

A FEDERAL forestry reserve of 500,000 acres in northern Wisconsin is proposed in a bill offered by Senator J. S. Carroll, of Glidden. The last legislature authorized a federal forestry reserve of 100,000 acres. When the inspection of the proposed areas was made by federal representatives a year ago, it was found that there were other lands which may be included within such a reserve. The state would retain concurrent jurisdiction with the United States government over the forestry area. Lands so withdrawn no longer would be subject to local taxation.

UNDER the name of the Prince Albert National Park, 1,377 square miles have been set apart in Northern Saskatchewan in order to preserve in perpetuity a section of the primitive forest and lake country, and to provide the people of the province, as well as those of other parts of the dominion, with a great recreational area.

ACCORDING to the Italian correspondent of the *Journal* of the American Medical Association, the Emperor William institute for anthropology, hereditary transmission in man, and eugenics, which is being erected in Dahlem, near Berlin, by the Kaiser-Wilhelm-Gesellschaft, is rapidly nearing completion. Professor Eugen Fischer, anatomist, of Freiburg, will be the director of the institute. He will also be the head of the department of anthropology. The department of hereditary transmission in man will be in charge of Professor Muckermann, a former Jesuit father. The head of the department of eugenics has not yet been announced. It is hoped that the new institute can be dedicated in September, in connection with the meeting of the International Congress on Heredity, which is to be held in Berlin.

THE University of Oregon Medical School is the recent recipient of a portable electrocardiograph which is the gift of Mrs. Charles F. Beebe in memory of the late General Charles Beebe.

ACCORDING to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association Dr. K. Miyajima has announced that the Rockefeller Foundation will donate funds for the establishment of a new chair of public hygiene in the Keio Medical College in Japan.

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE, by a recent order, has set aside a tract of about 2,350 acres in Jasper County, South Carolina, as a preserve and breeding ground for native birds. The area embraces certain abandoned rice lands belonging to the United States and abutting on the Savannah River, near Savannah, Ga., and is to be known as the Savannah River Bird Refuge. The new reservation has been placed under the administration of the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

AIDED by the million dollar gifts of Edward Stephen Harkness, of New York, and Samuel Mather, of Cleveland, the drive for \$6,000,000 for the Western Reserve Medical Center has been completed. A total of \$6,534,355 was contributed by 5,176 persons to erect a new Lakeside Hospital, a new Rainbow Hospital and a nurses' dormitory. Besides this, two special gifts totaling \$1,500,000 were made for special units not included in the original plans.

THE new mines laboratory of the college of mines of the University of Washington was dedicated on May 25.

PROFESSOR HENRY S. GRAVES has resigned as provost of Yale University, effective July 1. Dr. Graves is giving up his office in order to devote his full time to his duties as dean of the Yale school of forestry and as Sterling professor of forestry.

DR. ERNST A. POHLE, of the University of Michigan, has been appointed professor of physiological chemistry at the University of Wisconsin.

DR. D. B. YOUNG, head of the department of biology at the University of Arizona, has been appointed professor of zoology at the University of Maine; Dr. F. H. Steinmetz has been appointed professor of botany and entomology in the university.

DR. PAUL S. SEARS, associate professor of botany at the University of Nebraska, has been appointed head of the department of botany at the University of Oklahoma.

DR. EMIL WITSCHI, of the University of Basel, has been appointed to a professorship in zoology at the State University of Iowa. He will have charge of the graduate and undergraduate work in experimental embryology. Dr. O. M. Helff, associate in zoology at the university, has been promoted to an assistant professorship, and will have charge of the undergraduate work in general and comparative physiology.

DR. J. M. D. OLMSTED, associate professor of physiology at the University of Toronto, was recently appointed professor of physiology at the University of California, not associate professor, as was previously announced. Dr. Olmsted will be on leave the second half year when he will visit the physiological laboratories of Europe.

DR. HARVEY ALFRED ZINSZER, acting professor of physics at the Mississippi State College for Women,

has recently been appointed professor of mathematics at Hanover College, Indiana.

DR. ROBERT B. BRODE, National Research Fellow at Princeton University, has been appointed assistant professor in the department of physics at the University of California.

DR. CHARLES S. GWYNNE, formerly instructor in the department of geology at Cornell University, has been appointed assistant professor of geology at Iowa State College.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

THE WHALE SHARK, RHINEODON TYPUS, AT THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS—A NEW FAUNAL RECORD

WILLIAM BEEBE in the log of the *Arcturus*¹ has put on record the finding of a huge shark on the north side of Narborough Island in the Galapagos group on June 9, 1925. It was seen by six members of the staff of the expedition and I have talked with Dr. W. K. Gregory and Mr. John Tee-Van, both of whom saw the shark at close range, and from them have gotten first-hand accounts of its appearance.

Compared with any other sharks seen on the expedition it was enormous, measuring from thirty to forty feet in length. It had a broad blunt head with large and heavy fore parts, but tapered rapidly to a very narrow hinder region and thin tail. It came nearly to the surface of the water in a quartering position under the stern of the *Arcturus*. At first there seemed to be a school of fish some distance below the surface with their sides shining through the rippling water, as they swam in a flock turning from side to side. But as this supposed school approached nearer the surface this illusion disappeared and the "school" took the form of this gigantic shark with its back and sides covered with whitish spots. Unfortunately, the huge fish did not come nearer the surface than two or three feet, and equally unfortunately it quickly sank and disappeared from the sight of the excited watchers.

This huge fish could only have been one of the two great sharks found on the west coast of South America—the basking or bone shark, *Cetorhinus maximus*; or the whale shark, *Rhineodon typus*. That the former fish is found not merely in the southern hemisphere but in the waters along the western shores of South America is shown in a paper which I published some years ago.² My chief authority for the occurrence of *Cetorhinus* on the coasts

¹ Beebe, William, "The Arcturus Adventure." New York, 1926, p. 414.

² Gudger, E. W., "On the Occurrence in the Southern Hemisphere of the Basking or Bone Shark, *Cetorhinus maximus*." SCIENCE, 1915, Vol. 42, pp. 653-656.

of Ecuador and Peru was Charles H. Stevenson,³ who quotes a Captain Baker that he was formerly engaged in fishing for bone sharks in these localities for the sake of the oil from their livers. However, Dr. Robert Cushman Murphy very kindly informs me that Captain Benjamin D. Cleveland, master of the brig *Daisy*, told him in 1912 that he had formerly fished for bone sharks for liver oil off the west coast of South America, and indeed not far from the Galapagos.

Clearly the bone shark is found in those waters, and it might be thought that the huge shark at Narborough was *Cetorhinus*, but for two things—*Cetorhinus* is black or at least dark and has a pointed, bullet-shaped head and nose, while *Rhineodon* had a blunt fairly truncate snout and has the body covered with large spots arranged in rows both vertically and horizontally. Undoubtedly the huge Narborough fish was *Rhineodon*.

Furthermore, this occurrence of the whale shark in the Galapagos ties up with other faunal records of its occurrence on the west coast of South America. Günther⁴ records that W. Nation in 1878 examined a specimen at Callao, Peru, and sent to the British Museum part of its jaws. In this same little article Günther quotes a letter from Signor G. Chierchia, commander of the *Vettor Pisani*, describing the capture near Taboga Island, in Panama Bay, of a whale shark about twenty-nine feet long.

I sought for years for Chierchia's account of his voyage but vainly, until about a year ago when I found his book in the U. S. National Museum.⁵

Careful translation of Chierchia's Italian text brings forward little data not contained in the account printed in *Nature*. In fact, the two accounts are practically identical. Chierchia sent to Günther among other desiderata a photograph of his specimen, but this was never published, and inquiries of the department of ichthyology of the British Museum (Natural History) bring only the information that in the intervening forty-two years it has disappeared.

However, the discovery of *Rhineodon* at the Galapagos gives us a new faunal record for this great shark, and leads to the belief that it may be found all the way from Callao to Panama.

E. W. GUDGER

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

³ Stevenson, Charles H., "Aquatic Products in the Arts and Industries." Report U. S. Fish Commissioner for 1902, 1904, Vol. 28, pp. 227-228.

⁴ Günther, A. C. L., "The Voyage of the *Vettor Pisani*." *Nature*, 1884, Vol. 30, p. 365.

⁵ Chierchia, G., *Collezioni per Studi di Scienze Naturali fatte nel Viaggi intorno al Mondo della R. Corvetta Vettor Pisani. . . . Anni 1882-83-84-85.* Roma, 1885, pp. 66-68.—Pesca di un enorme squalo (*Rhineodon*).