

THE RETIRING AND INCOMING HEAD OF THE BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

JAY N. DARLING, chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey, relinquished his post on November 15 and has resumed his work as a cartoonist. He will be succeeded by Ira N. Gabrielson, now a consulting specialist to the chief of the bureau and assistant chief of the Division of Wildlife Research and for the last few months executive assistant to the Division of Scientific Research.

Mr. Darling, in accepting Secretary Wallace's invitation in March, 1934, to become chief of the survey, did so with the understanding that it would be for only a short time. He has continued with the Department of Agriculture long beyond the period originally contemplated, and leaves now only upon the insistence of the outside interests to which he is obligated.

Mr. Darling will continue to be active in efforts to bring together the multitude of wildlife groups of the United States into what he considers a most essential organization—a national federation of wildlife organizations. In a recent statement he says: "I have come to realize that most of our wildlife conservation troubles are due to lack of organization among those who are interested but ineffective in the conservation of wildlife. There is no mass strength to enforce adequate legislative and executive attention to wildlife interests. Every other element of American life has a national organization to get effective results. Wildlife interests remind me of an unorganized army, beaten in every battle, zealous and brave but unable to combat the trained legions who are organized to get what they want."

Mr. Darling joined the department in March, 1934,

after having served for three months on the President's Committee on Wildlife Restoration. This committee recommended the immediate acquisition of five million acres of submarginal agricultural land in forty-four states, and the gradual acquisition of an additional eight to ten million acres for wildlife production and related purposes. Prior to that he had gained national recognition as a leader in wildlife conservation and restoration as a member of the Iowa Fish and Game Commission, of the Iowa Planning Commission, of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, National Association of City Planners, Des Moines City Planning Commission and of the Des Moines Park Board.

As chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey, Mr. Darling began putting into effect the program recommended by the President's committee. He obtained funds for the Government's effort to establish wildlife refuges. He reorganized the bureau for more effective prosecution of research, education and law enforcement.

Mr. Gabrielson has been connected with the bureau since October 1, 1915, when he was appointed assistant economic ornithologist to conduct field research in the food habits of birds. Since then he has served in every branch of the service and has become familiar with the wildlife problems throughout the North American continent. He went from field work in New England to the Mississippi Valley and the Great Plains states and was then transferred to the Pacific coast supervision of rodent and predatory animal control work in Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada and Idaho. As Regional Game Management Director for the states of the northwest he improved the organization and did valuable scientific work.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Nobel Prize in physics for 1935 has been awarded to James Chadwick, of the University of Liverpool, for his discovery of the neutron, made while working in the Cavendish Laboratory of the University of Cambridge. The prize in chemistry has been awarded to Professor Frederick Joliot and Mme. Irene Curie-Joliot for their synthesis of radioactive elements, working in the Curie Laboratory, Paris. It will be remembered that Mme. Curie-Joliot is the daughter of M. Pierre Curie and Mme. Marie Curie, who were awarded the Nobel Prize in physics in 1903 for the discovery of radium. Mme. Marie Curie also received the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 1911, for the isolation of radium.

THE University of Paris conferred *in absentia* on November 9 its honorary doctorate on Dr. Thomas

Hunt Morgan, director of the William G. Kerckhoff Laboratories of the Biological Sciences at the California Institute of Technology.

THE Perkin Medal has been awarded to Dr. Warren K. Lewis, professor in chemical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The medal is awarded annually for valuable work in applied chemistry by a committee representing the five chemical societies of the United States. It will be presented to Dr. Lewis on January 10, at a meeting to be held at The Chemists' Club in New York City, when he will speak on "The Application of Physical Data to High-Pressure Processes."

THE Hughes Medal of the Royal Society, London, has been awarded to Dr. Clinton J. Davisson, research physicist on the staff of the Bell Telephone Labora-