

tions of many species of insects were published in the *Canadian Entomologist*, Transactions of the St. Louis Academy of Science, Transactions of the Philadelphia Academy of Science and other entomological publications. His bibliography contains one hundred and fifty-two titles. His last large publication was a book entitled "Flowers and Insects," which contains a summary of all his work. This volume came from the Science Press some four years ago. He was a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science for a large number of years and he belonged to many of the learned societies of America and Europe. Robertson divided his time between the overseeing of a large number of farms which belonged to the family and his ecological work. He spent his winters in western Florida, where he owned considerable property and maintained a wildlife preserve. He was a life member of the St. Louis Academy of Science and was very intimately connected with Barnes, of Bloomington, Ill., and Trelease, of the University of Illinois. In entomological lines Robertson will long be remembered because of the great number of species of hymenoptera which bear his name and which because of the accuracy of his work will always bear the same name. Robertson probably did more to establish the study of ecology in the United States than any other one man.

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MARION DORSET

WITH the death of Dr. Marion Dorset on July 14, at his home in Washington, D. C., workers in the biological sciences lost an able colleague and friend. Dr. Dorset was widely known not only for his brilliant achievements but also for his generous recognition of work by others. His counsel on research problems was sought widely, and he was active in both administrative and laboratory work until a few days before his death, the immediate cause of which was coronary thrombosis.

Dr. Dorset was known especially for his investigations of hog cholera, during which he discovered an effective preventive-serum treatment now widely used. Other discoveries included research on the biochemistry of the tubercle bacillus, keeping qualities of meats, the development and testing of dips and disinfectants and extensive related work. Dr. Dorset is credited with being one of the first scientists to make chemical analyses of the tubercle bacillus. He also introduced, in April, 1934, a new tuberculin now used in official tuberculosis-eradication work conducted by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and cooperating states. His production of an effective and harmless fluid for marking federally inspected meats has saved

the United States Government millions of dollars because of the greater economy of this method over the former practice of using tags.

As chief of the Biochemic Division, Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Dr. Dorset likewise proposed many investigations which his coworkers carried out with results beneficial to agriculture and public welfare. One of these studies resulted in a rapid method of detecting pullorum disease in chickens, a discovery now widely used by poultrymen and a boon to the poultry industry. Dr. Dorset organized the system of federal inspection in establishments licensed by the government to manufacture serums, viruses, toxins and related veterinary biological products. He formulated also the laboratory procedures in the administration of the federal meat-inspection act. He was active also in the organization of the Federal Insecticide and Fungicide Board. He was a member of many scientific bodies and frequently presented papers at national and international meetings.

Born in Columbia, Tenn., in 1872, Dr. Dorset received the customary elementary education, after which he attended the University of Tennessee, from which he graduated in 1893 with the degree of bachelor of science. He then attended the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania for a year, after which he entered the U. S. Department of Agriculture as assistant chemist. One of his associates was the late Dr. E. A. de Schweinitz. Dr. Dorset meanwhile continued his scientific education at George Washington University, Medical Department, from which, in 1896, he received the degree of doctor of medicine. In 1904 he became chief of the Biochemic Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry, a position which he held until his death. Dr. Dorset was also awarded the honorary degree of doctor of veterinary medicine by Iowa State College. His scientific contributions had many applications in the livestock, meat and dairy industries and in public health. He devoted his life almost entirely to public service. After discovering anti-hog-cholera serum, he had the opportunity to acquire wealth through the manufacture and sale of this biological product, for which a large demand soon developed. But after receiving a patent on the discovery, he presented it to the government and to the public so that any person in the United States might use the method without payment of royalty. This act was typical of his generous nature and his desire that the results of his talents and labors should be widely useful.

J. R. MOHLER,

Chief, Bureau of Animal Industry