Botanical Society of America, Ecological Society, Washington and Iowa Academies of Science, Sigma Xi, national and state president of the Izaak Walton League, fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Geological Society of America, Botanical Society of Bohemia and Natural History Society of Prague. His passing is an irretrievable academic and civic loss to the state. He was the last of the elder statesmen of natural history in the Middle West.

W. F. LOEHWING

WESLEY M. COATES

THE sudden death of Dr. Wesley M. Coates has greatly shocked his colleagues in the department of physics of Columbia University and the Crocker Institute. Dr. Coates's death was due to an accidental contact with the power lines of the million-volt x-ray machine at the Presbyterian Hospital. The x-ray machine was not running at the time, but certain adjustments were being made on the oscillators which feed the x-ray apparatus preparatory to its use on the following day, and the presumption is that Dr. Coates slipped and accidentally came in contact with a power circuit of about 5,000 volts. His death was presumably instantaneous, for, despite every effort by his colleague, Dr. Exner, and the staff of the Presbyterian Hospital, he could not be revived.

He had received his academic training under Professor E. O. Lawrence and David H. Sloan at the University of California and a doctorate in physics in addition. He then worked with Professor Bergen Davis in the department of physics at Columbia University for two years, and for the past year has been active with Dr. Frank M. Exner, of the Crocker Institute, in putting the finishing touches on the x-ray machine belonging to the Crocker Institute, but housed by the Presbyterian Hospital. He and Dr. Exner and Professor Charles Packard had under way a large series of experiments in the field of biophysics. Dr. Coates was a man of excellent training, had a mind of very original type, and was an enthusiastic worker. He will be greatly missed by those with whom he worked.

F. C. W.

RECENT DEATHS

DR. GEORGE H. SHERWOOD, curator-in-chief of education and honorary director of the American Museum of Natural History, New York City, died suddenly on March 19 at the age of sixty-one years.

DR. JAMES B. OVERTON, professor of plant physiology at the University of Wisconsin, died suddenly on March 18. He was sixty-seven years old.

DR. RAYMOND R. HITCHCOCK, since 1914 head of the department of mathematics of the University of North Dakota, died on March 10. He was fifty-six years old.

ROBERT WALPOLE ELLIS, professor of geology at the University of New Mexico for nineteen years and state geologist of New Mexico from 1918 to 1927, died on March 10 at the age of sixty-eight years.

DR. LOUIS BEAUFORT, for thirty years professor of surveying and geodesy at the University of Toronto until his retirement in 1931 with the title emeritus, died on March 17 at the age of seventy-six years.

DR. JOHN F. MACKEY, director of industrial work in the department of chemistry at the Central Technical School, Toronto, died on March 11 at the age of fifty-one years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

FOR the tenth successive time, annual attendance at the Field Museum of Natural History in 1936 exceeded one million visitors. The total number of visitors in the year was approximately 1,180,000. More than 94 per cent. were admitted free. Only about 67,000, or less than 6 per cent., paid the 25-cent admission charge required on certain days. Admission is free to the general public on Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays; children, students, teachers and members of the museum are admitted free on all days.

During the school year, Chicago's 500,000 school children were kept in daily contact with the museum by means of some 1,300 traveling natural history exhibits which are circulated among the schools on regular schedule by the N. W. Harris Public School Extension department of the museum.

In the spring and autumn the annual courses of free illustrated lectures for adults were presented in the James Simpson Theater of the museum. These, and the series of free motion-picture programs for children, extension lectures in the schools, guide-lecture tours at the museum and other activities carried on by the division of the museum known as the James Nelson and Anna Louise Raymond Foundation, reached approximately 250,000 persons.

Exhibits in all departments were augmented by new installations. In the department of zoology is a new habitat group of the rare emperor penguins, for which specimens collected by Rear-Admiral Richard E. Byrd on his last expedition to the Antarctic were presented to the museum by the Chicago Zoological Society. Another new group shows the grotesque gelada baboons found only in Ethiopia. Of interest is an exhibit of six different species of penguins from various parts of the world, the rare tamarao buffalo found only in the island of Mindoro in the Philippines, a specimen of

Derby's guan, a strange bird obtained in Guatemala by an expedition led by Leon Mandel, and examples of the little known four-horned antelope of India and the seldom seen Ethiopian ibex. Additions to the department of botany include a miniature model of a tea plantation of Ceylon and eight large mural paintings, by Staff Artist Charles A. Corwin, of landscapes in which are seen exotic trees and plants. The department of geology added to its exhibits the world's only mounted skeletons of the prehistoric Titanoides, and of the South American fossil mammal Homalodothorium; a group of various prehistoric animals trapped in the Rancho La Brea "Tar Pools" near Los Angeles and a cut-away model of the earth illustrating its internal structure in accordance with accepted scientific theories. Additions and improvements were made also in various exhibits of the department of anthropology.

As for several years past, financial conditions prevented the carrying out of expeditions, which were formerly such a large item in the museum's activities. However, through the interest of various individuals, the museum was enabled to acquire some material from field work.

EXHIBIT OF SCIENTIFIC PHOTOGRAPHY

IN Rochester from March 15 to April 3 there is being held what it is planned to be the most comprehensive and the largest exhibition of technological photography hitherto assembled.

It emphasizes photography in which pictorial or artistic quality is not the prime consideration and which is intended to convey information rather than emotional gratification or amusement. In addition the exhibition includes the largest collection of color photography ever shown publicly in the United States.

The exhibition has been arranged by the Rochester Technical Section of the Photographic Society of America. It is entitled the first International Exhibit of Scientific and Applied Photography. It will be on view in Rochester, where it is assembled, for three weeks; then it will move to certain large cities including New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Kansas City and the West Coast. There will be no prize awards. There is no intention to advertise any particular make of photographic goods.

Over 1,500 photographs have already been received from the United States and many European countries. In addition to these the exhibition will include a group of 300 prints, collected for it by the Royal Photographic Society of England.

The emphasis is on scientific photography. The largest single section is that on medical photography. Another large and complete section is that on photomicrography.

Below are enumerated some of the exhibits to be shown:

The moon photographed on a glass sphere coated with emulsion.
Water spouts.
Aurora borealis photographs from the University of Oslo.
The very rarely seen anti-crepuscular rays.
Photographs, taken from 14½ miles' altitude, showing actual curvature of the earth.
Complete history of the 1937 flood by the United States Army Air Corps.
Motions never seen by human eye taken at 1,000 pictures per second—including analysis of explosions in gasoline engines.
News pictures transmitted by various electrical means.
Fish building nests under water.
The life histories of the black widow spider and the malaria-carrying mosquito.
First photograph of the positron.
Plates carried to 20 miles' altitude in sounding balloons to record cosmic ray tracks.
Industrial x-ray photography.
Entire volumes of books photographed on short strips of motion picture film.
Photographs on gelatine sheets as were carried out of Paris by carrier pigeons during War of 1870.
Photomicrographs taken by streams of electrons rather than light rays, yielding magnifications of 6,600 times.
The highest magnification ever achieved showing resolution of lines one five-hundred-thousandth of an inch apart.
Time resolution of events occurring one ten-millionth of a second apart.
Color photographs of operations on the human brain.
Plastic surgery studies.
Facial studies of dementia praecox patients.
The arterial system of a human fetus.
The prenatal development of a rabbit from the one-celled stage to birth.
Amputations of arms and legs.
Recent cancer research.
Gallstone operation.
The interior of normal and abnormal human hearts and human eyes.
Moth larvae engaged in eating a woolen blanket.
The eggs of butterflies.
An original Daguerre camera, with daguerreotypes of famous personalities of a century ago.

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

FOLLOWING a year of existence as the Society of Wildlife Specialists, formal organization of the Wildlife Society was accomplished at a meeting at St. Louis, Mo., from February 27 to March 2. The society is primarily a professional group in which active members shall be those engaged in the practice of teaching of wildlife research, management or administration, or who are graduate students of those subjects. Associate members shall be those interested in the objects of the society who are sponsored by two active members. Some of the principal objectives of the Wildlife Society are the development of all types of wildlife man-