

Society on November 21, the one hundred and forty-eighth birthday of Dr. Beaumont. The program was as follows: Dr. Major G. Seelig, "Biographical Sketch of William Beaumont"; Dr. Joseph Erlanger, "William Beaumont's Experiments and Their Present-Day Value"; Dr. Robert E. Schlueter, "Dr. Beaumont as a St. Louisan," and Dr. Louis H. Behrens, "Our Civic and Medical Debt to Beaumont." Photostatic copies of Dr. Beaumont's letters and documents, with other historical objects connected with his life and work, are on exhibition in the society's headquarters. Dr. Beaumont was president of the St. Louis Medical Society in 1840.

THE *British Medical Journal* reports that it is proposed to establish a lectureship in the University of Edinburgh, to be called the Sharpey-Schafer Lectureship in Physiology, to commemorate Professor Sir Edward Sharpey-Schafer, who has occupied the chair of physiology for thirty-four years and who has just retired. It is suggested that under this lectureship one lecture shall be given annually in Edinburgh by a distinguished physiologist to be suggested by the Faculty of Medicine. For this purpose a capital sum of about £1,000 is required, and an appeal has been issued for subscriptions to this fund, limited to a maximum of five guineas. Any persons desiring to contribute to the fund should send their subscriptions to the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Edinburgh.

#### RECENT DEATHS

DR. ROSCOE WILFRED THATCHER, research professor of chemistry at the Massachusetts State College, president of the college from 1927 to 1932, died suddenly while at work in the college laboratory on December 6. Dr. Thatcher was sixty-one years old.

DR. ALFRED FABIAN HESS, New York City, known for his work on rickets and other diseases of children, died suddenly on December 5, at the age of fifty-eight years.

OLOF AUGUST PETERSON, curator of mammalian paleontology at the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, has died at the age of sixty-eight years.

THE sudden death at the age of eighty-one years is announced of George H. Barton, assistant professor of geology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology from 1896 to 1904 and since 1902 director of the Teachers School of Science, conducted under the auspices of the extension department of Harvard University.

WHEATON BRADISH KUNHARDT, chairman of the board of directors and formerly president of the Carpenter Steel Company of Reading, Pennsylvania, manufacturers of tool, alloy and stainless steel, died suddenly on November 23, at the age of seventy-four years.

TILLMAN D. LYNCH, formerly consulting metallurgical engineer in charge of manufacturing and metallurgical processes at the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, has died at the age of sixty-six years.

WILLIAM SHEAR, horticultural inspector at San Diego, California, died on November 6. He was born in Albany County, New York, December 31, 1868, graduated from the University of Nebraska, was a potato specialist for a number of years in the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and, later, with the State Department of Agriculture of California.

JOHN JOLY, professor of geology and mineralogy in the University of Dublin since 1897, died on December 8, at the age of seventy-six years.

THE death is announced of Dr. Jan B. Novak, general secretary of the Czech Academy of Science, on October 29. He was sixty-one years old.

THE death is announced of Dr. Albert Wangerin, professor of mathematics at Halle.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### APPOINTMENTS IN THE BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

THE appointment of Frederick D. Richey, now in charge of corn investigations in the Bureau of Plant Industry, as associate chief of that bureau, effective on January 1, has been announced by Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace. Mr. Richey will aid the chief of the bureau, Knowles A. Ryerson, whose appointment was recently announced, in the general administration of the department's largest scientific bureau, and will give special attention to research activities.

Mr. Richey succeeds Dr. Karl F. Kellerman, who

will become head of a new Division of Plant Disease Eradication and Control in the Bureau of Entomology. This division will have transferred to it all activities directed toward the control and eradication of the phony peach disease, blister rust, barberry, citrus canker and Dutch elm disease.

Frederick D. Richey was born on September 3, 1884, in St. Louis, Mo. He received the degree of bachelor of science in agriculture from the University of Missouri in 1909 and immediately following his graduation managed a farm in northern Illinois. For one year, 1910-11, he was the food and drug commissioner of the State of Missouri. He has been with

the United States Department of Agriculture since 1911, engaged in corn investigations, and has been in charge of research work in this field since 1922. In this position he has made the corn investigational program entirely cooperative with the state experiment stations and has earned a reputation for ability in organizing effective cooperative research. He is the author of numerous publications and papers on corn growing, corn breeding and statistical methods.

In his new position, Dr. Kellerman will be able to devote his full time to plant disease work, a field in which he has been an outstanding leader for 20 years. Among numerous other activities, he organized in 1915, and has since directed, the cooperative campaign of the Gulf States and the Bureau of Plant Industry to eradicate citrus canker, one of the most contagious of all known diseases of citrus trees; his success in the citrus canker campaign is universally recognized as one of the most notable achievements ever recorded in disease eradication work.

Karl Frederic Kellerman was born of American parents in Göttingen, December 9, 1879. He received the degree of bachelor of science from Cornell University in 1900 and doctor of science from Kansas State College in 1923. He was an assistant professor in botany, Cornell University, 1900-1901; assistant physiologist, Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, 1901-1904; physiologist in charge of laboratory plant physiology, 1905-1906; physiologist in charge of soil bacteriology and water purification investigations, 1906-1914; assistant chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry, 1914-1917, and associate chief of bureau since 1917. Dr. Kellerman organized the *Journal of Agricultural Research* in 1913 and was chairman of the editorial committee from 1913-1924. In 1917 he was designated by President Wilson as a member of the National Research Council, serving as secretary of the agricultural committee, and since 1918 as a member of the division of biology and agriculture and of the division of federal relations.

#### SEMI-CENTENNIAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

THE Semi-Centennial Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union, held in the American Museum of Natural History, New York City, from November 13 to 16, was the largest in the history of the union. Representatives were present from twenty-one states, the District of Columbia and three Provinces of Canada. Headquarters were at the Hotel New Yorker, where the business sessions were held. The public sessions were held in the museum. In connection with this meeting the union issued a memorial volume entitled "Fifty Years Progress of American Ornithology." An exhibit of "Birds in Art," numbering more

than 300 entries, was installed in the education hall of the museum.

Officers for 1934 were elected as follows: *President*, J. H. Fleming; *Vice-presidents*, A. C. Bent, Taunton, Mass., and Herbert Friedmann, Washington, D. C.; *Secretary*, T. S. Palmer, Washington, D. C.; *Treasurer*, W. L. McAtee, Washington, D. C.; *Additional Members of the Council*, A. A. Allen, J. P. Chapin, Ruthven Deane, H. C. Oberholser, J. L. Peters, T. S. Roberts and P. A. Taverner.

The election of fellows and members included 1 fellow, John T. Zimmer, of New York; 3 corresponding fellows; 9 members, and 167 associates. The new corresponding fellows were Dr. J. M. Derscheid, Brussels, Belgium; Dr. Franz Groebels, Hamburg, Eggenndorf, Germany, and Dr. Pontus Palmgren, Helsingfors, Finland. The new members elected were M. A. Carriker, Beachwood, N. J.; S. T. Danforth, Mayaguez, P. R.; R. M. de Schauensee, Philadelphia, Pa.; J. O. Greenway, Jr., Cambridge, Mass.; J. M. Linsdale, Berkeley, Calif.; A. H. Miller, Berkeley, Calif.; J. D. Soper, Alberta, Canada; C. A. Urner, Elizabeth, N. J., and Francis M. Weston, Pensacola, Fla.

The Brewster Medal for the most meritorious work on American birds published during the last six years was awarded to Dr. Frank Michler Chapman for his "Birds of Eastern North America," 1932.

On Friday and Saturday trips were made to various points of interest, including Jones Beach Bird Sanctuary, Oyster Bay and Montauk, L. I.; the New York Zoological Park, and Barnegat Bay, N. J. More than 100 species of birds were observed at Jones Beach, Montauk and Barnegat Bay.

The next meeting will be held at the Field Museum in Chicago in October, 1934.

T. S. PALMER,  
*Secretary*

#### SEMI-CENTENNIAL OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NATURALISTS

IN the month of March, 1883, Professor Samuel F. Clarke, of Williams College, issued a call for an association of American naturalists principally for the discussion of practical methods of technique and education, modified by the following addendum:

It is further believed that such a society could materially influence for the better the cause of science in America; that it would have a very healthful general effect, and could exert a strong influence in many directions where at present it seems to be very much needed.

Of the fourteen naturalists who had expressed to Professor Clarke an interest in this enterprise, at least eleven appeared at the organization meeting in the Springfield High School Hall, Friday, April 10, in the year 1883, namely: Samuel F. Clarke, of Williams College; Alpheus Hyatt, of the Boston Society