The purposes of such an institute for research in applied human biology might be enumerated as follows: to establish ranges, norms and variabilities in the fields of human morphology, physiology, psychology and neurology; to investigate age changes in man from his conception to his dissolution; to determine racial susceptibilities and immunities; to test the assumption of parallelism between human physiology and that of the higher mammals; to investigate human heredity and to apply the results of such research to medical practice; to lay the foundations for a rational science of eugenics. All these studies and many more might be undertaken with the avowed purpose of obtaining knowledge bearing directly upon medical practice, and it is medical science which would profit largely from them.

This paper is not intended to exhort medical sinners to an anthropological repentance; the anthropologist does not cast himself in the rôle of a John the Baptist, crying aloud in the wilderness—far less of a Messiah. Without any desire to crash the gates of your great profession, he peeps curiously between the bars, and comments—no doubt rashly—upon the laudable efforts of the inmates.

OBITUARY

WILLIAM ELWOOD BYERLY[1]

WILLIAM ELWOOD BYERLY was born in Philadelphia on December 13, 1849. He was educated by private tutors preparatory to entering Harvard, graduating from there with distinction in 1871. Returning to the graduate school for two years' further study, he received in 1873 one of the two first degrees of doctor of philosophy ever granted by the university. On leaving Harvard he was appointed assistant professor of mathematics at Cornell, where he remained for three years. He then returned to Harvard as assistant professor and in 1881 was promoted to full professorship. In 1905, on the death of J. M. Peirce, he was made Perkins professor. Because of threatened blindness Professor Byerly was forced to retire in 1913 from active university work, although his interest in education was undiminished until his death on December 20, 1935, at the age of eighty-seven.

Byerly's professional life was largely influenced by two unusual men. The first was Benjamin Peirce, who was Byerly's teacher both in the college and in the graduate school, and we may credit him with deciding Byerly to give his life to mathematical teaching. The second man was Evan W. Evans, his predecessor in the Cornell professorship.

Byerly's influence as a teacher was spread through his publications. Three years after commencing his work at Harvard he published "Elements of the Differential Calculus." His "Integral Calculus," a natural continuation of the "Differential," appeared in 1881. In 1893 he published "An Elementary Treatise on Fourier Series," "An Introduction to Generalized Coordinates" in 1916 and "An Introduction to the Calculus of Variations" in 1917.

Professor Byerly's contributions to education were not confined to his work at Harvard. In 1893 the National Education Association appointed a committee of ten, headed by President Eliot, to investigate teaching in American secondary schools. Byerly was vice-chairman of a subcommittee on mathematics and took a vital part in preparing their report. The total report of the committee was long held as an educational document of high significance.

An important part of Byerly's life work was his service in promoting the higher education of women, and he was actively interested in the movement which led ultimately to the establishment of Radcliffe College. Upon his retirement from active participation in the life of the college in 1913, President Eliot is quoted in part as saying "I can only say that he has been the most indispensable person connected with the growth and development of Radcliffe College."

However, there can be no doubt that Byerly's finest work in life was as a classroom teacher. He loved his subject and he loved his pupils, and the kernel of all his endeavor was the wish to make his pupils see the beauty and significance of the subject which was close to his heart. The key-note of his success was in the words "I love to teach." Through his teaching and writing he passed on inspiration in ample measure to a large number of grateful pupils who paid him in return with love and reverence.

[1] From a minute of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University.

GEORGE MELENDEZ WRIGHT

GEORGE MELENDEZ WRIGHT, chief of the Wildlife Division, National Park Service, was killed in an unavoidable automobile accident near Deming, New Mexico, on February 25.

Mr. Wright graduated from the University of California, College of Forestry, in 1927 but was particularly interested in wildlife protection. He became a ranger in Yosemite National Park, later serving as junior park naturalist. In 1929, at his own expense and with headquarters at Berkeley, California, he initiated a wildlife survey of the parks system to determine the existing status of animal life, help solve urgent park animal problems, and develop a wildlife policy for the National Park System. Four years

later, having published a valuable report ("Fauna of the National Parks," a preliminary survey of faunal relationships in national parks, National Park Service, Fauna Series No. 1, May, 1933, 157 pp.) he became associate field naturalist and chief of the Wildlife Division. Another report dealing with wildlife management in the national parks was published as a second unit in the fauna series in 1935.

Called to Washington to aid with emergency work, Mr. Wright directed the efforts of a committee which prepared the Recreation Section of the National Resources Board Report (now in press). Minor biological papers and notes have appeared in *The Condor, The Gull, The Scientific Monthly* and *The Journal of Mammalogy*. His writings, as well as his work, indicate a unique vitality and intellectual integrity. To him, perhaps, more than to any one else must go the credit for developing a concept of conservation in which man mingles with the other animals and maintains that priceless association by intelligently restraining his own acquisitive and reorganizing tendencies.

H. C. B.

RECENT DEATHS

PROFESSOR WILLIAM GILBERT MIXTER, who was a member of the faculty of Yale University for forty-five years, died on March 10. He was in his ninetieth year. Professor Mixter, who retired from active teaching in 1913, was known for his work in inorganic and thermal chemistry.

DR. WILLIAM HOLLAND WILMER, who was director of the Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute at the Johns Hopkins University from its founding in 1922 until his retirement in 1934, died on March 12 at the age of seventy-three years.

A CORRESPONDENT writes: "Dr. Kary Cadmus Davis, professor of the teaching of agriculture at the George Peabody College for Teachers, died on February 4 at the age of sixty-eight years. He was the first to receive the Ph.D. degree in agriculture (Cornell) in the United States. He was the author of some forty books on agricultural topics, and had taught at Peabody for twenty-two years."

JOHN SCOTT HALDANE, honorary professor and director of the Mining Research Laboratory of Birmingham University, died on March 15. He was seventy-six years old.

GEORGE THURLAND PRIOR, formerly keeper of the Department of Minerals at the Museum of Natural History, Kensington, London, died on March 8 at the age of seventy-three years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

SCIENTIFIC MEN AND THE AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION

ACCORDING to a United Press dispatch, a number of scientific men connected with the U. S. Department of Agriculture have been stranded without money in out-of-the-way places throughout the world since the AAA was invalidated on January 6.

They were sent to their various posts to investigate methods of promoting agriculture in the United States. They searched for insects with which to combat farm blights such as the Mediterranean fruit-fly and for new plants which would aid in fighting water and wind erosion.

Several went to Hawaii to study conditions there and twenty others went to Puerto Rico. Others traveled to scattered points in Africa, India and South America. All, according to the dispatch, except a fortunate few who had built up a reserve fund of cash, were forced to exist on loans or the charity of friends since the AAA decision.

The dispatch continues:

> On January 6 the Supreme Court declared processing taxes invalid. Payments were halted on all items which previously had been paid from processing tax receipts. No more money was available.
>
> AAA officials, mindful of the plight of the scientists, succeeded in having an item inserted in the deficiency appropriation bill setting aside $670,000 to carry on and complete the surveys—and, incidentally, provide salary payments to the scientists as well as sufficient money to bring them back to this country. The bill was approved on February 11.
>
> The money thus far has not been made available to the AAA or to the Department of Agriculture, however, because Comptroller-General John R. McCarl questions whether continuation of the project is legal under the court's ruling.

IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR CHANCEY JUDAY, OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

FRIENDS of Professor Chancey Juday gathered at dinner on Friday, February 28, at the Memorial Union of the University of Wisconsin, to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of his service with the Natural History Division of the Wisconsin Geological Survey. Professor Juday has conducted his researches on fresh-water lakes continuously since 1905. Having been president of the Microscopical Society and the Ecological Society, he was elected first president of the American Limnological Society, which was founded at St. Louis in June, 1935.