

subsequent laboratory work will show a sequence of small fish in the collection that will range from about three quarters of an inch to one more than four feet in length.

Mr. Vanderbilt was accompanied on the expedition by Mrs. Vanderbilt and by Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Jones, of New York. Ronald W. Smith, of the academy, was in charge of collections, with Captain Bill Gray, of Palm Beach, who supervised the gathering of the marlin.

The *Cressida* left New York on January 13 and cleared the Panama Canal on February 1. Collections were made at the Pearl Islands, the seldom visited Malpelo Island and several islands of the Galapagos group. The next leg took the expedition on its long stretch across to the Marquesas, south to the Tuamotus and then to the Society Islands and Tahiti, reaching there during the second week in April. The *Cressida* then headed north, collecting at Tongareva, crossing the equator above Jarvis Island and stopping at other of the Line Island Group, Christmas, Fanning and Palmyra, on the way to Honolulu.

At the Hawaiian Islands, Mr. Vanderbilt pursued individual collecting work for fishes and sent the *Cressida* back to New York with its specimens for the academy.

#### REDUCED LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

THE request recently made to Governor Merriam by the regents of the University of California for a partial restoration of the budget of six years ago was denied, but when the facts were presented to the State Legislature a special appropriation of \$1,456,000 was unanimously approved to bring the resources of the university to the minimum amount needed to meet the demands being made upon it. Governor Merriam withheld approval of this appropriation until the last day of grace, July 2, and then cut it by \$455,000. As a result various curtailments in the work of the university have been made necessary.

In the great majority of cases it will be necessary to decrease the departmental budgets for equipment and routine expenses despite the fact that all are now embarrassed by four years of depression economy. The College of Chemistry and the College of Engineering have been compelled to seek gifts of equipment from many sources in order to maintain minimum teaching schedules.

Economies decided on include abandonment for the present of a longstanding problem of land utilization and range management on the foothills of the Sierra, intimately related to the general agricultural welfare of the state and strongly recommended by the California Agricultural Council; postponement of the request of the California Agricultural Council that more inten-

sive efforts be made to solve problems of insect pest control in the state's specialty nut, fruit and vegetable crops; curtailment of facilities for emergency studies of agricultural problems; and discontinuance of the annual agricultural crop outlook survey for the State of California after twelve years of developmental work, necessitated by financial inability to hold competent men in competition with other agencies. In the past three or four years the Agricultural Extension Service has lost six men, leaving only one economist on the staff. All told, thirteen key men in the College of Agriculture have left within the past several months because the deficient budget of the university was unable to hold them in the face of better offers from other points.

In the Medical School further postponement of the program of book purchases to overcome neglect of the last four years in the library will be necessary. This step is taken with regret, as the library has never been as complete as it should be, and due to the depression conditions of the last two bienniums it has slipped further behind in the acquisition of needed literature. It is also necessary to curtail the plan to develop a staff of trained men to cope with the rising tide of nervous and mental disorders.

In general, throughout the university, wherever possible, the replacement of staff resignations and retirements will be postponed and the policy of seeking the best men available for teaching posts must be curtailed in spite of the circumstance that nine of the most eminent professors have retired this year. No new programs of instruction, however important they may be, will be attempted.

#### THE NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

A BILL providing for a National Cancer Institute as a division of the United States Public Health Service has been signed by the President. An article on the establishment of the institute in the *Journal* of the American Medical Association gives the following particulars in regard to the organization.

The bill creates a National Cancer Advisory Council and enlarges the functions and resources of the Public Health Service with respect to the study and treatment of cancer. To house the proposed institute, the Secretary of the Treasury is empowered to acquire suitable land in or near the District of Columbia, and the appropriation of \$750,000 for the erection and equipment of buildings is authorized. An annual appropriation of \$700,000 is authorized for maintenance and operation. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized also to accept gifts and bequests to further the work of the institute. These will not replace but will supplement the appropriations for the study of cancer of the Public Health Service and other agencies. Responsibility for conducting the institute

is divided between the National Advisory Cancer Council, the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service and the Secretary of the Treasury.

The National Advisory Cancer Council will consist of the Surgeon General, *ex officio*, as chairman, and six members appointed by him with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury from leading medical and scientific authorities. Each member is to be paid for his services at the rate of \$25 a day. The council will recommend to the Surgeon General programs relating to the cause, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer considered worthy of such action; it will collect and will make available the results of investigations, and it will examine applications for grants-in-aid for research projects.

The Surgeon General is authorized to provide free facilities for training and instruction concerning cancer; to establish research fellowships for investigators from any part of the world and for the assistance of experts from the United States or elsewhere; for the appointment of commissioned officers in the Public Health Service to aid in carrying out the provisions of the act; for the purchase of radium, and for making it available for the purposes of the act, and for grants-in-aid to universities, hospitals, laboratories and other institutions, or to individuals, for research projects relating to cancer.

The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to accept any unconditional gifts or bequests to be used for furthering the purposes of the act and to accept any conditional gifts for that purpose if acceptance is recommended by the Surgeon General and the council.

The act becomes effective thirty days after its approval by the President, but in accordance with congressional practice it carries no appropriation and may have to wait until an appropriation is made before it becomes operative.

In SCIENCE for July 2 there is given an account of the establishment at Yale University of the Jane Coffin Childs Memorial Fund for Medical Research. The resources of the foundation, said to be in the neighborhood of \$10,000,000, will be devoted primarily to research into the causes and origins of cancer. It is provided that when in the judgment of the board of managers the causes and origins of the disease had been sufficiently determined, the fund "may thereafter on the advice of the board of scientific advisers" be devoted to research into "some other un-

solved problems of medicine" or of "some other field of science."

#### RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. VERNON LYMAN KELLOGG, permanent secretary of the National Research Council from 1920 until his retirement as secretary emeritus in 1932, previously professor of entomology at Stanford University, died on August 8 at the age of sixty-nine years.

WILLIAM ATKINSON JOHNSTON, professor emeritus of theoretical and applied mechanics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, died on August 6 at the age of sixty-eight years.

DR. JOSEPH LEGGETT MILLER, clinical professor of medicine at the Medical School of the University of Chicago, died on August 6. He was sixty-nine years old.

DR. FERDINAND CANNING SCOTT SCHILLER, professor of philosophy at the University of California and fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, died on August 6 at the age of seventy-three years.

DR. AMOS WILLIAM BUTLER, formerly secretary and executive officer of the Board of State Charities of Indiana, died on August 5 at the age of seventy-six years.

THE death in his eighty-seventh year is announced of Dr. E. B. Elliott, from 1892 until his retirement in 1921 as emeritus professor Waynflete professor of mathematics at the University of Oxford.

THE west unit of the University of Kentucky College of Engineering group, the building of which is now under construction, will be named Anderson Hall, in memory of the late F. Paul Anderson, who was dean of the college for forty-three years. The building housing the departments of civil engineering and physics will be named Pence Hall, in honor of Dr. M. L. Pence, professor emeritus of physics.

AT Cheltenham College on Speech Day, July 3, Lord Willingdon unveiled a memorial tablet to Dr. E. A. Wilson on a wall of the new science laboratory. This bears the inscription: "Edward Adrian Wilson, M.B., biologist and explorer from boyhood a lover of Nature. He died with Scott on the return from the South Pole, March, 1912. Strong in will to strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield."

### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. GEORGE D. BIRKHOFF, Perkins professor of mathematics and dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences of Harvard University, president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and Dr. F. R. Moulton, permanent secretary

of the American Association, have been appointed delegates from the association to the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science to be held at Nottingham from September 1 to 8.

THE Comstock prize of the National Academy of