

and the income of the Smithsonian Institution will be exempt from all taxation and from many petty vexations that are likely to occur through loosely drawn or ill-considered legislation in our 48 states or the District of Columbia. For example, Pennsylvania has just passed a law that any non-stock, non-profit corporation of any other state must obtain a certificate before it can do business in Pennsylvania.

It is expected that the society from time to time in the future, as in the past, will have occasion to carry on some special work in some one of the states other than the state of its present incorporation—New York. With federal incorporation this work can be carried on more efficiently. Without it the society is liable to restriction in activities essential to chemical achievement. If for any reason national charter can not be obtained, incorporation under the laws of the District of Columbia will relieve the situation.

It is hoped by the society's directors that the membership will give this proposed incorporation their unanimous approval.

THE FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

IN celebration of the twenty millionth visitor the Field Museum, Chicago, has arranged a special exhibit in Stanley Field Hall (occupying the nave of the building) whereby the progress of the institution may be traced from the time of its founding forty-four years ago by the late Marshall Field and civic leaders associated with him. In a statement Dr. Clifford C. Gregg, director of the museum, says:

Twenty million visitors during the sixteen years of occupancy of this building represent an average attendance of 1,250,000 annually. This is more than five times the average of 228,000 a year received in the old building in Jackson Park, which housed the museum during the first twenty-six years of its existence. The contrast between the two periods—20,000,000 visitors in sixteen years in the present building as against less than 6,000,000 in twenty-six years in the old—testifies to the foresight of the museum trustees who were responsible for obtaining the present centrally located site easily accessible from all parts of the city. Of course, the change of location is not the only factor—the city's population has grown, there has been a general widening interest on the part of the public in science and in cultural fields of all kinds, and the museum, since it first opened in 1894, has doubled and redoubled its activities to serve the public.

Attendance statistics in the archives of the museum follow:

1927—with an attendance of 1,043,546, 1927 was the first year in which attendance exceeded one million. It has exceeded a million every year since that time.

1933—with an attendance of 3,269,390, the museum established a record exceeding any single year's attendance at any museum in the world at any time in history.

August 24, 1933—the biggest single day's attendance ever experienced at the museum, with 65,966 visitors between 9 A.M. and 6 P.M.

Last year, 1936, with 1,191,437 visitors, represented what is regarded as a fair norm for the years since A Century of Progress Exposition, with a slight increase over 1935. So far this year, attendance shows a slight increase over that recorded at the corresponding date last year.

The special exhibit, which opened on August 1 and will continue until September 6, illustrates the advances made in museum technique since the earliest days of the museum. A few old exhibits, long since withdrawn, are displayed temporarily where they can be compared with the types of exhibits prepared to-day. Charts, graphs, photographs and other material show the expansion that has taken place in every branch of activity.

RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. GEORGE PERKINS CLINTON, until his retirement on July 1 botanist of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station at New Haven, died on August 13 at the age of seventy-one years.

DR. JOSEPH A. BLAKE, from 1903 to 1913 professor of surgery at Columbia University and formerly consulting surgeon at various hospitals in New York City, died on August 12 in his seventy-third year.

WILLIAM LESLIE EDISON, known for his work on radio broadcasting and reception, eldest son of Thomas Alva Edison, died on August 10. He was in his fifty-ninth year.

LEON M. ESTABROOK, who retired in 1930 as assistant director of scientific work in the U. S. Department of Agriculture and who had been connected with the statistical work of the department since 1904, died on August 14 at the age of sixty-eight years.

DR. WALTER MOSAUER, instructor in zoology at the University of California at Los Angeles, died on August 11 as the result of an infection incurred while on an expedition to the Mexican jungles in search of reptiles for his collection. He was thirty-two years old.

GILBERT YOUNG, an engineer in the Topographic Branch of the U. S. Geological Survey, was killed in an automobile accident near Rome, N. Y., on August 8. He was a graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and had been on the staff of the survey since December, 1902.

SIR DAVID ORME MASSON, from 1886 until his retirement with the title emeritus in 1923 professor of chemistry in the University of Melbourne, died on

August 10 at the age of seventy-nine years. He was president of the Australian National Research Council from 1911 to 1913 and was president of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science in 1911 and 1912.

DR. JOHN GORDON THOMSON, professor of medical protozoology in the London School of Tropical Medicine, died on August 14 at the age of sixty years. Dr. Thomson was exchange lecturer in protozoology in the School of Hygiene at the Johns Hopkins University in 1926.

PROFESSOR DAVID MORGAN LEWIS, emeritus pro-

fessor of physics at University College, Aberystwyth, died on July 28 at the age of eighty-five years.

PROFESSOR ALFRED WILM, of the faculty of engineering of the University of Göttingen, discoverer of duralumin, died on August 11 at the age of sixty-eight years.

The Experiment Station Record states that ground has been broken for a new building for the New York State Veterinary College at Cornell University to be named in honor of the late Dean Veranus A. Moore. It is expected that this building will be completed about May 1, 1938, at a cost of about \$300,000.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. WALTHER NERNST, professor of physics at the University of Berlin, and Dr. Hans Horst Meyer, professor of pharmacology at the University of Vienna, celebrated this month the fiftieth anniversary of their doctorates.

THE Mittag-Leffler medal of the Mathematical Institute at Stockholm has been awarded to Dr. David Hilbert, professor of mathematics at the University of Göttingen.

SIR NAPIER SHAW, formerly director of the British Meteorological Office and honorary president of the Commission for the Exploration of the Upper Air, received the honorary degree of doctor of science at the recent celebration of the centenary of the University of Athens.

THE Royal Society of Edinburgh has awarded the Gunning Victoria Jubilee Prize for the period 1932-36 to Professor C. G. Darwin, master of Christ's College, Cambridge, formerly Tait professor of natural philosophy in the University of Edinburgh, for his "distinguished contributions in mathematical physics."

AT a meeting of the Royal College of Physicians, London, the Baly gold medal was presented to Professor E. L. Kennaway for his biochemical investigations, which have led to the identification of a group of substances provoking malignant growth of tissues and having relations in structure to certain hormones and vitamins. At the same meeting Sir Edward Mellanby was appointed Harveian orator for 1938. Sir Arthur Hurst will deliver the Harveian Oration for 1937 on October 18.

DR. HUGH H. YOUNG, professor of urology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, was presented with the Keyes gold medal of the American Association of Genito-Urinary Surgeons during its recent annual meeting in Quebec.

A GOLDEN anniversary reunion dinner and reception

was given on June 12 by the alumni of the Agricultural College of the University of Vermont to Dean J. L. Hills, director.

IN honor of Dr. Henry K. Pancoast, who has held the chair of roentgenology at the University of Pennsylvania since it was established twenty-five years ago, the issue for July of the *American Journal of Roentgenology and Radium Therapy* was dedicated to him.

THE annual corporation meeting of the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory was held at Gothic, Colo., on July 15. The following officers were elected for the year 1937-38: *President*, Dr. A. O. Weese, professor of zoology, University of Oklahoma; *Vice-president*, Dr. Frances Ramaley, professor of botany and head of the department of biology, University of Colorado; *Secretary*, C. H. Stone, attorney-at-law, Gunnison, Colo.; *Treasurer*, George W. Hunter, III, assistant professor of biology, Wesleyan University, Conn.; *Trustee* (for five years), A. Richards, professor of zoology and director of the Biological Survey of the University of Oklahoma; *Director*, John C. Johnson, professor of biology and head of the division of science, Pennsylvania State Teachers College, West Chester.

THE British Institution of Electrical Engineers has elected the following officers: *President*, Sir George Lee; *Vice-presidents*, Sir Noel Ashbridge and J. R. Beard; *Honorary Treasurer*, W. McClelland.

DR. M. H. JACOBS, professor of general physiology at the University of Pennsylvania, presented his resignation as director of the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole at the annual meeting of the corporation on August 11. Dr. Jacobs was appointed associate director of the laboratory in 1925, becoming director in 1926.

DR. DONALD M. HETLER, assistant professor of bacteriology and immunology and of public health, Wash-