

ground squirrels of the Mississippi Valley he has prepared special publications based on his field work, and has revised the classification of rodents in these and other genera. Only recently the bureau added to the list of publications written by Mr. Bailey the "Mammals of New Mexico," in its North American Fauna Series. At present, as joint author with Dr. Florence Merriam Bailey, his wife, he has in press a work on the wild life of the Mammoth Cave region of Kentucky. His work on Oregon has not yet been published. Mr. Bailey has also been widely recognized for his efforts in behalf of the humane treatment of animals, especially because of the traps he has invented to capture them alive and unhurt.

A native of Michigan, Mr. Bailey was first employed in the Department of Agriculture as a special field agent in 1887, when he was twenty-four years old and living in Minnesota. In 1890 he gained his present title of chief field naturalist. From 1906 to 1913 he was in charge of what is now the division of biological investigations of the survey.

Mr. Bailey is president of the American Society of Mammalogists and a former president of the Biological Society of Washington.

Dr. Theodore Sherman Palmer is known as a zoological historian and biographer, as an authority on the nomenclature of mammals and also for his activities in game protection. He was chairman of the committee that prepared regulations under the migratory-bird law of 1913, and he also prepared the preliminary draft of the Migratory Bird Treaty of 1916 between the United States and Great Britain.

He was instrumental in initiating legislation governing importations of game and other wild animals and birds from foreign countries and has cooperated with officials of the Customs Service in drafting regulations. He originated the present system of Federal publication of the game laws and open-season posters and of directories of game-protective officials and organizations, and the numerous official publications of the Biological Survey on trends in game conservation and in legislation for the protection of wild

life, some of which have been translated and published abroad. Monumental among his published writings is his "Index Generum Mammalium," issued by the Biological Survey in 1904 as North American Fauna No. 23. He is now completing a supplement to it.

Dr. Palmer, a native of California, was graduated from the University of California in 1888 and came to the Department of Agriculture the following year, at the age of 21. In 1895 he completed medical studies and was granted the M.D. degree by Georgetown University. He early engaged in field studies and has visited most parts of the United States, and for five months in 1891, as first assistant ornithologist, he was acting in charge of the Death Valley Expedition. He was assistant chief of the Biological Survey from 1896 to 1902, and from 1910 to 1914, and acted as chief over extended periods, including the time when the chief, Dr. C. Hart Merriam, was in Alaska as a member of the Bering Sea Commission. From 1900 to 1916, Dr. Palmer was in charge of the bureau's division of game preservation, and since the passage of the Lacey Act in 1900 he has been in charge of the regulation of the importation of foreign birds and mammals.

#### OBITUARY

FRANK WILLIAM PEEK, JR., chief engineer of the Pittsfield works of the General Electric Company, was killed at Gaspé, Quebec, on July 27, when the automobile he was driving was struck by the locomotive of a Canadian Railway train at a grade-crossing. Mr. Peek was in his fifty-second year.

DR. EDWARD CAMERON KIRK, seventy-seven, professor emeritus of the School of Dentistry of the University of Pennsylvania, died on July 21.

THE death is announced of John Eliot Thayer, member of the Museum of Comparative Zoology of Harvard University. Mr. Thayer built a museum in Lancaster, Massachusetts, for the public with one of the best collections of birds in North America.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

WITHIN the last few months Professor John J. Abel, director of the Laboratory of Endocrine Research at the Johns Hopkins University, has been made an honorary member of the American Association of Physicians and of the Pharmacological and Physiological Societies of Great Britain. He has also been made an honorary fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

PROFESSOR EDWIN GRANT CONKLIN, of Princeton University, has been elected an honorary fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

DR. THOMAS B. NOLAN, geologist of the U. S. Geological Survey, has been awarded the Spendiarioff Prize of the International Geological Congress in recognition of his studies of the complex earth structure of western mining districts of the United States.

THE daily press reports that a bill now before the House of Commons will enable Professor Albert Einstein to acquire British citizenship.

SIR COLIN MACKENZIE, director of the Australian Institute of Anatomy, has been elected president of the Royal Society of Australia. The society has its