

in the street. They saw for themselves and then voted overwhelmingly to give unclaimed stray dogs to reputable laboratories for medical teaching and research, for humane service towards human welfare. This was done by the citizens of Chicago and the State of Illinois. Will the citizens of California do less? In your veins surges the blood of hard-headed pioneers, not yet greatly diluted by the passage of years. I know your magnificent mountains, your fertile valleys, your unique forests, your charming shores. Your institu-

tions of higher learning, of medical education and medical research have flourished like the bay tree. Yours is a happy acre. But has this garden of Eden made you soft in brain and spine? It would be a strange spectacle to see the state of the "forty-niners" as the spear-head of the misguided communities who put the alleged happiness of unclaimed stray dogs and cats above the progressive welfare of our own species; misguided communities, who would rivet restraining shackles on the noblest endeavors of man.

## OBITUARY

### NATHANIEL GIST GEE

In the quiet of his home at Greenwood, South Carolina, on December 18 last the long career of usefulness of Nathaniel Gist Gee came to its close. He was born in Union, S. C., on April 20, 1876. He was educated first in the public schools of Union and then in Wofford College, where he graduated in 1896. He was principal of Jordan (S. C.) Academy, 1896-1898, professor of natural sciences in Columbia College, 1898-1901, and he attended at intervals summer sessions at Harvard, Chicago and Columbia Universities. Then he went to China for a long stay at Soochow University, first as professor of natural sciences and later as head of the department of biology, 1901-1915. During this period he trained many of the Chinese investigators of the present day for the studies of the local fauna that they have since carried on with distinction.

After an interval of a few years spent again in teaching in his native state, he returned to China. For a year he was Far-Eastern representative of the Spencer Lens Company. He then joined the China Medical Board of the Rockefeller Foundation as adviser on premedical education, and was assistant resident director in 1926-1928 and adviser for China in 1928-1932. Then he returned to America and was professor of biology at Landon College at the time of his death.

In the Peking Society of Natural History he was successively charter member, organizing secretary, life member and president. He was a member of the Board of Managers of the Fan Memorial Biological Institute. For two years he was president of the East China Educational Association. He was a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of

Science and a corresponding fellow of the American Ornithologists Union.

He was joint author of lists and manuals of the birds of China and interested himself in the fauna and flora of that country generally, but his specialty was fresh-water sponges. He published extensively and became a well-known authority on that group, and amassed a very fine collection from world-wide sources.

He was a good naturalist, a good teacher, an ever helpful, kindly and generous friend of youth and a promoter of good will toward all mankind.

JAMES G. NEEDHAM

### RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. FREDERICK H. FLAHERTY, professor of clinical surgery at Syracuse University, died on September 7, at the age of sixty-five years.

DR. DERRICK NORMAN LEHMER, professor emeritus of mathematics at the University of California, died on September 8 at the age of seventy-one years.

RAYMOND H. TORREY, of Hollis, Long Island, botanist and conservationist, died on July 15 at the age of fifty-eight years.

THE yearbook for 1938 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, entitled "Soils and Men," the third in the new series dealing with special subjects, is dedicated to the memory of Curtis Fletcher Marbut, for many years chief of the Soil Survey Division. The tribute to Dr. Marbut says in part: "Under his guidance, work in soils became a recognized science in the United States. His own researches in soil classification and geography laid the foundation for our modern concepts of soil."

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### FORESTS OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

THE Pacific Northwest Regional Planning Commission, in a report published by the National Resources Committee, urges immediate and general adoption of sustained-yield management to conserve the forests of

the Pacific Northwest, pointing out that the timber supply is being dangerously depleted. The report lays stress on the importance of sustained-yield management as advocated by the U. S. Forest Service.

It is pointed out that half the remaining timber sup-

ply and forty per cent. of the water power resources of the United States are situated in this region and that the situation with respect to this forest resource is critical, that the threat of loss of a resource of incalculable value is a serious one, and that solution of the problem will become increasingly difficult unless substantial progress in conservation, including protection and improved management, is made. So far as merchantable major timber and the timber industry are concerned substantial depletion may come about in a relatively short time unless remedial steps are taken.

The proposed legislative and administrative program of the commission for placing forest land under sustained-yield management include:

(1) Provision for putting all publicly owned land on a sustained-yield basis.

(2) Provision for the organization and operation of co-operative sustained-yield units which include both public and private land under contracts providing adequate protection of public interests involved.

(3) Provision for long-term public credits at low interest rates, for timber operators working on a sustained-yield basis.

(4) An increase of public fire protection appropriations sufficient to insure adequate fire protection.

(5) An authorization and appropriation of sufficient public funds adequately to combat, in cooperation with private owners, the ravages of timber-destroying insects and diseases.

(6) Authorization and provision of funds for public acquisition of both timbered and cut-over private lands where such acquisition is necessary for effective sustained-yield forest practice.

(7) A change in the taxation system so as to relieve timber properties from pressure for immediate liquidation and at the same time provide funds for the adequate conduct of local tax-supported units.

(8) Increased public appropriations for research in determining more effective methods of forest management and more complete utilization of wood and wood waste.

(9) Classification and zoning of land suitable chiefly for forest uses.

(10) Provide all practicable safeguards in public legislation, policy and administration to bring about full use of public contributions in the promotion of sound forest practices, including sustained-yield management.

#### THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO COMMITTEE ON CANCER

THE appointment of a Committee on Cancer to correlate research on cancer and its clinical treatment has been announced by the University of Chicago. The committee will act virtually as a cancer institute. The university has received the sum of \$11,750 in grants and gifts for work on cancer. Three grants, amounting to \$7,500, were from the National Advisory Cancer Council of Washington to facilitate research on the

influence of cancer on stomach secretions, on hormones and on chemical substances in cancer tissues. The International Cancer Research Foundation made a grant of \$2,000, and the Educational Association on Cancer, of which Mrs. Frederick A. Lorenz, of Chicago, is president, gave \$2,250 to establish a lectureship. This association is composed of Chicago women, who, for a number of years, have facilitated the spread of correct information on cancer. They sponsored a cancer exhibit at the 1933 World's Fair.

The committee will correlate all basic research with the efforts of the clinical departments. It will serve as a clearing house for investigators in nine departments and will advise the administration as to needs and policies of the general program, which now involves cooperative work in four clinical departments, medicine, surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, and roentgenology; and in five non-clinical departments, physics, chemistry, biochemistry, botany and pathology. The committee will act as a centralizing agency for cancer study in all these departments and perhaps extend the work into other departments.

Members of the committee, of which Dr. Alexander Brunschwig is chairman, include Dr. Fred L. Adair, chairman of the department of obstetrics and gynecology and chief of staff of the Chicago Lying-In Hospital; Dr. Percival Bailey, professor of surgery; Dr. Arthur H. Compton, Charles H. Swift distinguished service professor of physics; Dr. George F. Dick, chairman of the department of medicine; Dr. William D. Harkins, Andrew MacLeish distinguished service professor of chemistry; Dr. Paul C. Hodges, professor of roentgenology; Dr. T. R. Hogness, professor of chemistry; Dr. Fred C. Koch, chairman of the department of biochemistry; Dr. E. J. Kraus, chairman of the department of botany; Dr. D. B. Phemister, chairman of the department of surgery; Dr. Maud Slye, associate professor of pathology; Dr. Paul Steiner, assistant professor of pathology, secretary, and Dr. H. Gideon Wells, chairman of the department of pathology.

#### BRITISH RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

THE Medical Research Council of Great Britain has awarded Rockefeller traveling fellowships to the following for the academic year 1938-39:

Richard Raymond Bomford, B.M. (Oxon), M.R.C.P. (Lond.), assistant physician, London Hospital.

Thomas Colver, M.B. (Sheffield), M.R.C.P. (Lond.), out-patient medical registrar, Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London.

Robert Morton Heggie, B.Sc., M.B. (Glas.), assistant lecturer in pathology and bacteriology, The Welsh National School of Medicine, Cardiff.

Ian MacKenzie, M.B. (Edin.), F.R.C.S.E., assistant surgeon, St. Giles's Hospital, London.