

## ORGANIZATION OF VIRGINIA ORNITHOLOGISTS

A GROUP of naturalists met at Lynchburg College, Virginia, on December 7, and formed the Virginia Ornithologist Society, having for its main purpose the promotion of the study of birds of the state. Ruskin S. Freer, professor at the college, was chosen president. About twenty were present, sessions lasting most of the day. The society is to be state wide and plans were formed for the functioning of the organization in several sections, among them being groups at Richmond, Norfolk and near Washington.

Perfection of the organization took up a greater part of the time of the gathering, with scientists from Blacksburg, Lexington and a member of the state game commission present, as well as Lynchburg naturalists. Mr. Freer said while the society is mainly for advancement of the study of birds, and for working with ornithologists of other states, the scope of its work would include the teaching of conservation of wild bird life, and educational work on the economic and esthetic values of birds.

At the suggestion of the Virginia Biological Survey and others interested in national work among birds, it was decided to compile a catalogue of Virginia birds, the work to require extensive research. It was also decided to publish a monthly bulletin for members. Dr. J. J. Murray, of Lexington, was chosen to edit the publication, to be assisted by a committee composed of Dr. J. I. Hamaker, of Randolph-Macon Woman's College; C. O. Handley, member of the state game commission of Richmond, and Miss Lena B. Henderson, of Randolph-Macon.

Among other things it was decided to send a radio message through KDKA Pittsburgh to George M. Sutton, who is spending a year on Southampton Isle, in the mouth of Hudson Bay, Canada, studying birds in that region of the North American continent.

The Lynchburg members will function as a state organization working in the Blue Ridge area. Organization of work in other cities for group study will begin shortly. Groups are to cooperate through corresponding members and in publishing the bulletin and state bird catalogue. Other officers of the society elected are, Charles O. Handley, of Richmond, state game commissioner, *vice-president*, and Miss Lena B. Henderson, *secretary-treasurer*.

After luncheon at Lynchburg College, the party went to Timberlake to participate in the monthly water fowl census.

## THE NOBEL PRIZES

ACCORDING to a radio dispatch to *The Christian Science Monitor*, King Gustav, in the concert hall of the palace, recently distributed this year's Nobel

prizes to six of seven recipients, there being one absentee, Professor Christian Eijkman. In the evening the Nobel Foundation gave a banquet honoring the winners, which was attended by the Crown Prince. The value of the awards given this year amounted to nearly \$48,000 each.

The presentation ceremony was performed in the presence of the royal house and practically the entire government and diplomatic corps. Each recipient was welcomed by Governor Hjalmar Hammarskjöld, president of the Nobel Foundation.

Attendance in person in Stockholm to receive the prize was one of the conditions made by the late Alfred Nobel, which it has not always been possible to fulfil, but on this occasion a large proportion of those to whom the prize was awarded were present, adding to the importance of the occasion. These included Thomas Mann, the German author, to whom the Swedish Academy decided on November 12 to award the 1929 Nobel prize in literature, and Prince Louis Victor de Broglie, the Frenchman who shared the year's prize in physics with Dr. Owen William Richardson, of London, who had planned a visit to Stockholm before he knew of the honor to be conferred on him.

Professor Hans von Euler-Chelpin, at present professor at the University of Stockholm, to whom the year's Nobel prize in chemistry was awarded by the Academy of Science, automatically attends, as he is also a member of the Nobel Committee. The prize in chemistry was shared by Professor Arthur Harden, of the University of London, who was also present. The Nobel prize in physiology and medicine was shared by Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins, of Cambridge, and Professor Christian Eijkman, of Utrecht, the Netherlands.

## THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON MENTAL HYGIENE

THE preliminary announcement of the First International Congress on Mental Hygiene has been sent out by John R. Shillady, administrative secretary, 370 Seventh Ave., New York City. The congress will be held in Washington, D. C., May 5 to 10, 1930. President Hoover has accepted the honorary presidency and delegates are expected from more than thirty countries.

The American Psychiatric Association and the American Association for the Study of the Feeble-minded will hold their annual meetings in Washington at the same time as the First International Congress, and hence the largest number of people interested in mental hygiene ever gathered together at one place and time will probably meet in Washington that week.

It is the purpose to have a maximum of discussion

and minimum of formal paper-reading. To this end papers at the morning sessions, printed at length in advance of the meetings, will be limited to ten minutes in statement, and discussion will follow. Afternoons will be given over to meetings of committees, prepared discussions not on the regular program, and recreation and sight-seeing. General sessions, designed to appeal widely to laymen, will be held on several evenings.

Members of the program committee are: Dr. Williams, chairman; Dr. C. Macfie Campbell, director, Boston Psychopathic Hospital and professor of psychiatry, Harvard University; Dr. William Healy, director, Judge Baker Foundation; Dr. Lawson G. Lowrey, director, Institute for Child Guidance, New York City; Dr. Howard W. Potter, assistant director, Psychiatric Institute and Hospital, New York City; Dr. Arthur H. Ruggles, superintendent, Butler Hospital, Providence, R. I.

In addition, persons residing in twenty-eight different countries are represented on the advisory com-

mittee on program. Besides these, the following are serving on the same committee, representing fields related to mental hygiene: *Anthropology*: Franz Boas, professor of anthropology, Columbia University; *Education*: V. T. Thayer, educational director, Ethical Culture Schools, New York City; *Eugenics*: Charles B. Davenport, director, Department of Genetics, Carnegie Institution of Washington; *Industrial Psychology*: Walter V. Bingham, director, Personnel Research Federation, New York City; *Nursing*: Effie J. Taylor, professor of nursing and superintendent of nurses, Yale University School of Nursing; *Philosophy*: M. C. Otto, professor of philosophy, University of Wisconsin; *Psychiatric Social Work*: Mildred C. Seoville, president, American Association of Psychiatric Social Workers; *Psychology*: Lewis M. Terman, professor of psychology, Stanford University, California; *Religion*: A. Eustace Haydon, associate professor of comparative religion, University of Chicago; *Sociology*: Ernest Watson Burgess, professor of sociology, University of Chicago.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

SIR ERNEST RUTHERFORD gave his presidential address to the 267th annual meeting of the Royal Society at Burlington House on November 30. He then presented the awards which, as already announced, were as follows: Copley medal, to Professor Max Planck, Berlin; Royal medals to Professor J. E. Littlewood, Cambridge; Professor Robert Muir, Glasgow, and Professor G. N. Lewis, the University of California, and the Hughes medal to Professor Hans Geiger, Tübingen.

DR. L. E. J. BROUWER, professor of higher mathematics in the University of Amsterdam, has been elected a corresponding member of the Prussian Academy of Sciences.

THE Oscar Carlson gold medal of the Society of Swedish Chemists has been awarded to Professor Sven Odén for his work on sedimentation analysis and related subjects. The medal, which is awarded every five years, has been awarded only once before when it was given to Valdemar Jungner, inventor of the Nife alkaline storage battery.

A DINNER was given by his colleagues in honor of Dr. Herbert Osborn, research professor of entomology in the Ohio State University, on December 17. Dr. Osborn joined the faculty of the university in 1898.

At the annual general meeting of the Cambridge Philosophical Society Mr. G. Udny Yule was elected president. The vice-presidents are Professor H. Lamb, Professor S. J. Hickson and Professor A. Hutchinson.

DR. VERANUS A. MOORE, who recently retired as dean of the college of veterinary medicine of the New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University, has been named superintendent of the Ithaca Memorial Hospital. Dr. Moore recently visited New York to study problems of hospital administration.

PROFESSOR HEINRICH RIES, head of the department of geology at Cornell University, has been named to assist Dr. M. M. Leighton, chief of the Illinois Geological Survey, in working out plans for the Chicago Century of Progress Celebration in 1933.

W. A. MAW, assistant professor of poultry husbandry at Macdonald College, has been elected chairman of the program committee for the Canadian section of the Fourth World's Poultry Congress to be held in London, England, in July, 1930.

LEE A. STRONG, assistant director of agriculture of the state of California, has been appointed chief of the plant quarantine and control administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Dr. C. L. Marlatt, who has been filling the two positions of chief of the Bureau of Entomology and chief of the Plant Quarantine and Control Administration since July 1, 1928, retires at his request from the latter position in accordance with a plan which was authorized some two years ago.

A. D. LEWIS, state director of mines and minerals for the last five years, tendered his resignation to Governor Louis L. Emmerson, of Illinois, on December 7. The resignation was made without explanation.