

and his nephew, Lawrence Lewis. Characteristically, these facts meant little to him, and he so rarely mentioned them that they were known only to a few people.

This unassuming man studied for the pure love of learning and published only one paper, which concerned his discovery of fossil palm wood in the Jackson Eocene of Louisiana. He wandered at will through the fields of biology, geology and archeology. His knowledge was encyclopedic, and he has been correctly termed a true savant.

Professor Williamson won the silver medal for his Indian collection at the Louisiana Centennial in St. Louis in 1904. He was honorary curator of archeology of the Louisiana Museum of Natural History, formerly librarian of the Louisiana Academy of Sciences and a member of the Louisiana Historical Society. In 1927 he was given a testimonial of esteem by the Louisiana State Board of Education, the bestowal of such an honor being unique in the history of that body.

GORDON GUNTER

RECENT DEATHS

ROY JED COLONY, associate professor of geology at Columbia University, died on March 26 at the age of sixty-six years.

DR. TILGHAM B. MARDEN, professor of histology and embryology at the University of Maryland for

twenty-seven years, died on March 18. He was sixty-six years old.

DR. MELVIN ALBERT MARTIN, professor of psychology and head of the department at Newcomb College, Tulane University, died on March 27 in his sixty-fifth year.

DR. MALCOLM LA SALLE HARRIS, formerly professor of surgery at the Chicago Polyclinic Surgical School, president of the American Medical Association in 1928-29, died on March 22. He was seventy-three years old.

THE death is announced of Professor Harry Glenn Parkinson, head of the department of agricultural education at the Pennsylvania State College, who has been serving as acting dean of the College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts of the University of Puerto Rico, at the age of forty-six years.

MRS. FREDERICK BEDELL (Mary L. Crehore), wife of Professor Frederick Bedell, of Cornell University, herself a physicist, died on March 17.

THE death is announced of Harold Brown, for the past ten years principal of the Plant and Animal Products Department of the British Imperial Institute.

ALBERT BERZEVICZY, a former minister of Hungary and formerly president of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, died on March 22 at the age of eighty-three years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

COMMITTEE ON FORESTRY OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA

THE National Research Council of Canada has appointed a committee to study the requirements in respect to research in all branches of forestry, including measures for the better utilization of forest products. The committee is to function as an associate committee of the National Research Council and includes in its membership representatives of the Dominion Departments of the Interior and Agriculture, in addition to the National Research Council; the forestry department of each province; members of the forestry faculties of universities in which there are departments of forestry; the lumber, pulp and paper and allied industries throughout the Dominion, the forest engineering societies, the forest protective associations and the Canadian Forestry Association.

It is understood that the committee will base its preliminary program on the findings of the Conference on Forestry Research held in Ottawa in November, 1935, at which carefully prepared papers, pre-

sented by leading authorities in the various branches of forestry throughout Canada, were fully discussed. The conference recommended the appointment of a national committee in order to provide a permanent organization representative of government, industrial, technical and educational interests concerned in the promotion of forestry in all its branches.

Surpassed only by agriculture and mining, the forests of Canada rank third among the primary industries in their contribution to national production. Among the manufacturing industries, pulp and paper production holds first place, and official statistics show that more than four thousand manufacturing plants in Canada depend on wood and paper products as their raw materials. In foreign trade, "wood, wood products and paper" stand second to agricultural products in total value and show a greater excess of exports over imports than any other group.

Represented on the committee are:

Department of the Dominion Government:

Major-General A. G. L. McNaughton, president, National Research Council, Ottawa, Ontario.

- E. H. Finlayson, director of forestry, Forest Service, Department of the Interior, Ottawa, Ontario.
 T. A. McElhanney, superintendent, Forest Products Laboratories, Department of the Interior, Ottawa, Ontario.
 Dr. J. M. Swaine, director of research, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Ontario.

University Representatives:

- J. M. Gibson, professor of forestry, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, N. B.
 A. Bédard, directeur, L'Ecole d'Arpentage et de Génie Forestier, Université Laval, Quebec, P. Q.
 Dr. C. D. Howe, dean of the faculty of forestry, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario.
 F. M. Knapp, professor of forestry, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B. C.

There are in addition nine provincial and eleven industrial representatives. The joint secretaries of the committee are: D. Roy Cameron, associate director of forestry, Forest Service, Ottawa, Ontario, and S. J. Cook, division of research information, National Research Council, Ottawa.

THE FEDERAL WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

THE report of a special sub-committee of the Water Resources Committee of the National Resources Committee was recently transmitted to President Roosevelt.

The sub-committee, which included representatives of the chief federal agencies concerned with drainage policy and projects, was composed of the following specialists: W. B. Bell, Bureau of Biological Survey; Lt. Col. Glen E. Edgerton, Corps of Engineers; Perry Fellows, Works Progress Administration; Elmer Higgins, Bureau of Fisheries; S. H. McCrory, Bureau of Agricultural Engineering; S. A. Rohwer, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine; P. I. Taylor, Bureau of Reclamation; L. L. Williams, U. S. Public Health Service; and Abel Wolman, chairman of the Water Resources Committee, as chairman. G. F. White of the staff served as secretary.

In his letter transmitting the report to the National Resources Committee, Mr. Wolman summarized the major conclusions and recommendations as follows:

The Sub-Committee finds that (1) conflicts of Federal activity in drainage work, resulting in unnecessary waste and delay, have occurred; (2) the number of such conflicts may be expected to increase as a result of recent extensions of Federal authority over drainage work, and (3) all but a few of the conflicts might have been prevented had there been opportunity for reconciliation of policies during the planning of the various programs. It recommends, therefore, an administrative mechanism for promoting balanced consideration of proposed Federal projects, and for reducing friction and delay in their exe-

cution. The same findings and recommendations apply to projects for impounding water.

The recommended mechanism requires (1) authority for the National Resources Committee to serve as a clearing house of information and opinion concerning proposed Federal drainage and water-storage programs, and (2) provision by the National Resources Committee of personnel to staff the suggested Sub-Committee which would review programs. In short, the Sub-Committee has found a clear-cut deficiency in national water planning, and has proposed a simple, inexpensive method intended to remedy it.

The Water Resources Committee endorses the report unanimously, and urges that the Advisory Committee approve the report and take prompt action to effectuate the recommendations.

On receiving the report, which included a comprehensive discussion of the problem, President Roosevelt issued the following memorandum designed to prevent duplication, delay and conflict in drainage and water storage projects and to eliminate dubious proposals at their inception:

From investigations made by the National Resources Committee, it appears that unnecessary waste and delay in the execution of land drainage and water storage projects result from the failure of Federal agencies to secure review of projects from all relevant points of view while the work is being planned, and that certain projects which are ill-advised from public health, wild life conservation, or other standpoints, may be undertaken because such review is not made.

Please instruct appropriate officials of your agency to submit a statement of impending programs involving land drainage or water storage to the National Resources Committee at regular intervals in order that other agencies having an interest in the work may be informed by the committee of the programs well in advance of their initiation.

APPOINTMENT OF DR. JAMES T. JARDINE AS DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH OF THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DR. JAMES T. JARDINE has been appointed director of research for the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Dr. Jardine has served as chief of the Office of Experiment Stations since 1931 and will continue in this capacity. His additional assignment becomes effective immediately.

As chief of the Office of Experiment Stations and director of research, Dr. Jardine will be responsible for three major activities. He will continue in charge of the Office of Experiment Stations, which administers Federal grants to the states and territories for agricultural experiment stations, and coordinates this work with similar research of the department. As director of research, he will cooperate with the bureaus in planning and coordinating their research work. As