

of artistic ability at graphic presentation, and many were the interesting observations he recorded in park *Nature Notes*.

Mr. Crowe, with an all-round knowledge of nature and her laws and ability to arouse enthusiasm for nature study in park visitors, exemplified the highest ideals of the naturalist service, which endeavors to bring to every visitor to the national parks a maximum of knowledge and appreciation of its chief features.

George C. Crowe was known to hundreds of high-school and college students in Montana and Wyoming through his lectures on park wildlife, and he had interested himself in the past four years in the CCC enrollees in Yellowstone National Park. Acting Superintendent J. W. Emmert paid tribute to him as an "extremely faithful, conscientious, and capable employee," and the *Livingston Enterprise* said, in an editorial, "The shock brought by news of Naturalist Crowe's death caused wide grief and sadness. The National Park Service and the communities of Mammoth and Livingston can ill afford to lose such sterling character as he possessed."

H. C. BRYANT

RECENT DEATHS

DR. HENRY S. PLUMMER, professor of medicine in the Graduate Medical School of the University of

Minnesota, chief of the division of medicine of the Mayo Clinic and president of the Mayo Foundation, died on January 1 at the age of sixty-two years.

PROFESSOR CHARLES WINTHROP CROCKETT, who retired two years ago as head of the department of astronomy and mathematics at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, died on December 30 at the age of seventy-four years.

DR. PHILIP EMBURY BROWNING, who retired as associate professor of chemistry at Yale University in 1932, died on January 2 at the age of seventy years.

DR. THEODORE JAMES BRADLEY, since 1912 professor of chemistry and dean of the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, died on December 11. He was sixty-two years old.

THE death at the age of sixty-five years is announced of Sir Grafton Elliot Smith, professor of anatomy in the University of London.

SIR JOHN ROBERTSON, professor of public health in the University of Birmingham, died on December 16 in his seventy-fifth year.

DR. CARL STUMPF, professor of psychology at the University of Berlin, died on December 29 at the age of eighty-eight years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF GENETICS

THE translation given below of an article appearing in *Izvestia*, Moscow, on December 21, 1936, has been sent to *SCIENCE* by the Tass Telegraph Agency of the USSR, with a request for its publication.

In connection with the postponement of the convocation of the International Genetics Congress, an American agency, *Science Service*, comes forward with a statement about the "non-existence of intellectual freedom" in the USSR, and the *New York Times* has a report of the arrests of Professors Agol and Vavilov in the USSR. We have the following to report:

First. There really does not exist in the USSR that "freedom" of genetic science which in certain states is understood as freedom to kill people or as freedom to destroy whole nations because of their alleged "inferiority."

Second. Real freedom of research, real intellectual freedom exists only in the USSR, where science works not for the benefit and the hire of a narrow group of capitalists but for the good of, and in the interest of, all peoples and of the whole of mankind. Evidence of this is shown by the public discussion on problems of genetics which is now proceeding in the sessions of the Lenin Agricultural Academy with the participation of over five hundred scientists. The allegedly arrested Professor Vavilov, as has

already been announced in the Soviet press, on December 22, will deliver a report at a session of the academy criticizing the scientific views of the young scientist, Lysenko, while the latter will read a paper criticizing the anti-Darwinist character of certain of Professor Vavilov's theoretical positions. Regarding the alleged arrest of Professor Vavilov, the *New York Times* simply lied.

Third. Mr. Agol, who has nothing in common with science, has been arrested by the organs of investigation for direct connection with the Trotskyite murderers. With such gentlemen the USSR will invariably deal similarly in the future, no matter with what sort of supposedly scientific protective flag they might attempt to hide their criminal activity against the state. There really does not exist in the USSR "freedom" for murderers or "freedom" for propaganda of terrorism.

Fourth. The Genetic Congress, previously scheduled for 1937, has been postponed for a certain time upon the request of a number of scientists who desired more time for their preparations for the congress. The only purpose of this postponement is the desire to assure the best preparation and the most extensive participation of scientists from various countries.

THE U. S. BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

IN his annual report to the Secretary of Agriculture, Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, chief of the Biological Survey, points out that the success of rebuilding wildlife

depends on close cooperation of landowners and conservation agencies.

Practical plans that will provide for wildlife needs without interfering with other desirable objectives are being furnished by the survey to federal, state and local agencies that administer land. The survey also has put into operation this year nine cooperative wildlife research and demonstration units at land-grant colleges to show landowners that it is not only desirable but also practical to consider wildlife in their land use programs.

The principal research activities during the past year included the following: Intensified investigation of waterfowl conditions and habitats; transplanting of Pacific-coast eelgrass at certain points along the Atlantic coast in an experiment to reestablish an important waterfowl food all but eradicated by disease; renewed efforts to insure preservation of wildlife habitat in areas where mosquito-control work is planned or in progress; studies of the effects of crow-waterfowl relationships on breeding grounds and efforts to determine the effects of crow control on duckling mortality, and investigation of fox depredations on quail through a study of mortality at nests and studies of the local food habits of foxes. The bureau developed a self-feeding system at the Rabbit Experiment Station in California that reduces feed costs with production of superior-quality meat and established a research center at the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge in Oklahoma. Congress authorized the purchase of land in New York on which the Fur Animal Experiment Station is located.

Biologists of the survey also continued research on forest wildlife relationships and investigations of Alaskan conditions for buffalo and musk oxen. Important bird colonies not heretofore mentioned in reports or literature were discovered on some of the major islands of the Aleutian chain by a field party, including two biologists, that spent five months in studying conditions of wildlife on these islands.

The report says that more than 225,000 birds were banded by cooperators of the bureau during the year; 269 mammal specimens were added to the collection, and 305 bird specimens were acquired.

Other features of the year's work summarized by Dr. Gabrielson in the early pages of his report are as follows:

Thirty-two small refuges were established in North Dakota on areas reserved for wildlife and water conservation by means of gratuitous easements. An allotment of \$286,240 from the Works Progress Administration made it possible to develop the refuges.

An act to make effective in this country a convention between the United States and Mexico for the protection of migratory birds and game animals was passed by the

Congress and approved by President Roosevelt. Two investigators cooperated with Mexican authorities in the preliminary work on the treaty. Mexico has not yet ratified. The convention will become effective upon exchange of ratifications.

By a cooperative arrangement with the Works Progress Administration the bureau will investigate all proposed drainage projects that may materially affect wildlife environment.

The number of injurious rodents was reduced on 32,547,769 acres for the protection of farm crops, range grasses, silvicultural plantings, reclamation waterways and surface soils threatened by erosion. Rodent control was extended to Hawaii, where rats seriously interfere with pineapple and sugarcane production and menace public health as carriers of bubonic plague.

GIFT OF THE GENERAL EDUCATION BOARD TO THE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE General Education Board of New York has given to the University of Chicago the sum of \$3,000,000 to be spent for the development of the Medical School and the improvement of the university generally. This is the largest unrestricted gift ever received by the university.

President Robert M. Hutchins stated that the money presumably will be expended during the next five or six years and emphasized the necessity of undertaking within that period to replace the gift by raising additional endowment of not less than \$15,000,000 for medical and general university support.

Although the trustees have absolute discretion in spending the grant, the background of the discussions leading to the gift suggested that about \$360,000 a year would go to medicine. Dr. Hutchins explained that the primary interest of the General Education Board in making the grant was in medicine. The Medical School was founded in 1927 with the help of the board, which since has been making temporary grants to assist the school. The present gift is intended to continue these grants and to provide a substantial sum for improvement.

The board regarded support of the university generally as incidental to the support of the Medical School, believing it impossible to develop a strong medical school apart from a strong university because of the dependence of medical education and research on the closest possible association with good departments in the natural sciences.

In making this grant, the board made clear the fact that the gift was not to be regarded as implying the existence of any peculiar responsibility to the University of Chicago.

The following statement was made:

We do not recognize any such responsibility, nor have our trustees ever considered that they were under any