Scottish Geographical Society from 1910 until 1925, on February 9, aged seventy-nine years; Mr. A. A. Campbell Swinton, F.R.S., known for his pioneer work on X-rays and radio communication, on February 19, aged sixty-six years; Dr. F. Arnall, head of the department of pure and applied chemistry at the Cardiff Technical College, whose interest was mainly in organic chemistry, on February 7, aged thirty-four years, and Professor Felix M. Exner, director of the Zentralanstalt für Meteorologie und Geodynamik and professor of terrestrial physics in the University of Vienna, who was an honorary member of the Royal Meteorological Society, on February 7, aged fifty-three years.

# SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

## THE FAUNA OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

THE annual meeting of the Society for the Preservation of the Fauna of the Empire was held on March 4 at the offices of the Zoological Society, London. Lord Onslow, the president, was in the chair.

According to the London *Times*, the report of the executive committee stated that since the last report the acting secretary had made a visit to America solely with the object of enlisting the cooperation of American conservationists in the work of the society. An influential committee had been formed in New York, under the auspices of the Boone and Crockett Club, with Mr. Madison Grant as chairman, and it included Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn, Colonel Kermit Roosevelt, Mr. Childs Frick and Major F. R. Burnham. This committee had charged itself with the collection of a fund to promote efforts with which American conservationists are in sympathy, and it was believed that the society would thereby receive substantial help. The Wild Life Protection Society of America had also, through Dr. Hornaday, generously made a contribution to their funds.

It was impressed on our secretary in America that it was expected that any help forthcoming from the citizens of the United States of America would be equaled by similar support from our own people. We are confident that this will be the case, but definite efforts are necessary, and we urge our members not to fail us in this respect. The need is urgent. To meet changing conditions we must extend the sphere of our activities. The character of our endeavor during the next ten years will do much to decide the fate of the wild life of the world. This may sound ambitious, but as some 70 per cent. of the larger mammals of the world are in this empire, the responsibility resting on those who claim its citizenship is not to be disregarded. This society, based as it is in the capital city of the empire, and with its twenty-five years' record of achievements behind, can, it is submitted, claim to be the correlating focus of wild life conservation for the dominions, colonies and dependencies which all go to make up the empire of to-day.

Lord Onslow reported that the society wished to carry preservation much farther than it had ever been carried before. That must be done if wild animals were to be preserved in their wild state. As time proceeded, it became more necessary to stabilize reserves by establishing them as absolute sanctuaries. That had been done in America and other countries, and it was by the establishment of national parks in the future that this problem would probably be solved.

He was glad to say that a debate which took place in the House of Lords elicited a satisfactory reply from Lord Passfield, both as to the general policy of the government in regard to game preservation, and to an assurance that the monstrous practice of slaughtering game from motor-cars would be severely dealt with.

## A CENTURY OF PROGRESS IN CHEMISTRY

A GROUP of chemists representing leading laboratories in educational institutions and industrial organizations throughout the country has recommended plans for a chemistry exhibit at the Chicago World's Fair in 1933, it is announced by Maurice Holland, director of the National Research Council Science Advisory Committee to the fair.

The group, under the chairmanship of Dr. Arthur D. Little, of Cambridge, Massachusetts, has been collaborating with the Science Advisory Committee in the development of plans for exhibits by all the sciences at the Chicago Fair which is to be held to celebrate the hundred years of progress made since Chicago became a city in 1833.

The chemistry exhibit will include representations of the laboratories, respectively, of an alchemist of the Middle Ages, of some chemist of 1833, and the modern laboratory of 1933. It is suggested that the laboratory of 1833 be the replica of the laboratory of some famous chemist of a century ago. The modern laboratory would be completely equipped for analyses, control work and research.

To illustrate the comprehensive contribution of chemistry to our daily modern life, it is proposed that a typical living room of the 1833 period be exactly reproduced alongside a living room of to-day by which the differences in living conditions in the two periods would be demonstrated. A descriptive pamphlet telling the story of the change and the part played by chemistry would be distributed. A kitchen of 1833 and one of 1933 are also proposed.

The report recommends that the chemistry exhibits should stress fundamental discoveries and their relation to industry and human welfare; that where desirable discoveries made prior to 1833 should be included; that exhibits should be developed along chronological lines, though not necessarily by distinct periods of time.

It is further suggested that wherever possible the exhibit should include and be developed from something with which the public is familiar, and that the object from which such development should be shown might be either a raw material such as wood or coal, or a final product like an automobile or artificial silk.

The report recommends that one major exhibit be devoted to the study and romance of carbon; that photochemistry should be given emphasis in a special exhibit, stressing its chemical and agricultural aspects as distinct from photography, and that there should be an exhibit illustrating atomic and molecular structure.

It was also suggested in the report that framed portraits of chemists who have made outstanding contributions to the science since 1833 be freely used. A further recommendation provides for a monument emblematic of chemistry, which would embody movement and color and which could be seen 300 feet away.

The chemistry committee in addition to Dr. Little consists of Professor Roger Adams, University of Illinois, Urbana; Professor Wilder D. Bancroft, Ithaca, N. Y.; Professor Marston T. Bogert, Columbia University; Professor R. T. Haslam, Belmont, Massachusetts; Professor Arthur J. Hill, Yale University; Dr. Harrison E. Howe, editor of *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*, Washington, D. C.; Professor Frederick G. Keyes, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Professor Arthur B. Lamb, Harvard University; Dr. Irving Langmuir, General Electric Company; Dr. C. E. K. Mees, Eastman Kodak Company; B. C. Mougey, General Motors Corporation; Professor Lyman C. Newell, Boston University; Professor James F. Norris, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; James A. Rafferty, Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Company; Dr. Allen Rogers, Pratt Institute; Charles F. Roth, New York; Professor H. C. Sherman, Columbia University; Dr. C. M. A. Stine, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company, and Dr. Willis R. Whitney, General Electric Company.

The Science Advisory Committee is headed by Dr. Frank B. Jewett, president of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, New York City.

## THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

THE forty-first annual meeting of the Geological Society of America and its affiliated societies, the Paleontological Society and the Mineralogical Society of America, was held at the Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, D. C., December 26, 27 and 28, 1929, under the auspices of the Geological Society of Washington.

The meeting was one of the largest in the history of the society, 583 persons being registered. Eighty-five scientific papers were presented before the Geological Society, and the programs of the affiliated societies were also crowded. The address of the retiring president, Dr. Heinrich Ries, on "Some Problems of the Non-metallics," was delivered the evening of December 26, in the auditorium of the National Museum, and was followed by a smoker tendered by the Washington hosts. The annual dinner was held at the Wardman Park Hotel on the 27th.

The officers of the society for the year 1930 are:

*President*, R. A. F. Penrose, Jr.

*Vice-presidents*, Nelson H. Darton, Florence Bascom, Herbert E. Merwin, W. H. Twenhofel

*Secretary*, Charles P. Berkey

*Treasurer*, Edward B. Mathews

*Editor*, Joseph Stanley-Brown

*Councilors*, George R. Mansfield, William E. Wrather, Herdman F. Cleland, Elwood S. Moore, W. C. Mendenhall, W. J. Mead

*Representative of the Cordilleran Section*, Eliot Blackwelder

## IN HONOR OF DR. WELCH

AN international birthday celebration is being planned for the "dean of American medicine," Dr. William Henry Welch, of the Johns Hopkins University, who will be eighty years old on April 8. Simultaneous ceremonies in honor of Dr. Welch will be held on that day in London, Paris, Berlin, Leipzig, Tokio and Pekin, as well as in Baltimore, Cincinnati, New Haven, New York and Washington, D. C., according to the plans announced by the executive committee in charge of the arrangements, of which Dr. Simon Flexner is chairman.

At Washington, the focal point of the celebration, President Hoover will speak on a program in Memorial Continental Hall, beginning at noon, which will be heard over a national hook-up of the National Broadcasting Company. It is expected that the program will also be broadcast by short wave and that it may be heard by those participating in the simultaneous ceremonies in foreign countries.

A unique feature of the celebration has been arranged through the cooperation of Alfred Hutty, the etcher, of Charleston, South Carolina, who was commissioned to make a dry-point portrait of Dr. Welch. The first print from the plate will be given to Dr. Welch at the Washington ceremonies, and there will be simultaneous presentation of other prints from the same etching to more than forty institutions in this country and abroad, with which Dr. Welch has been connected as student, teacher or adviser.