

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.

The investigations of Dr. Juday have covered a wide range, extending from the Finger Lakes of New York to inland lakes of Indiana, California and Central America. However, most of his studies have dealt with the almost innumerable inland lakes of Wisconsin; he has visited several hundred of these lakes in all parts of the state. The most extensive studies have been made on the lakes near Madison, on Green Lake, and, during the past decade, on the lakes of north-eastern Wisconsin.

It may be said that the limnology laboratory at Trout Lake, which was established under the direction of C. Juday and E. A. Birge, and their laboratory at the University of Wisconsin are the oldest limnological laboratories in the United States. From the variety of correspondence which is received, one may conclude that Juday's contributions to the literature of limnology have penetrated most quarters of the globe. Just as it is difficult to mention Juday without including Birge, with whom he is associated in most of his research work, so it is equally difficult to mention limnological research without suggesting the cooperative element in the investigations. In response to the well-wishes of his friends on the occasion of the dinner, Professor Juday discussed the essential relationships which exist between the various fields of science in a limnological investigation and took the opportunity to thank his colleagues, who through their contributions had helped make his research so pleasant and profitable.

V. W. M.

THE GOLDEN JUBILEE OF ALUMINUM

ACCORDING to *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*, Arthur Vining Davis, chairman of the board of the Aluminum Company of America and early associate of Charles Martin Hall, spoke before a gathering at the Waldorf-Astoria on February 17 to celebrate the golden jubilee of aluminum, held under the joint auspices of the Electrochemical Society and the Aluminum Company of America. "All developments of the kind," Mr. Davis said, "divide themselves into four eras or epochs, each characterized by the question uppermost in the minds of the developers. Ours were: (1) Can we make aluminum? and this we were able to answer in the affirmative as soon as our production reached 30 pounds per day. (2) What can we do with what we have made? which became an early problem as our output, small as it was, piled up on our hands and was answered by making novelties of it. (3) Can we make any money on it? which was finally answered by our going into the business of doing our own fabricating. (4) How can we make the business grow? which still keeps us searching actively for new markets through research, despite the

fact that our present production is in the neighborhood of 300,000,000 pounds per year."

Present at the meeting as guests of honor were seven of the fifteen living Perkin Medalists: F. M. Becket, C. F. Burgess, F. G. Cottrell, George O. Curme, Jr., Colin G. Fink, E. C. Sullivan and M. C. Whitaker. James H. Critchett, president of the Electrochemical Society, turned the meeting over to F. C. Frary, director of research of the Aluminum Company of America, who acted as toastmaster and who traced the early history of Hall's development of the electrolytical production of aluminum in an anhydrous bath. The other speakers were H. H. Johnson, a classmate of Hall's at Oberlin College and a lifelong friend of the inventor; F. M. Becket, of the Electrometallurgical Corporation, who spoke on fifty years of research, and Alexander Klemin, of the Guggenheim School of Aeronautics, who emphasized the importance of aluminum and its alloys in modern transportation through the air. The occasion marked the fiftieth anniversary of Hall's first successful experiments and the twenty-fifth of his designation as Perkin Medalist in 1911. An account of Hall's work will be found in the issue of *SCIENCE* for February 21, 1936.

THE ELDRIDGE REEVES JOHNSON FOUNDATION LECTURES

THE lectures of the Eldridge Reeves Johnson Foundation for Medical Physics in the University of Pennsylvania will be given this year by Dr. Joseph Erlanger, professor of physiology in the Washington University Medical School, and Dr. Herbert S. Gasser, director of the Laboratories of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

The subject of the series will be "Electrical Signs of Nerve Activity." The lectures will be given in the laboratories of the School of Medicine at 4:15 P.M., from March 31 to April 7, as follows:

- March 31: "Introduction," Drs. Erlanger and Gasser.
- April 1: "The Analysis of the Compound Action Potential of Nerve," Dr. Erlanger.
- April 2: "The Comparative Physiological Characteristics of Nerve Fibers," Dr. Erlanger.
- April 3: "Some Reactions of Nerve Fibers to Electrical Stimulation," Dr. Erlanger.
- April 6: "Sequence of the Potential Changes," Dr. Gasser.
- April 7: "The Irritability Cycle," Dr. Gasser.

The purpose of the Johnson Foundation is to further research in the physical aspects of the medical sciences and generally to develop the relation and application of physics to medicine. As a part of these activities the lectures were begun in 1930 as a means for presenting from time to time outstanding scientific advances in such fields of investigation. In