1931 at the Blandy Experimental Farm of the University of Virginia and 1931–1932 at the Experiment Station of the Association of Hawaiian Pineapple Canners in Honolulu as exchange student under the auspices of the Institute of International Education.

DR. LEON CHARLES ALBERT CALMETTE, subdirector of the Pasteur Institute, died on October 29, at the age of seventy years.

PAUL PAINLEVÉ, professor of analytical and celestial mechanics at the Ecole Polytechnique at the Sorbonne, Paris, three times premier of France, died suddenly on October 29, in his seventieth year.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE FAUNA AND FLORA OF AFRICA

ACCORDING to the London *Times*, an international conference to consider measures for the protection of the fauna and flora of Africa met in London on October 31, in the Moses Room at the House of Lords. Lord Onslow, who was also the chief delegate of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, presided.

The government was also represented by Sir William Gowers, senior crown agent for the colonies; Sir Arnold Hodson, the governor of Sierra Leone, and Mr. A. B. Acheson, of the Colonial Office. There were also representatives of the governments of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia.

Governments represented included the governments of Abyssinia, Belgium, Egypt, France, Italy, Portugal, Spain and the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. The governments of India, the Netherlands and the United States had nominated observers to attend the conference. The secretary was Mr. Francis Hemming, joint secretary of the Economic Advisory Council. Assistant secretary of the conference was D. H. F. Rickett, assistant of the Economic Advisory Council. The address of the secretariat is 2, Whitehall Gardens, S.W.1.

The conference drew up a revised international convention for the protection of the fauna and flora of Africa. It will be recalled that a resolution was passed at the International Congress for the Protection of Nature, which was held in Paris in the summer of 1931, urging that the question of the negotiation of a new international convention should be considered by the powers concerned.

A draft convention had been prepared by the British government and circulated to the other governments participating in the conference to be used as a basis for discussion. This draft contains suggestions for an agreed declaration of principle on the subject of the establishment of national sanctuaries in which wild animals and plants may be preserved with due regard to the interests of the native inhabitants of the various territories concerned. It contemplates the adoption of concerted measures of control designed to restrict the killing of some of the rarer species of animals in Africa, and to prohibit the unregulated traffic in trophies obtained from such animals. It also deals with various objectionable methods of hunting and other practises which have a destructive effect upon wild life, and is designed to secure cooperation between the various administrations concerned and the free exchange of information on all questions relating to the protection of the natural fauna and flora of Africa.

It was expected that the plenary sessions of the conference would be held in public.

AWARD OF THE JOHN FRITZ MEDAL

THE John Fritz Gold Medal, highest of American engineering honors, has been awarded to the late John Ripley Freeman, of Providence, Rhode Island, as an "engineer preeminent in the fields of hydraulics and water supply, fire insurance economics and analysis of earthquake effects."

The award was made posthumously because of the sudden death of Mr. Freeman on October 6, 1932, during the procedure for his selection as a medalist. According to an announcement made by the Board of Award:

> Mr. Freeman made outstanding contributions to water power, water supply and other branches of hydraulic engineering, to fire preventive construction and protection of industrial buildings and to the investigation of earthquakes from scientific, structural and insurance points of view.
>
> A close friend has said that his earthquake study is an engineering contribution of the first magnitude, possibly, ultimately, to be recognized as his greatest achievement. These studies were pointed in part to getting an original basis for writing earthquake insurance, and in part to obtaining a better understanding of construction, both architectural and engineering, to resist earthquakes. He broadened the view and improved the method of attack of scientists in fundamental studies of earthquakes.

Mr. Freeman, whose activities extended all over the United States, to Panama, to China, and to other countries, was born at West Bridgeton, Maine, on July 27, 1855. He was graduated from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in June, 1876, with the degree of bachelor of science.