

By daylight, the work was done, orbit elements and ephemeris put into a code telegram, signed by Campbell as acting director, but *credited entirely to me!*

This was typical of the man who was my friend throughout the years.

ROBERT G. AITKEN

RECENT DEATHS

FRANK BURSLEY TAYLOR, of Fort Wayne, Ind., who was connected with the U. S. Geological Survey from 1900 until his retirement in 1916, died on June 12 at the age of seventy-eight years.

CARL CLAPP THOMAS, formerly professor of mechanical engineering at the Johns Hopkins University, died on June 4 at the age of sixty-six years. He was a member of the faculty from 1913 until 1920, when he was appointed vice-president of Dwight P. Robinson and Company. From 1921 to 1924 he was city director of Pasadena.

DR. F. M. HAYES, of the Division of Veterinary Science of the College of Agriculture of the University of California, died suddenly on June 12 at the age of fifty-three years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

CONFERENCE AT COLD SPRING HARBOR ON PLANT AND ANIMAL COMMUNITIES

THE Biological Laboratory at Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, N. Y., has invited a group of botanists and zoologists interested in community problems to present a series of papers during the week of August 29. Not more than two papers will be read on any one day, an arrangement allowing ample time for the presentation of each subject and discussion by the members of the conference and visitors. A brief series of trips will allow further illustration and discussion of concepts in the field. There will be nine papers, which, together with edited discussions, will be printed as No. 1, Vol. 20, of *The American Midland Naturalist* for January, 1939.

Ecology is one of the most complex biological sciences because of ramifications into the basic sciences of physics, chemistry, biometry, geology, pedology, climatology, taxonomy, physiology and morphology. It seems highly desirable that within the field of community study, *per se*, ecologists working with such diverse materials as microorganisms, experimental populations, marine and fresh water communities, and terrestrial communities of all ranks, take stock of their common concepts and problems. An attempt to approach an understanding of the causes for such differences as are inherent in the various materials should prove valuable. Such a conference will be of most value to members and visitors, but it is expected that the published proceedings will be of service to ecologists in general.

Investigators interested in the conference may attend and take part in the discussions and field trips without further invitation. Inasmuch as housing facilities are limited at the laboratory, visitors planning to stay over night or longer should make arrangements for rooms in advance by writing the director of the laboratory. Dr. Stanley A. Cain is secretary of the conference and Theodor Just is the editor of the proceedings.

THE WISCONSIN CHAPTER OF SIGMA XI

THE Wisconsin Chapter of Sigma Xi held eight meetings during the year 1937-1938. The programs were as follows:

1937

November 10. "The Geology and the People of New-foundland" by Professor W. H. Twenhofel, of the geology department, University of Wisconsin.

December 10. "The Fundamental Concept of Statistical Estimation" by Professor Frank Yates, chief statistician at the Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, England.

1938

January 19. "The Eclipse of the Sun" by Joel Stebbins, director of the Washburn Observatory, University of Wisconsin.

March 2. "The Origin of Species in Plants" by Dr. Fritz von Wettstein, director of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institut für Biologie, Berlin-Dahlem.

March 25. "The Constancy of the Internal Environment in a Condition of Free Life" by Dr. John Beattie, director of research laboratories, Royal College of Surgeons of London, England.

April 13. "Vitamin B₁ and Cell Metabolism" by Dr. R. R. Williams, chemical director of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, New York City.

April 25. "Recent Advances in Intermediary Carbohydrate Metabolism" by Dr. Hanz Adolph Krebs, department of pharmacology, University of Sheffield, England.

May 18. "The Drug Addiction Problem" by Dr. M. Harrison Seevers, associate professor of pharmacology, University of Wisconsin.

At the meeting on January 19 thirty-nine new members were initiated and four associate members were advanced to full membership. The annual dinner meeting of the society was given on May 18 when forty-four new members were initiated and three members were promoted from associate membership. The following officers were elected for next year: *Presi-*