Rodentia, plesiadapids, lemuroids, tarsioids, ganodonts, teniodonts, Xenarthra, Condylarthra, Taligrada, Amblypoda, Hippoidea, Rhinocerotoidea, bunodonts, bunoselenodonts, Tylopoda, hypertraguloids, Pecora. Even in a much fuller review of this aspect of his work (to be published elsewhere) it has been impossible to do more than touch upon a few of the evolutionary problems which he either definitely solved or left with significant enrichment. It must suffice in this place to state that the younger generation of American paleontologists, which is now fortunately coming forward, is already finding that Dr. Matthew, while giving final answers of fact to thousands of specific questions, has also bequeathed to them other thousands of problems that will challenge their best efforts for a lifetime.

WILLIAM K. GREGORY

FRITZ PREGL

PROFESSOR FRITZ PREGL, head of the Institute of Medical Chemistry at the University of Graz, Austria, died quite unexpectedly on December 13 at the age of 61. Professor Pregl was the originator of the methods of quantitative organic microanalysis bearing his name, which have found so widespread application in recent years. In recognition of the eminent practical importance of this work he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1923. Pregl originally received a medical training and was actually practising in ophthalmology, but later turned back to the preclinical sciences and became interested in certain physiological-chemical problems. This inclination brought him in contact with K. B. Hofmann, Abderhalden and Emil Fischer and resulted in a number of publications on various subjects (bile acids, composition of proteins, starch). In the course of an investigation on bile acids lack of material put before him the choice of either abandoning the problem or of inventing new methods of analysis. Within a few years (1911–1914) he was able to substitute for practically all the conventional methods of quantitative organic analysis equivalent micromethods requiring only 3 to 5 mg. of substance and involving substantial savings of time and reagents. His work drew considerable interest in the scientific world and ever since then students of all nationalities, some of them renowned investigators, gathered in his laboratory to acquire the special technique and "microchemical asepsis" of manipulation. In this country a number of chemists will remember with gratitude the hours spent in his institute, not only because of the knowledge gained, but also for the contact with an outstanding and original personality of fine human qualities.

O. W.

MEMORIALS

AS a memorial to the late Louis Agassiz Fuertes, who until his death in 1927 was generally recognized as America's foremost painter of birds, the Field Museum of Natural History has published in a limited edition an album of reproductions in colors of thirty-two of his finest pictures of birds and mammals. The paintings selected for this portfolio represent the last work of the artist, having been made in Africa while he was a member of the Chicago *Daily News* Field Museum Abyssinian Expedition of 1926–27. Mr. Fuertes was killed in an automobile accident shortly after his return to this country from that expedition. The originals of the paintings were purchased and presented to Field Museum by C. Suydam Cutting, of New York, who was also a member of the expedition. Mr. Cutting in addition paid the cost of the publication of the memorial album. The portfolio is of large size, the plates being eight by ten inches with a ten-inch margin. The album has a preface about Fuertes, the man and his work, written by Dr. Wilfred H. Osgood, the museum's curator of zoology, who was leader of the Abyssinian expedition.

WE learn from the *Journal* of the American Medical Association that the memory of Professor Laveran, who discovered the hematozoon of malaria, and to whom a monument was unveiled last spring at Constantine during the ceremonies commemorating the centenary of the conquest of Algeria, has again been honored at Paris by commemorative ceremonies held at the military hospital of the Ecole du Val-de-Grâce, where he was professor until he reached the army age for retirement, after which he was director of a laboratory at the Institut Pasteur until his death. The ceremonies were held in the great hall of the school. Dr. Roux, director of the Institut Pasteur, presided. Professor Sieur, president of the alumni association of the Ecole de santé militaire du Val-de-Grâce, expressed the thanks of the association to those who had subscribed to the monument. Mr. Calmette gave an account of the life of Laveran and of his discovery. Addresses were delivered by Troussaint, a former coworker of Laveran; by Marchoux, and by Rouvillois, the director of the school. An historical niche was established in the school, in which a glass case encloses the microscope and the observation records of Laveran. Then the audience proceeded to a spot in front of the entrance to the school, which will bear henceforth the name of "Place du docteur Laveran." A commemorative tablet was affixed to the house in which Laveran lived.

RECENT DEATHS

BERNARD BARHAM WOODWARD, librarian and bibliographer at the British Museum of Natural History until his retirement in 1920, died on November 17 at

the age of seventy-seven years. We learn from the London *Times* that his interest in natural history was not confined to librarianship, for he conducted a number of researches on the borderline between zoology and geology, a subject in which his uncle, the late Dr. Henry Woodward, formerly keeper of geology in the British Museum, and his brother, the late Mr. H. B. Woodward, of the Geological Survey, both achieved distinction.

AN Associated Press dispatch reports that Dr. Werner Borchardt, of the Hamburg Tropical Institute, is believed to have lost his life while making observations of an eruption of the Volcano Merapi in Sumatra. Dr. Borchardt was about thirty years old and had been loaned by the Hamburg Institute for a year to the Sumatra Institute to carry out research work on the influence of temperature on the blood and kindred subjects.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTIFIC WORKERS

THE Association of Scientific Workers, according to a note in *Nature,* in spite of the financial stringency with which it, like other good causes, is afflicted, still adds to its record of achievement. During the past few months it has prepared, and submitted to the Royal Commission on the Civil Service, a formidable body of evidence dealing with the position of the scientific civil servant *vis-à-vis* his administrative colleague, and advocating the unification of all the state scientific services under a Ministry of Science. At the same time, the association has prepared an index of references to science and cognate matters in the parliamentary debates, and through its general secretary, Major A. G. Church, M.P., has formed a parliamentary science committee. This committee, consisting of members of both houses and all parties, meets periodically to hear the views of acknowledged experts on scientific questions which bear on public affairs.

Some years ago the association issued an appeal for members, in the form of a letter signed by some of the most prominent men of science in Great Britain. This letter was sent to about 20,000 scientific workers, and resulted in a large increase of membership. At the present time the association is sending out another such appeal, on a much more elaborate scale. It consists of a sixteen-page booklet entitled "The Profession of Science," containing articles by Sir Richard Gregory, Professor Julian Huxley, and others, with messages from Sir Ernest Rutherford, Sir William Bragg, the Right Honorable W. G. A. Ormsby-Gore and Professor F. G. Donnan, and a preface by Sir Daniel Hall as president of the association. The booklet is being sent to 25,000 scientific workers, and at the same time a card index of qualified scientific men is being prepared, with the intention of preserving it and keeping it continually up-to-date. In this way, as a by-product of the association's own propagandist activities, information is being collected which will prove invaluable when it becomes possible to create an authoritative register of the profession of science, such as the professions of law, medicine, dental surgery and teaching already possess. Work on this card index has been in progress for four weeks, and it is already clear that the figure of 25,000 falls considerably short of the total of qualified workers in Great Britain.

BIRD SANCTUARIES

PURCHASE of land for migratory game-bird refuges in four states was authorized on December 18 by the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission.

The four proposed refuges had been surveyed previously by biologists and land valuation experts of the Biological Survey, and the Department of Agriculture had approved their acquisition as units in the nation-wide system of refuges authorized by the Congress.

The new Florida refuge will extend about 12 miles along Apalachee Bay, in Wakulla, Jefferson and Taylor counties, and will be known as the St. Marks Migratory Bird Refuge. It will contain 13,981 acres.

The new purchases in California will add 8,982 acres to the Salton Sea Wild Life Refuge, created by Executive Order of November 25, 1930. The purchase authorized, together with the public lands recently set aside by the President, will create a refuge of more than 24,715 acres for waterfowl and other migrants in the Imperial Valley.

The Swanquarter Migratory Bird Refuge will be established in North Carolina under the new authorization. This will consist of 11,778 acres in Hyde County, on Pamlico Sound, and together with intermingled areas of water will make an administrative unit of about 20,000 acres.

In the sandhills of western Nebraska the purchase of 39,038 acres is authorized for the establishment of a migratory bird refuge in an area resorted to by great numbers of waterfowl in the nesting season. This is in Garden County and will be known as the Crescent Lake Migratory Bird Refuge.

The Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, which was created by the act providing for a ten-year