

requests for further information. A second list was distributed in 1935.

The last four months of his life were spent in herbaria at Leiden, Utrecht, Brussels, Paris, Geneva, Berlin, London, Cambridge and Oxford, seeking types of grasses in preparation for a work already begun on the genera of grasses of the world.

The Grass Herbarium increased under Professor Hitchcock's charge to at least four times what it was in 1905, until it is now the largest and by far the most nearly complete grass collection in the world. His devotion to it was demonstrated even before he came to be in charge of it. Professor Lamson-Scribner offered to sell his private herbarium, containing many of his types, but Professor Piper did not care to recommend its purchase. To keep the types in Washington Professor Hitchcock, in the presence of both men, offered to buy it. The offer was accepted, the purchase being made in February, 1905. In 1913 the Scribner Herbarium was bought by the government for the price paid Professor Scribner. The valuable agrostological library accumulated over a period of forty years he left, in the custody of the Smithsonian Institution, as a gift to the Grass Herbarium to be kept permanently intact with the herbarium.

While Professor Hitchcock specialized on grasses for the last thirty-five years his interest in the advance of botany as a whole is shown not only in the work of locating types of grasses, and other plants as well, but also in several notable addresses such as "The Scope and Relations of Taxonomic Botany," and in time-consuming service on various committees. In 1919 he was made a member of the Organization Committee for Biological Research of the National Research Council, and in 1920 chairman of the executive committee of the newly organized Institute for Research in Tropical America, remaining chairman until June, 1926. The idea of preserving a bit of tropical jungle in the Canal Zone originated with him. He pushed the project vigorously, and as a result Barro Colorado Island was made a permanent preserve.

One of Professor Hitchcock's great contributions to

science was his helpfulness to colleagues in places remote from large libraries and herbaria, and his encouragement of younger workers. To the succession of students who have studied at the Grass Herbarium, he gave freely of his time and learning, but he always sought to develop independent judgment in the student. His truly scientific attitude and magnanimity were displayed in his relations with his colleagues and especially with the staff of the Grass Herbarium.

The publication of the *Manual of Grasses of the United States* and the fact that the first printing was sold out and a second ordered before the work had been out two months was a great satisfaction to him. Before leaving for Amsterdam in August last he finished the manuscript of a *Manual of Grasses of the West Indies*.

A characterization of the man could hardly be better worded than it was by Dr. Willis Lynn Jepson in the copy of his "Flora of California," presented to Professor Hitchcock in 1925: "Eager explorer, far-seeing botanist, and wise promoter of scientific research in America."

AGNES CHASE

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

RECENT DEATHS

DR. IVAN PETROVICH PAVLOV, the eminent physiologist of Leningrad, died on February 27 at the age of eighty-seven years.

DR. CHARLES JEAN HENRI NICOLLE, director of the Pasteur Institute branch in Tunis, died on February 28. He was sixty-nine years old.

DR. GEORGE DAVID ROSENGARTEN, vice-president of the Powers-Weightman-Rosengarten Company for twenty-two years, president of the American Chemical Society in 1927, died on February 24 at the age of sixty-seven years.

DR. C. BURNS CRAIG, associate medical director of the Neurological Institute of New York and assistant clinical professor of neurology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, died on February 4 at the age of fifty-two years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

A HABITAT GROUP OF BABOONS FROM ETHIOPIA AT THE FIELD MUSEUM

A HABITAT group of gelada baboons from Ethiopia, a species of ape which has no counterpart elsewhere, was placed on exhibition in December in the Carl E. Akeley Memorial Hall at the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago. The group, prepared by Leon L. Pray, staff taxidermist, shows an old male, with the mantle of long flowing hair producing a decidedly leonine effect characteristic to geladas of his age,

seated on a rocky prominence. Just below him are a female and a half-grown young baboon, engaged in exploring crevices in the rock. The specimens were collected by the Field Museum-Chicago Daily News Abyssinian Expedition.

The gelada baboon, according to Dr. Wilfred H. Osgood, curator of zoology, and leader of the expedition which collected the specimens, is strictly a resident of Ethiopia, and is confined to the rock-walled canyons and high mountain crests. Apparently it has

occupied its present position in the country for a long time, perhaps almost as long as the volcanic mountains in which it lives. Its near relatives, which may have occupied other parts of Africa also, are now all extinct, and it is left alone on the Ethiopian highlands. Dr. Osgood writes:

Africa is a land of baboons, and within that continent Ethiopia is headquarters for several of the most important species. In eastern Ethiopia, mainly in the hot lowlands, are found the hamadryas baboons which extend into the Sudan and Arabia; and in other parts of the country are found also the dog-faced baboon, closely allied to forms found throughout Central Africa. The more exclusive geladas differ markedly from other baboons. Although almost wholly terrestrial in habits, the gelada has certain peculiarities indicating a possible distant relationship to tree-living African monkeys. The gelada's legs are relatively slender and the tail fairly long. On its breast is a peculiar shield-shaped naked patch of a florid pink color.

The gelada rarely descends below an altitude of 6,000 feet. In the rocks and caves where it lives the temperature frequently drops to freezing. Like other baboons, it is gregarious. It is very agile and is credited with rolling boulders from a height to disconcert any animal which may be approaching.

The hunting of geladas is extremely difficult, calling for much hard climbing, and many long shots. The baboons sighted on our expedition seemed always to perch on pinnacles from which, if killed, they would fall into such yawning depths below that retrieving them would be next to impossible. The help of the natives was invaluable in these places, for the ability of a barefooted Ethiopian to scale a cliff is second only to that of the baboons themselves.

THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES OF PHILADELPHIA

CHARLES M. B. CADWALADER, managing director of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, in his report for 1936 made at the one hundred and twenty-fourth annual meeting, states that the museum had the largest attendance in its history, and the greatest number of expeditions made during a single year. A program of expansion in educational cooperation with public and private schools and colleges in the Philadelphia area has been initiated.

The 181,073 visitors to the museum during 1935 represent an increase of more than 18,000 over 1934 and the 1935 attendance of school children, 37,418, an increase of nearly 23,000 over the preceding year. Of this number, more than 26,000 were Philadelphia public school pupils sent in classes by the Board of Education.

The forty-seven expeditions and field trips, to collect natural history specimens in various parts of the world, were made by friends of the academy and mem-

bers of its staff. These expeditions worked in China, Tibet, Africa, Mexico, the West Indies, Guatemala, Panama, Siam, Russia, Bolivia, Alberta, Alaska, Greenland, Hawaii, Cuba, British Columbia, as well as various parts of Pennsylvania and New Jersey and in other sections of the United States.

During the year 67,000 new specimens of animals, insects, shells, plants, minerals and fossils were added to the collections, and two hundred and fifty-one of these were described by staff members as forms new to science. Seven new permanent exhibits, including the unique habitat group of Takin from West China, were installed in the museum. Sixty scientific publications by members of the academy staff were issued.

Discussing the new development program, Mr. Cadwalader said:

The last few years have seen constantly increasing evidences of public interest in our work. The trustees have decided that in order to increase the usefulness of the academy to science it must also consider the wants of the community—that if we are to proceed at an accelerated pace in our scientific departments we must capitalize upon this interest.

Accordingly, we are studying our opportunities. We have decided that there are three main divisions, which meet not only the immediate demands upon the academy and offer the greatest opportunity for service in the future, but also establish the essentials now lacking in a well-rounded program. These three divisions are first, the improvement of the museum to make it of greater educational value and also of more general interest; second, development of an active program of cooperation with Philadelphia's school children, and third, reestablishment of our department of paleontology as the first step in establishing the academy as a center of research for near-by colleges and universities.

Effingham B. Morris, president of the academy, presided at the meeting, and the following were re-elected to the Board of Trustees: R. R. M. Carpenter, Clarence H. Clark, 3rd, C. Dawson Coleman, Frank B. Foster, James E. Gowen and Effingham B. Morris. Tribute was paid to the late Prentiss N. Gray, of New York, and the late T. Charlton Henry, of Philadelphia, both of whom were members of the Board of Trustees. Announcement was made of the election of Edgar B. Howard and George D. Widener as trustees.

EXPEDITIONS OF THE PEABODY MUSEUM OF YALE UNIVERSITY

YALE UNIVERSITY has made public a report of the research projects of the museum, which includes research in Alaska, India, South America, Central America, the United States and Russia.

Dr. Cornelius Osgood, curator of anthropology, who