

Danforth, who was professor of biology at the College of Agriculture at Mayaguëz at that time, he commenced observations on the birds of the Cartagena Lagoon, which, supplemented by more intensive work in 1923-1924, constituted the field work of his doctorate thesis for which the degree was granted by Cornell in 1925. After a year as instructor in biology at Temple University, he succeeded his father at Mayaguëz, and has taught zoology and entomology there since. In connection with his teaching he continued constantly studies and collections of birds and insects, especially Coleoptera, and studies in the food of birds, not only in Puerto Rico, but also in Hispaniola, Cuba, Jamaica and the Lesser Antilles, especially in those areas and islands most difficult to reach. His vacations were always thus occupied, except when he came to the United States to work in libraries and museums in connection with his various finds. Ordinarily one or more of his students accompanied him on his trips.

"The ultimate aim of ornithology, to my mind, is to make use of birds to the limit of their capacity as servants of man. I believe that eventually we will know so well how to encourage and protect birds that they will be practically one hundred per cent. efficient in protecting our forests and crops from insect pests, and that poisonous sprays and other protective measures will be unnecessary in the vast majority of cases." From this statement, one can possibly understand how it happened that he published no entomological papers, although the large number of "Danforth" and "AMC (Agriculture and Mechanics College)" records in "Insectae Borinquensis" testify to the extent of his insect collections in Puerto Rico and to his generosity in making them available for publication in another's compilation. Nearly every year, however, marked the appearance of a technical paper on the birds of one of the Lesser Antilles, but the culmination of all his ornithological observations in the West Indies was the publication in 1936 of the illustrated "Los Pájaros de Puerto Rico," a handbook supposedly for school children, but actually including all the information available; a most fitting summary of his chosen life-work. Some years ago he presented a collection of bird skins to Cornell, while the remainder of his extensive collection was given to the United States National Museum.

GEORGE N. WOLCOTT

RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. RAYMOND A. PEARSON, since 1935 special assistant to the administrator of the United States Farm Security Administration, previously from 1926 to 1935 president of the University of Maryland, died on February 13 in his sixty-sixth year.

DR. WILTON EVERETT BRITTON, state entomologist of Connecticut since 1901 and head of the department of entomology of the Agricultural Experiment Station at New Haven, died at New Haven on February 15. He had celebrated his seventieth birthday on September 18 but continued at the station until he became ill a few weeks ago.

GEORGE CHARLES EMBODY, professor of agriculture at Cornell University, died on February 17. He was sixty-two years old.

DR. IVAN C. JAGGER, senior pathologist in the Bureau of Plant Industry of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, died on February 16. He was in his fiftieth year.

DR. J. C. FLIPPIN, professor of clinical medicine and dean of the Medical School of the University of Virginia, died on February 16 at the age of sixty-one years.

CHARLES RICHARD CRANE, manufacturer of Chicago and active in the diplomatic and political history of the United States, died on February 15 at the age of eighty years. Mr. Crane was known to the biologists of the country for his part in the development of the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, where he had a summer residence.

ARTHUR SMITHELLS, from 1885 to 1923 professor of chemistry at the University of Leeds and from 1923 to 1937 director of the Salters Institute of Industrial Chemistry, died in London on February 8 at the age of seventy-eight years.

SIR ROBERT WILLIAM PHILIP, of Edinburgh, who was knighted in 1913 for his work in connection with tuberculosis, died on January 26. He was eighty-one years old.

Nature reports the death of Paul Séjourné, free academician of the Paris Academy of Sciences, who was known for his work on the design and structure of bridges, aged eighty-seven years, and of Professor Josef Simon, professor of roentgenology and radiology in the Masaryk University, Brno, aged forty-one years.

THE hundredth anniversary of the death of Josiah Willard Gibbs, who was born on February 11, 1839, was commemorated by Yale University on February 16 with a memorial lecture by Dr. Charles A. Kraus, research professor of chemistry at Brown University and president of the American Chemical Society. Gibbs, regarded by many as the greatest American scientific man, was born in New Haven in 1839 and was professor in Yale University from 1871 until his death in 1903.