in Sweden; and of 1913 in Canada; and from all these trips he brought large and carefully selected collections of rocks for use in his teaching. The big hammers that he carried in order to secure fresh specimens were famous, and other members of these excursions gathered around him to share the results of his spoils.

While in Montana in 1883 on the N.P. Survey he visited the Crazy Mountain group and discovered the peculiar alkali rock-type to which Rosenbusch gave the name *theralite*. He revisited this mountain group twice, mapping and collecting additional specimens of its varied igneous rocks; and all the rest of his life was more or less devoted to the study of this material, his final report appearing in 1938 in the *Bulletin of the Geological Society of America*.

Professor Wolff's most important contribution to the development of the department at Harvard so long in his care was in securing the Holden endowment. Albert F. Holden, who graduated in 1888, was a very successful mining engineer. Early in his professional career he began to collect the minerals found in his mines and ultimately accumulated an important collection. Holden intended his minerals to go to Harvard and therefore kept in close touch with Wolff in order that his collection might supplement rather than duplicate the Harvard cabinet. When in 1913 Holden realized that his career was destined to come to an untimely end through an incurable disease, he conferred with Wolff as to the form and wording of the munificent bequest with which he had determined to endow the Harvard Mineralogical Museum. He died before the end of the year, and his minerals came at once to the university. Professor Wolff, during the next few years, spent all his free time incorporating into the exhibition cases the more striking specimens from Holden's collection.

It was not until eight years after Holden's death that the trustees of his estate were able to turn over to the university the endowment fund. When it had been received in 1922, Wolff decided that the event marked a proper termination of his active service for the museum and the department of mineralogy and petrography. He therefore retired at commencement, 1923, and left to the writer the acceptable task of carrying out the intent of Mr. Holden, to raise the Harvard Mineralogical Museum to an equality with the best, a task made possible by the generous funds provided. Wolff also gave his own considerable estate, subject to a life annuity, to the university in the form of the John E. and Philip Wolff Fund, the income of which, after his death, was to be devoted to the growth and use of the collection to which he had devoted so large a part of his life.

Immediately upon his retirement Wolff sold his Brookline house and removed to Pasadena, California. His letters after settling in the comfortable new home which he established there were full of delighted appreciation of his freedom from routine cares and of the comfort of a mild climate. Always an enthusiastic motorist, he provided himself with a car especially equipped for travel in the desert, and Death Valley became his familiar touring ground during the winter months. He made a special study of the tragic story of the Manley party, first to cross that famous depression, and published a pamphlet on their probable route. It was often his custom to drive there, alone or with a companion, camping by preference near a lonely farm high on the Panamint Range.

Knowing the desert so well from his long experience, it seems unfortunate that he should have set out alone, at his advanced age of 83, in the midst of the summer heat, into the Mojave Desert upon what proved to be his last trip. He was found in his car, which was hopelessly sanded, having died apparently from heat exhaustion after using all his resources to extricate his machine from the desert sands.

Wolff was of a retiring nature, and it was not easy to penetrate his reserve. Those who had lived with him in camp say that there he relaxed and revealed his intense enjoyment of life in the open. Gentle and kindly he was, and his purse was always open to those who needed aid. He was a musician, and after he ceased to be able to play the piano his Victrola became his greatest solace. His house at Pasadena was full of the latest optical and microscopical equipment, which he used up to the time of his death. This is not the place to tell of the domestic afflictions which left him a lonely soul. My last visit with him six months since left me with the sad assurance that he was failing rapidly, and I can not grieve that he died as he did in the open desert wastes which he had grown to love so well.

CHARLES PALACHE

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

PURSUANT to the President's Reorganization Plan No. III, and House Joint Resolution 551, the Bureau of Fisheries and the Bureau of Biological Survey was on June 30 consolidated into a new bureau to be known as the Fish and Wildlife Service. It is believed that this consolidation will provide many advantages to both bureaus, and that it is further evidence of the interest of the Administration in the conservation of fish and wildlife.

A statement made by Charles E. Jackson, assistant director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, is published in *The Fisheries Service Bulletin*. It reads in part:

Within the span of a few months we have twice been swept into the stream of progress by the President's reorganization plans. Each move has been in the interest of a better program of conservation of national resources, and efficiency of operation in implementing that program. In July, 1939, placed administratively under the guidance of the United States Department of the Interior, we went on to a fuller opportunity for development. With the merging of our forces and those of the Biological Survey, we should find even greater scope for our activities, more ease of movement and better hope for expansion of our services to the country.

The following is a typical example of the many advantages to be gained by the integration of the two bureaus: Supplementing the "91-billion-acre water farm," upon which it has been our task to guide aquicultural activities for the past 7 decades, will be an additional 14 million acres of federally protected wildlife refuge land. A vast portion of this land embraces both fresh- and salt-water areas wherein we may carry out necessary experiments in the conservation of aquatic life. There also are many favorable streams within these areas which may be restocked with fish; thus creating additional recreational areas for sport fishermen. For the first time in our history we shall have fish, as well as game, refuges—a seven-league-boot step in the direction of fishery conservation.

The President's reorganization plans have brought about a renaissance of the bureau in which all our efforts will be augmented by those of a staunch ally whose broader purposes have, like ours, been useful conservation of our country's natural resources.

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMISTS ON LICENSING OF CHEMISTS IN NEW YORK STATE

A SUB-COMMITTEE of the American Institute of Chemists on the licensing of chemists in New York State has made public its report. The committee consists of Foster D. Snell, *chairman*, Dr. R. E. Kirk and Dr. Maximilian Toch. This committee started the year 1939–40 with a bill which had been drafted the previous year.

The following is a summary of the report:

The bill was introduced by Senator Esquirol and in the House by another representative, in neither case under the direct sponsorship of The American Institute of Chemists. It was therefore printed on February 7, 1940, as Senate Bill 1111, and at some similar date as a corresponding House bill.

A conference was held by your chairman and Dr. Maximilian Toch with Governor Lehman in regard to this bill. This could be summarized simply to the effect that Governor Lehman stated that he would not sign such a bill even though it were passed by the legislature unless he were advised by the regents that it had their approval.

On February 24 a conference was held with Dr. Milton E. Loomis, associate commissioner for higher education. The summary of some two hours' conversation can be very brief. The bill as drafted would have the opposition of Dr. Loomis, who is in responsible charge of administration of such licensing acts. While he could not, of course, express the opinion of the regents, a definite inference was obtained that the regents would also oppose the bill in the form in which it stood at that time. There grew out of the conference the suggestion that licensing of chemists be handled by permissive legislation parallel to the way in which certified public accountants are registered. A draft of a proposed act pursuant to this suggestion was prepared.

At this point, therefore, the chairman who had been conducting these negotiations personally called a meeting of the licensing committee and presented this proposal to them for action on March 19. The committee on licensure approved the proposed change. It was then presented to the council at a subsequent meeting on the same day and also had the approval of the National Council.

The plan of the future schedule of the bill is as follows. It is expected that the present draft will be carefully gone over for revision by members of your committee during the summer. Fairly early in the fall it should be presented in draft form to Dr. Loomis and the members of the Board of Regents for consideration. As soon as the election is over and before the legislature convenes, it should be presented to the chairman of the Committee on Education in the Senate and in the House for their consideration. It is hoped that it can be arranged that these chairmen will present it as their bill to the 1941 legislature which convenes immediately after the new year. Provided it has their blessing and provided there is no serious opposition, it should pass the 1941 legislature.

The committee has cooperated very closely with Dr. Charles L. Parsons, secretary of the American Chemical Society, in all the above matters in the belief that it was only by cooperation rather than competitive effort that substantial and suitable accomplishment could ensue.

THE COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY AND AMERICAN INDUSTRY

A PROGRAM of cooperation with American industry to train promising young employees as engineers has been announced by Dean S. C. Hollister, of the College of Engineering of Cornell University. The plan will use part of the income from the $2,000,000 John McMullen Scholarship Fund to create John McMullen Industrial Scholarships for apprentices in industry selected by officers of the companies as men whose value would be increased by a college education in engineering. Industries have for many years provided funds for scholarships and fellowships at Cornell and other universities. This program reverses the usual procedure, since the university provides the funds for educating men chosen by industries.