

the division of biology and agriculture of the National Research Council. From 1926 to 1933 he was research associate, with professorial rank in zoology, at the Johns Hopkins University. Thereafter, impaired health compelled retirement, with only occasional scientific effort. Many summers from 1890 until 1935 were spent at Woods Hole, at the U. S. Fisheries Station or at the Marine Biological Laboratory, of which he was trustee 1896 to 1932, and emeritus thereafter.

Metcalf's publications include more than 125 titles, besides two books and other extended treatises. His earlier research studies were concerned with gastropods and tunicates (24 papers); his later interest centered in the protozoa, with special emphasis on the Opalinids, on which a major comprehensive work is now being issued by the U. S. National Museum. His membership in national and philanthropic societies included twenty-eight American, three British and three French. His official responsibilities in several of these are listed in "Who's Who." He was a member of the Authors Club, London.

He is survived by his wife, Ella Wilder Metcalf, of the same college class; a daughter, Mrs. William P. Beetham, and three grandchildren, of Waban, Mass.; and by a brother, Dr. Wilmot V. Metcalf, formerly professor of physical sciences in Carleton College and Fisk University, now residing in Clinton, N. Y.

Few men indeed meet life with the degree of fascination with things serious, *e.g.*, science, politics, philoso-

phy, religion; in enjoyment of beauty—either in nature or of human production; in good fun and sport (an ardent golfer), as did Maynard Metcalf. He was a man of severely discriminating judgment, of positive opinions, of uncompromising devotion to integrity; he called himself "frankly Christian," a fact which we may allow showed itself in his spontaneous sympathies, his chronic cheerfulness and in the generosity of his spirit.

ROBERT A. BUDINGTON

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## RECENT DEATHS

DR. ALVIN SAWYER WHEELER, Kenan professor emeritus of organic chemistry at the University of North Carolina, died on May 12 in his seventy-fourth year.

LEWIS VAN CARPENTER, professor of sanitary engineering at the College of Engineering of New York University and director of the Sanitary Engineering Research Laboratory conducted jointly by the college and the city, died on May 10 in his forty-fifth year.

DR. HUNTER ROBB, professor of gynecology of the School of Medicine of Western Reserve University, died on May 15 at the age of seventy-seven years.

DR. CHARLES DAVISON, an authority on earthquakes, died in Cambridge, England, on April 29 at the age of eighty-one years.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

THE annual report for 1939 of the Field Museum of Natural History, of which Dr. Clifford C. Gregg is director, has been issued. It states that gifts and bequests of funds amounting to more than \$730,000 were received during the year. Dr. Gregg points out that "the steadily decreasing rates of return from investments, and some degree of fear for the future on the part of citizens resulting in fewer contributions, combine to make the financial administration of this museum and other institutions similarly supported an increasingly difficult problem. A recent decision of the Illinois Supreme Court made inoperative the so-called 'museums act,' which brought to this institution approximately \$100,000 per year from taxes as a contribution toward its maintenance."

The report presents a detailed outline of the activities of the museum administration, the scientific departments, the educational departments and the various small divisions entrusted with special phases of museum activities.

Dr. Gregg states:

1,410,454 people visited the museum in 1939. Of these, 94.1 per cent. were admitted free, and only 5.9 per cent. paid the twenty-five cent admission fee charged on certain days of the week. More than 100,000 persons attended free lectures for adults and free motion picture programs for children in the James Simpson Theatre of the museum, and lecture tours and other special events. Contact was made with 186,677 children in their schools through lectures presented in classrooms and assemblies by members of the staff of a museum division known as the James Nelson and Anna Louise Raymond Foundation for Public School and Children's Lectures. Approximately 500,000 children were served by the natural history lessons presented in traveling exhibits circulated on a bi-weekly schedule in all of Chicago's public schools, and many parochial, private and special schools as well. This activity is carried out through the museum department known as the N. W. Harris Public School Extension.

Combining the total number of visitors to the museum with the total of the children reached outside the institution by the Raymond Foundation and the Harris Extension, it is found that the museum's cultural influence was again extended directly to more than two million persons. In addition, there are the usual further extensions to incalculable numbers reached through less direct media such