

try Day School in Kansas City, Missouri, and in 1917 of the Country Day School in St. Louis. From 1920 to 1927 he taught in the Santa Barbara School for Boys, but in 1923 accepted the title of honorary director of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History and devoted his spare time to its development. In 1927 he was elected director, a position he held at the time of his death.

Although ornithology and botany were avocations during his years of teaching, he became well known throughout the country in both fields. In addition to contributions to the Nuttall Ornithological Club, *The Auk*, *Rhodora*, *Bird Lore* and *The Condor*, he published "A Guide to the Birds of New England and Eastern New York" in 1904 and "Birds of the Pacific Coast" in 1927.

Whenever he exhausted the birds of a region he turned to its plants. After his New England "Guide," he published the "Flora of Berkshire County." After his "Birds of the Pacific Coast," he began work on the flora of Santa Barbara County and especially that of the Channel Islands. Though the fall that resulted in his death came while he was collecting the island flora, his notes were in such shape that the list is appearing in the *Bulletin* of the Southern California Academy of Sciences.

Ralph Hoffmann possessed not only the thoroughness of the scientist, but also an enthusiasm so contagious that those who knew him, especially children, left his presence either with a newly awakened love for birds and plants or with an old interest doubled.

E. H.

• RECENT DEATHS

DR. ULYSSES SHERMAN GRANT, professor of geology at Northwestern University since 1899, died on September 21, at the age of sixty-five years.

DR. THOMAS G. LEE, professor emeritus of comparative anatomy at the University of Minnesota, died on September 8, at the age of seventy-two years.

OUTRAM BANGS, curator of birds in the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard University, died on September 22, in his seventieth year.

DR. JOHN WYNN GILLESPIE, professor of botany at the Arizona State Teachers College and formerly National Research fellow, died of pneumonia at Albany, Georgia, on September 13. He was on his way home from a summer's vacation spent in study at the Kew Herbarium.

DR. FRANK BILLINGS, dean of the faculty of Rush Medical College since 1899 and emeritus professor of medicine in the University of Chicago, died on September 20. He was seventy-eight years old.

DR. ASTLEY PASTON COOPER ASHHURST, professor of clinical surgery at the Graduate School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania, died on September 19. He was fifty-six years old.

THE REV. GEORGE W. LAY, of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, who contributed articles to *SCIENCE* on scientific terminology, has died, at the age of seventy-two years.

THE deaths are announced of two distinguished British surgeons: Sir Henry Simpson, the obstetrician, on September 13, in his sixtieth year, and Sir Chester James Symonds, known for his work in abdominal surgery, on September 14, at the age of eighty years.

DR. FREDERICK HENRY HATCH, a past president of the British Institution of Mining and Metallurgy and a member of the governing body of the Imperial Institute, died on September 22, at the age of sixty-eight years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE DAVID DUNLAP OBSERVATORY

THIS observatory, which, when completed, will be presented to the University of Toronto, to be conducted by its department of astronomy, is being erected by Mrs. Jessie D. Dunlap as a memorial to her husband, David Alexander Dunlap, who died in the autumn of 1924. It is located near the village of Richmond Hill, fifteen miles north of Toronto, one half mile east of Yonge Street, Ontario's great highway to the north.

There are two chief buildings. One, sixty-one feet in diameter, of metal, will house a reflecting telescope of aperture seventy-four inches. This instrument is being built by Sir Howard Grubb, Parsons and Co.,

of Newcastle-on-Tyne, England, and its construction is well advanced. The building is also being supplied by the same firm. It is intended to put in the cement foundations for the building and also the pier for the great telescope this autumn in order to let them weather the storms of winter. The building will be erected next spring and the telescope a little later. This telescope will be used chiefly for spectrographic work, though some direct photographs may be taken.

The administration building will contain offices, library, lecture room, laboratories, computing rooms and workshop. Plans for it were prepared by Mathers and Haldenby, of Toronto, and the corner stone was laid on September 10. It will be 91 feet long