

THE UPPER MISSISSIPPI WILD LIFE AND GAME REFUGE

TEN million acres of land will be embraced in federal preserves for the protection of fish, fowl and game when the government acquires the upper Mississippi wild life and game refuge. Regulations for the new preserve were signed jointly on June 24 by Secretary of Agriculture Jardine and Secretary of Commerce Hoover.

Nor is the total of protected havens for wild fowl represented by the federal acreage, for almost every state has converted areas of its own into conservation projects, and hundreds of farmers have limited hunting expeditions on their property. Figures from the United States Biological Survey, issued on July 1, according to a report issued by the Associated Press, show from 165,000 to 200,000 acres involved in the Mississippi wild fowl project, 36,000 acres of which already is under contract to the government at \$5 an acre. Most of the territory is meander land, unsuited to agricultural purposes, but a number of owners are asking as much as \$26 an acre.

Congress made available \$3,000,000 to purchase the refuge. Only about \$300,000 of that sum has been used, and whether the next session will increase the latitude in price is a matter of pertinent importance. Much of the higher-priced land lies in Illinois. Wisconsin has supplied the bulk of the present federal possessions, Minnesota recently donated its entire Mississippi holdings and the rest of the refuge is on the Iowa side of the river.

While federal regulations will predominate in the preserve, there is to be no conflict with state fish and game laws. H. P. Sheldon, chief United States game warden, is pleased with the suggested Mid-West conservation code sponsored by the Illinois General Assembly. Other states in the upper Mississippi Valley and the Great Lakes region are expected to join Illinois in adoption of uniform statutes.

Such plans are desirable. They add to conciseness and make conservation at once more practicable and more easily enforced. Our best example, according to Mr. Sheldon, is the migratory game bird treaty with Great Britain, by which wild fowls are protected in this country and Canada on a reciprocity basis.

Officials of the Biological Survey emphasize the benefit of uniformity in game laws.

For thirty years this country has worked to replace local county laws with state and federal statutes. North Carolina is the most recent state to come into the fold and now the laws of more than forty states conform to federal regulations. There is no other satisfactory way to systematize open season for especially wild geese and ducks.

Government authorities believe game to be increasing in the East. It is maintaining a level in the

Middle West, while the West itself, because of drainage projects and light rainfall, has suffered a decrease.

SIR WILLIAM THISELTON-DYER

ON July 28, Sir William Thiselton-Dyer reached the age of eighty-four years. In referring to this anniversary, *Nature* writes: "His many friends rejoice to offer affectionate tribute to one who has done so much to promote and extend the plant resources of the British Empire. Nearly two years ago (September 26, 1925) we published an appreciative article upon Sir William's work at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and its influence upon both pure and economic botany, and we are glad to know that its importance is widely recognized. He and Lady Thiselton-Dyer celebrated their golden wedding on June 23, and among the messages of congratulation were one from Mr. L. S. Amery, secretary of state for the colonies, and another from Professor von Goebel, the doyen of German professors of botany. Mr. Amery referred appreciatively to Sir William's studies in the field of botanical enterprise, by which he has 'rendered such valuable services in all corners of the Empire,' and Professor von Goebel wrote: 'It was you who first brought English and German botany into association which—serving as it does purely ideal aims—could not be destroyed by the war; and, further, we German botanists remember with gratitude the great services which you rendered with regard to Kew, with which in company with the two Hookers your name also will always be connected.' It should be as encouraging to scientific workers generally as it is gratifying to Sir William Thiselton-Dyer to know that the seed of voluntary scientific service, such as was sown by him during many years, has borne rich fruits for the benefit of the human race, and that its value is understood in many lands."

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

PROFESSOR FRANK B. MORRISON, assistant director of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Experiment Station, has been appointed director of the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva, N. Y., by the trustees of Cornell University. He succeeds Dr. Roscoe W. Thatcher, who resigned recently to accept the presidency of the Massachusetts Agricultural College.

DR. DAVID WHITE, who has been serving as chairman of the Division of Geology and Geography of the National Research Council for the past three years, has returned to his former position in the U. S. Geological Survey.

DR. T. WAYLAND VAUGHAN, director of the Scripps

Institution of Oceanography at La Jolla, Calif., has been appointed chairman of the committee on submarine configuration and oceanic circulation of the National Research Council and a member of the committees on features and changes of the shore line of the Pacific Coast, on quantitative data of geological processes, on sedimentation, on submarine topography and structural history of the Caribbean Gulf region and on the award of fellowships.

THE Baly Medal of the Royal College of Physicians has been awarded to Dr. A. V. Hill, since 1926 Foulerton research professor of the Royal Society. The Moxon Medal of the college has been awarded to Sir Henry Head, the neurologist.

M. EMILE PERROT, professor of pharmacy in the University of Paris, has been elected a member of the Paris Academy of Medicine.

SIR HUMPHRY ROLLESTON has been appointed by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons to deliver the Harveian oration in 1928; Dr. G. F. Still, FitzPatrick lecturer for 1928; Dr. J. S. Collier, Lumléian lecturer for 1928; Dr. E. P. Poulton, as Oliver Sharpey lecturer for 1928; Dr. H. H. Dale, as Croonian lecturer for 1929, and Dr. T. Izod Bennett, as Goulstonian lecturer for 1928.

By an order of the Committee of Privy Council, Sir Hugh K. Anderson, M.D., F.R.S., master of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, and Professor T. R. Elliott, M.D., F.R.S., director of the Medical Unit, University College Hospital, London, have been appointed members of the British Medical Research Council to fill the vacancies caused by the retirement of Sir Frederick Andrewes and Sir Cuthbert Wallace.

W. F. JOACHIM, of the Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory, has received the Rudolph Diesel prize for 1927, consisting of \$100 with a certificate for his paper, "Oil Spray Investigations of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics," delivered at the Oil Power Week meeting, which took place in April at Pennsylvania State College.

GEORGE ST. J. PERROT, of North Dakota, has been appointed superintendent of the Pittsburgh Experiment Station of the Bureau of Mines. He succeeds Arno C. Fieldner, who recently was promoted to the post of chief engineer of the Bureau of Experiment Stations.

At the Massachusetts Agricultural College at Amherst, Massachusetts, Dr. Robert J. McFall, extension professor of agricultural economics, on leave of absence for work in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Commerce, recently resigned to become special agent in the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

HENRY C. WATERMAN, of the bureau of chemistry of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, has been appointed associate chemist and will have charge of the abstracting for *The Experiment Station Record* in the sections of agricultural and biological chemistry and soils and fertilizers.

DR. F. L. KELLY, assistant professor of public health administration and lecturer in preventive medicine at the University of California, has been appointed to the position of director of public health for the city of Oakland.

DR. R. W. BALCOM, chemist in charge of the food control laboratory of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and A. S. Mitchell, of the Food, Drug and Insecticide Administration, have been designated as members of the Food Standards Committee as two of the three representatives of the department on that committee. Two vacant places existed on the committee by reason of the transfer of Dr. W. W. Skinner and Dr. F. C. Blanck to the research unit of the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils. W. S. Frisbie, chemist in charge, office of cooperation of the Food, Drug and Insecticide Administration, is the third department representative on the committee.

SURGEON-GENERAL HUGH S. CUMMING, Surgeon B. J. Lloyd and Surgeon J. D. Long have been designated to attend the eighth Pan-American Health Conference at Lima, Peru, on October 12. One purpose of the conference is to provide for closer cooperation in the study of the health problems of the Western Hemisphere.

FRANCIS F. LUCAS, in charge of micrographic work for the Bell Telephone Laboratories, sailed for Europe on August 20. Before the International Congress for Testing Materials at Amsterdam he will present a paper on some of the laboratories' recent pioneer work in magnification of 6,000 times and more, particularly with the aid of ultra-violet light. While abroad he will confer with scientific men in the Zeiss Optical Works, who are collaborating with him in the development of instruments. He will also visit leading European laboratories.

DR. C. E. SKINNER, assistant director of engineering of the Westinghouse Electrical Company, sailed on August 17 as a delegate to the International Electrotechnical Commission Convention, which will be held at Bellagio, on Lake Como, Italy, September 4 to 24. Dr. Skinner is chairman of the Delegation of Standard Voltages, chairman of the Delegation on Traction Motors, and is the U. S. Representative of the Committee of Seven Nations of the proposed International Standards Association.

DR. FREDERICK G. KRAUSS, professor of agronomy

and genetics in the University of Hawaii, has been given leave of absence for an extended study of tropical plants, especially the pineapple, in the Dutch East Indies and Malaya, and of *Cajanus* in the Himalayan region. He will then proceed to Berlin for the Fifth International Congress of Genetics in September and a year's genetics study in Germany.

DR. LAURENCE H. SNYDER, associate professor of zoology at North Carolina State College, has left for Europe to take part in a symposium on blood groups at the International Eugenics Congress in Amsterdam. Before returning to the United States, Dr. Snyder will visit the larger genetics laboratories of Europe.

PROFESSOR JOHN W. FREY, of the department of geology of the University of Wisconsin, and Loyal Durand, Milwaukee, assistant in geography, are visiting Europe to become familiar with the industrial geography of Southern Belgium, the Upper Silesia area, Leipzig, North Italy, South Wales and Scotland. They will return about September 3.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM E. HOFFMANN, head of the department of biology of Lingnan University (Canton, China), has been sent by that institution to the Philippine Islands, where he is to spend two months investigating insect problems common to South China and the Philippines.

By authority of the Cabinet permission has been granted to the American School of Archeology in Athens to carry out excavations on the site of ancient Athens. The conditions provide for the sectional expropriation of the buildings on the site within five years. The first section to be expropriated contains twenty-five buildings. Professor Capps, the director of the school, is now in the United States to raise the necessary funds. He hopes to return to Athens in October.

PROFESSOR T. SHINOSAKI, of the University of Tokyo, who has been in Germany for three years engaged in medical research for the Japanese government, is in the United States. He plans to spend some time at the Mayo Institute, Rochester, Minnesota.

It is proposed to collect funds for the establishment of a scholarship at Armstrong College, Newcastle-on-Tyne, in memory of Douglas A. Gilchrist, professor of agriculture, who died on April 4.

It is planned to erect a monument at Lyons to the late Count Hilaire de Chardonnet, the "Father" of the artificial silk industry.

DR. BRUCE FINK, since 1906 professor of botany in Miami University, died suddenly on July 10, in his sixty-sixth year. Dr. Fink was an authority on lichens.

DR. THOMAS W. SALMON, medical director of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene and professor of psychiatry in Columbia University, was drowned while cruising in Long Island Sound on August 13. Dr. Salmon was fifty-one years old.

INFORMATION has reached this country that Professor Rudolf Magnus, professor of pharmacology in the University of Utrecht, who was to give the Lane lectures at the Stanford University School of Medicine, San Francisco, in April, 1928, died suddenly the latter part of July. Professor Magnus intended to give five lectures under the general heading of "Contributions to Experimental Medicine and Pharmacology."

At the invitation of the Government of the Union, the fifteenth session of the International Geological Congress will be held in South Africa in 1929, with Pretoria as its headquarters. This invitation is the outcome of a strong desire expressed at the last congress in Madrid to hold the next meeting in South Africa.

PROVISIONAL arrangements for the seventh congress of the Far Eastern Association for Tropical Medicine, to be held in Calcutta in December, show that much attention is being paid to the subject in the United Provinces, where a strong committee has been formed to entertain and inform the delegates. After a week of scientific sessions the congress will split up for tours, and one party of about 130 strong, including interpreters, will visit Benares, Lucknow, Delhi and Agra. Another party will visit the Kala Azar area in Assam.

THE permanent committee of the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome announces that applications will be received for the following appointments to the staff of the institute: One "chef de section" (chief of section) specially qualified in tropical agriculture; five "redacteurs" to write for periodicals, specially qualified in tropical agriculture, in dairy science, in plant diseases, in rural economics and in the trade in agricultural products. The minimum beginning salaries for the above positions are: For the "chef de section," 35,800 liras per annum (approximately \$2,000); for the "redacteur," 22,750 liras per annum (approximately \$1,300). The traveling expenses (second class) of successful candidates will be repaid when they take up their posts. Members of the staff living at a distance of more than 1,000 kilometers from Rome have a right to the payment once in three years of their traveling expenses to their countries. The appointments will be made as a result of an examination of the qualifications of the candidates, in which account will also be taken of knowl-

edge of languages. Applications should be addressed to the Bureau du Personnel, Institut International d'Agriculture, Villa Borghese, Rome.

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR., has given \$60,000 a year for five years to the Memorial Hospital for laboratory and clinical research into the causes of cancer, the education of specialists who could diagnose cancer in its early stages and for improving and enlarging the nursing and medical staffs.

ONE hundred seismological stations are being built throughout the Soviet Union by the Academy of Sciences, which is undertaking to forecast earthquakes in the hope of saving life and property. Professor Nikiforoff is in charge of the work.

Nature states that the Astronomer Royal has arranged for the supply of enlarged photographic prints of the fine picture of solar prominences and inner corona secured at Giggleswick during the total eclipse of the sun on July 29. The moon's disc on the picture is $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, and the structure of the prominences and corona is remarkably fine and clear on the print. Copies may be purchased upon application to Mr. F. Jeffries, Royal Observatory, Greenwich, London, S. E. 10.

THE University of Leyden has held a special exhibition of the portraits and scientific instruments of Dutch physicians, biologists and instrument makers of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, in the physical laboratory of the university on the occasion of the sixth Congress of the History of Medicine, which was held in July, in Leyden and Amsterdam. *Nature* states that Drs. C. A. Crommelin, W. P. Jorissen, C. J. Van der Klaauw and W. H. Van Seters, have collaborated in producing a catalogue of the 139 objects exhibited in illustration of the work of 's Gravesande, the Munchenbroecks, Huygens, Leeuwenhoek and Swammerdam. Two of the exhibits, two object glasses made by Constantijn Huygens, junior, and signed by him "C. Huygens, 10 May 1686, Ped. 122" and "C. Huygens, 19 Jun. 1686, Ped. 84," are of great interest, because they are accurately dated documents which, taken in conjunction with the three object glasses in the possession of the Royal Society of London, and dated June 4, June 26, and July 23, 1686, are evidence of the great industry and rapidity of working of the maker. We also note the reappearance of a quadrant made by J. M. Kleman for Boerhaave for use at his country house at Oud-Poelgeest. Although not stated in the catalogue, this quadrant, after being exhibited at Oxford in 1919, was given to the University of Leyden by the late Sir William Osler.

THE annual report of the Rockefeller Foundation for 1926 shows the total amount available for disbursement was \$15,818,156, of which \$9,741,474 was disbursed on account of appropriations, leaving an undisbursed income on December 31, 1926, of \$6,076,682. Against this were unpaid appropriations of \$4,200,284, leaving a balance of \$1,876,398 available for 1927 appropriations. The income for 1926 was \$9,075,022, which, with undisbursed income on hand January 1, 1926, and refunds during 1925 on prior year appropriations of \$6,743,134, brought the total amount available for disbursement to the above figure. Disbursements under the general budget in 1926 included \$2,516,758 for the International Health Board, \$1,412 109 for the China Medical Board, \$674,294 for the Division of Medical Education, \$759,162 for the Division of Studies, and \$152,737 for the Central Administration, while capital expenditures were \$1,567,688 for the International Health Board, \$61,164 for the China Medical Board, and \$2,597,652 for the Division of Medical Education. The total assets of the foundation on December 31, 1926, were \$180,397,799, including undisbursed income of \$6,076,682. The book value of the principal fund was \$165,204,624, to which \$77,000 was transferred in 1926 from the special fund. Land, buildings and equipment at the end of 1926 were valued at \$9,039,493, of which \$8,991,753 were abroad and \$47,740 in New York offices.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY receives \$500,000 under the will of Miss Emily O. Butler, of Scarsdale, N. Y. Most of Miss Butler's estate, which is valued in excess of \$1,000,000, has been left for public uses, among other important legacies being one of \$150,000 to the Union Theological Seminary. The will provides that any property remaining after all the bequests are paid shall be divided equally between New York University and Union Theological Seminary.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY is the remainder legatee under the will of Dr. Clarence A. McWilliams, well-known surgeon, who left an estate of \$105,178. The estate is left in trust to Dr. McWilliams's sisters during their life time.

DR. ROBERT LANGLEY PORTER, former San Francisco city physician, who has spent the past two years in study at Rome, has been appointed dean of the Medical School of the University of California in San Francisco. He will relieve Dr. Lionel S. Schmitt, acting dean, who has been serving at that post for five or six years.