mr. Cherrie. This party includes Karl P. Schmidt and Colin C. Sanborn, of the museum staff, Mrs. Marshall Field, acting as assistant, Mrs. Grace Thompson Seton, historian, and Curzon Taylor, New York, photographer.

Dr. B. E. Dahlgren, acting curator of botany, is heading the botanical expedition to Brazil. This expedition will explore along the Amazon river and some of its tributaries. Dr. Dahlgren is accompanied by J. R. Miller and George Peterson, preparators of the museum staff.

Dr. Henry W. Nichols, associate curator of the geological department of the museum, is leading the expedition to the mining regions of Brazil and neighboring countries, to collect minerals and other geological specimens.

Central Africa has been penetrated by the Conover-Everard expedition in search of large and small mammals, birds and reptiles. The expedition is in charge of H. B. Conover, of the museum, and R. H. Everard, of Detroit. Conover and Everard financed the expedition and are carrying it on under the auspices of

the museum. They are accompanied by John T. Zimmer, of the museum staff. The explorers' itinerary includes Tanganyika, Uganda and the upper Nile.

An expedition to the Belgian Congo, led by Edmund Heller of the museum, is completing its work. Among the 800 mammals secured by this expedition is a fine male okapi, reputed to be the most difficult to obtain of all large mammals now extant.

The Field-Museum-Oxford-University joint expedition is continuing its archeological research in Mesopotamia under the leadership of Professor Stephen Langdon. Plans call for extending the work to include a town now known as Bughatait, 16 miles from Kish. Many rare finds have been made at the latter place. Plans also call for excavating the great temple of the mother goddess of Kish, situated in the eastern part of the city.

Associate Curator Elmer S. Riggs, of the museum, who left on April 10 for Argentina, is continuing the work of the Captain Marshall Field paleontological expedition which was temporarily discontinued last year. Mr. Riggs is directing excavations for prehistoric skeletal remains. He is being assisted by Robert Thorne of the museum staff.

Continuing work started last year, Dr. A. L. Kroeber, research associate in American archeology, is engaged in Peru in determining the culture of early Peruvian civilizations. W. Egbert Schenk, of Berkeley, California, is Dr. Kroeber's assistant.

The botanical expedition to Peru will continue its work of collecting herbarium and botanical specimens under the direction of Dr. A. Weberbauer.

Dr. Ralph Linton, assistant curator of oceanic and Malayan ethnology, is exploring the island of Madagascar and making an ethnological survey, securing collections illustrative of the life and customs of the tribesmen.

The museum will continue to receive materials from the third Asiatic expedition of the American Museum of Natural History, as a result of cooperative agreement. Dr. Roy Chapman Andrews is leader of this expedition.

Clarence J. Albrecht, taxidermist of the museum, is collecting marine groups of the northern Pacific, operating off the coast of the state of Washington. He is making a special effort to secure family groups of sea lions and other seals. The plans also call for him to secure a group of mule deer in southern Utah.

Charles A. Corwin, artist and background painter, who recently joined the museum staff, will visit southern Utah to make studies and notes for a natural background for the mule deer. Corwin also will visit Arizona to secure data for a background painting for the Canyon Diabolo meteorites at the museum. The museum collection includes the celebrated Canyon

Diabolo meteorite, weighing more than 1,000 pounds, the largest specimen of its kind thus far recovered.

Assistant Curator Sharat K. Roy is making a collecting trip of the middle Atlantic states in search of fossils of the Cambrian period—the period of earliest known life, having recently collected fossilized stumps of trees, ferns, branches and rootlets of the Devonian period.

Ethnological specimens obtained by M. G. Chandler during his work among the American Indians have arrived at the museum and are being prepared for exhibition. This expedition was financed by Julius and Augusta N. Rosenwald.

Considerable field work, largely for exhibition purposes, is being carried on in the Chicago area by Carl Neuberth of the department of botany. Botanical specimens are being collected in connection with the annual wild flower exhibit.

THE BEIT FELLOWSHIPS

ELEVEN elections to Beit Memorial Fellowships for Medical Research were made at a recent meeting of the trustees. Lord Clarendon was elected a trustee to take the place of Lord Irwin, who resigned on his appointment as governor-general of India. The honorable secretary, Sir James K. Fowler, presented the following report for the year ended June 30, 1926:

During the past year research has been carried on by two senior fellows (£600 per annum), two fourth-year fellows (£400 per annum), twenty-two junior fellows (£350 per annum). The directors of the laboratories in which the fellows have been working speak in the highest terms of the keen interest with which they have devoted themselves to the researches upon which they are engaged and also in some instances of important results which have been either already obtained or which are in prospect of realization. In 1923 the honorable secretary presented a review of the fellowships in relation to medical science and research, covering the period from the foundation of the trust in 1910 to that date. This included a tabular statement showing the after-careers of the first fifty fellows and particulars of some of those elected after that number had been reached.

Dr. T. R. Elliott (assistant honorary secretary) has now completed a record of the after-histories of the whole of the fellows appointed since 1910, and these interesting details will appear in the next issue of the book of regulations, a copy of which will be sent to all who have at any time held a Beit fellowship. As the book of regulations is enclosed with the form of application possible candidates will in future have an opportunity of realizing the kind of men who have held fellowships in the past and the research which in each case they were appointed to undertake, and thus to obtain some idea as to their own prospects of election, and also as to the suitability of the subject which they offer for consideration, having regard