

him to exert his influence towards the establishment of the U. S. Fisheries Laboratory at Beaufort, N. C., and he served as director of it from 1898 to 1901. This laboratory was always near to his heart, and he spent many happy summers there engaged in the investigation of problems of marine biology.

Throughout his long productive life he was nearly always working but never hurried. Despite a heavy load of teaching and administrative duties, his research accomplishments are impressive. He was one of the foremost authorities of the world in the classification of the sponges, and some of his papers in other fields are classical. It is appropriate to mention here his work on the embryology of the sponges, coelenterates and lower vertebrates and his dramatic and widely known work on the regeneration of sponges and coelenterates from dissociated cells. Just a few months before his death he reported to the National Academy of Sciences his final fundamental research dealing with the participation of vacuoles in the formation of cell membranes.

Dr. Wilson's qualities of character and mind made him a vivid and forceful personality and a delightful and stimulating companion in his hours of relaxation. Simple in his habits, inherently and inescapably honest, he had no patience with pretense or complacency. His opinions and criticisms were searching and straightforward, sometimes to the point of sharpness, but, being kindly and tolerant by nature, he gained not only the respect but the affection and devotion of all those who knew him well. Although primarily a biologist, his intellectual interests were far-ranging. The writer, who was closely associated with him for several years, recalls with a feeling of stimulation and pleasure how his incisive mind would cut through the superficialities investing any subject and how his comments would illuminate a wide variety of topics.

Although he was not aggressive for publicity and honors, Dr. Wilson's merit was recognized by his fellow biologists throughout the world. He served as president of the American Society of Zoologists and was a member of the National Academy of Sciences, American Philosophical Society, American Society of Naturalists, Boston Society of Natural History, Société Linnéenne de Lyon, etc.

In 1893 he married Edith Theresa Stickney, of Boston. He is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Thorn-dike Saville, of New York City, and Mrs. Howell Peacock, of Philadelphia, and by one son, Dr. H. V. Wilson, Jr., of Dover, Delaware.

W. C. GEORGE

RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. ALBERT SAUVEUR, emeritus professor of metal-lurgy and metallography at Harvard University, died on January 26 at the age of seventy-five years.

PROFESSOR JOHN HENRY SCHAFFNER, since 1911 professor of botany at the Ohio State University, with which he had been associated since 1897, died on Janu-ary 27 at the age of seventy-two years.

DR. EDWARD SAPIR, since 1931 professor of anthro-pology and linguistics at Yale University, died on February 4 at the age of fifty-five years.

DR. GEORGE H. GIRTY, geologist and paleontologist of the U. S. Geological Survey, a specialist on carbon-iferous formations and faunas, died on January 27. He was sixty-nine years of age.

PROFESSOR RALPH CLEMENT BRYANT, a member of the faculty of the Yale School of Forestry, since 1911 as professor of lumbering, died on February 1 at the age of sixty-two years.

ARTHUR N. LEEDS, research associate in botany at the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, died on January 26 at the age of sixty-eight years.

EDGAR HERBERT WELLS, since 1921 president of the New Mexico School of Mines at Socorro, N. M., com-mitted suicide on January 8. He was fifty-one years old. Mr. Wells had been professor of geology and mineralogy of the college from 1917 to 1925 and state geologist from 1925 to 1927.

FORMER associates of the late Dr. T. Wingate Todd, professor of surgery of the School of Medicine of Western Reserve University, who died on December 28, held a memorial service in his honor on January 15. Dr. Elliot C. Cutler, professor of surgery of Harvard University, formerly of Western Reserve University, and the Hon. Harold H. Burton, Mayor of Cleveland, gave the principal addresses.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE NATIONAL HEALTH PROGRAM

A NATIONAL health program, which would pro-vide for expenditures by 1949 of up to \$850,000,000 annually from state and Federal funds, was recom-mended to President Roosevelt last July by his special Inter-Departmental Committee on Health and Welfare. While the proposal stirred up some opposition in med-ical circles, the American Medical Association agreed

last September with the Inter-Departmental Committee that there is a vital need for an extension of existing medical facilities, and Senator Wagner has prepared a bill calling for an appropriation of \$50,000,000.

Money appropriated for the health program would, according to recommendations, be used to:

Pay physicians to care for those too poor to afford med-ical care; assist existing hospitals and build new ones