

layers near the surface, pushing these northward and elevating them above the sea-level, thus exposing heavier layers deeper down. A fact favoring this conception is that the average specific gravity of the entire earth is approximately twice that of the continental masses. It may be that both conceptions are involved.

In a preliminary note it is neither necessary nor feasible to discuss in detail the bearing of the proposed hypothesis on all the different observed peculiarities

which have been noted above. In most cases a possible bearing is obvious at a glance, which is enough for the present. That some of these relations are apparent rather than real and that not all will be confirmed, is to be expected. The hypothesis is too radical and too many factors are involved to permit of more than tentative acceptance for careful examination. There appears, however, to be no reason known at present for concluding that some such origin is impossible.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO

HOUSED in the hospital and laboratory building of the Zoological Society of San Diego is the Biological Research Institute, whose facilities, research opportunities and two research fellowships have been discussed in a recent number of this journal.¹

Two out of some thirty applicants have been advised of their election to the two fellowships. Jackson S. Kiser, graduate student at the University of Washington, will pursue at the Biological Research Institute studies of food infection in animals, for work toward the doctor's degree from the University of California at Los Angeles. Lawrence R. Penner, Ph.D., 1940, University of Minnesota, will conduct comparative parasitological investigations. Both these men began their work on September 1.

In addition to the conducting of careful and complete *post-mortem* examinations of all animals which die in the zoo and of many wild animals which are brought in from the outside, dead from natural causes, special hospitalization is given to a great variety of animals maintained in the zoo. Investigations concerning nutritional requirements and especially the parasitic diseases of various animals, are in progress, and an early extension of such studies is planned.

Dr. Charles R. Schroeder, veterinary pathologist in charge of the hospital and laboratory; Dr. Carlton M. Herman, a visiting investigator; and Willis Doetschman, a graduate student in the University of Southern California, are conducting research in various phases of animal parasitology. Dr. Herman's present investigations are concerned with life-cycles of certain worm parasites of seals and other animals. Mr. Doetschman is conducting a survey of internal parasites of captive animals, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a master's degree. Several voluntary workers and a number of students from San Diego State College on a special National Youth Administration project are carrying out technical and statistical investigations under the direct supervision of Dr. Schroeder.

¹ SCIENCE, 92: 55, 1940.

The Research Committee of the institute, who give their counsel and other assistance without compensation to students and research workers are the following: *Protozoology*: Dr. Rawson J. Pickard, San Diego (chairman); *Pathology*: Dr. Howard A. Ball, San Diego; *Biochemistry*: Dr. Denis L. Fox, assistant professor of marine biochemistry, Scripps Institution of Oceanography of the University of California, La Jolla; *Surgery*: Dr. Hall G. Holder, San Diego; *Ophthalmology*: Dr. George L. Kilgore, San Diego; *Physiology*: Dr. Eaton M. MacKay, director of research, Scripps Metabolic Clinic, La Jolla; *Cardiology*: Dr. Francis M. Smith, Scripps Metabolic Clinic, La Jolla; *Dental Pathology*: Dr. Quintin M. Stephen-Hassard, La Jolla; *Microbiology*: Dr. Claude E. ZoBell, assistant professor of marine microbiology, Scripps Institution of Oceanography of the University of California, La Jolla.

The committee appointed to supervise the research conducted under the fellowships consists of the following members of the Research Committee: Drs. Pickard (chairman), Ball, Fox and ZoBell.

DENIS L. FOX

THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

THE Great Smoky Mountains National Park was dedicated at Newfound Gap by President Roosevelt on September 2.

The park is almost equally in the states of North Carolina and Tennessee, on the crest of the Great Smokies. Newfound Gap is on the boundary line, where the park's one trans-mountain road crosses.

Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, presided at the dedication exercises, and Governor Clyde R. Hoey, of North Carolina, and Governor Prentice Cooper, of Tennessee, made brief addresses. These were followed by the dedicatory address of the President.

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park is one of the units of the Federal Park System administered by the National Park Service "for the benefit and enjoyment of the people." It may be visited any day

in the year. During 1939, 760,000 persons entered the park to motor over the modern highways or to travel afoot or on horseback over the 500 miles of trails.

Authority for establishment of the park was contained in the act of Congress approved May 22, 1926. In 1930 it was established, in a limited way, for protection and administration only, in accordance with Congressional approval of such limited park status upon the acquisition by the government (by donation) of 150,000 acres of land.

Most of the funds to purchase the lands within the approved boundaries were secured by donation. Contributions of citizens of North Carolina and Tennessee and appropriations by the legislatures of those two states raised approximately half the estimated cost of acquiring the required lands. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., through the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial, offered to match contributions up to \$5,000,000, in memory of his mother. Because of bank failures during the depression, which wiped out some donations, and of the inability of many to redeem their pledges through the same cause, and also because of rising land values, difficulty was met in securing all the land necessary to establish the park. President Roosevelt in 1933 allotted \$1,500,000 of emergency funds, and Congress appropriated \$743,265.20 to acquire the last remaining lands.

A short time ago a Founders Memorial Plaque, with the following inscription, was erected at Newfound Gap in the heart of the park:

For the permanent enjoyment of the people this park was given one half by the people and states of North Carolina and Tennessee and by the United States of America and one half in memory of Laura Spelman Rockefeller by the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial founded by her husband, John D. Rockefeller.

THE MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY AT WOODS HOLE

AN article in *The Collecting Net* gives an account of the annual meeting of the Corporation and Trustees of the Marine Biological Laboratory, by Dr. Charles Packard, director of the laboratory. At this meeting twelve new members of the corporation were elected as follows:

Dr. H. G. Albaum, Brooklyn College; Dr. C. A. Angerer, Ohio State University; Dr. F. A. Brown, Northwestern University; Dr. Leon Churney, University of Pennsylvania; Dr. G. Failla, Memorial Hospital, New York; the Reverend J. A. Frisch, Canisius College; Dr. F. A. Hartman, Ohio State University; Dr. Marie Hinrichs, Illinois Southern State Teachers' College; Columbus O'D. Iselin, Harvard University, Rockefeller Institute; Mrs. Rebecca Lancefield, Rockefeller Institute; Dr. Floyd Moser, University of Pennsylvania, and Dr. Eric Wald, Harvard University.

Trustees elected by the corporation were:

Dugald E. S. Brown, New York University; H. B. Bigelow, Harvard University; R. Chambers, New York University; W. E. Garrey, Vanderbilt University; S. O. Mast, the Johns Hopkins University; A. P. Mathews, University of Cincinnati; C. W. Metz, University of Pennsylvania; H. H. Plough, Amherst College; W. R. Taylor, University of Michigan.

Drs. Caswell Grave, R. G. Harrison and C. E. McClung, trustees who have reached the age of seventy years, were elected trustees emeriti.

Memorials to the following members of the corporation who have died were read:

Dr. H. McE. Knowler, for many years librarian of the laboratory (read by R. G. Harrison).

Dr. M. M. Metcalf, trustee since 1897 (read by R. A. Budington).

Dr. Charles Zeleny, well remembered by the older investigators (prepared by F. Payne).

Captain John Veeder, for fifty years connected with the laboratory, in charge of the boats until his retirement (read by F. R. Lillie).

Discussion at both the meeting of the trustees and of the members of the corporation centered about the new addition to the library, now actually under construction. Dr. Packard states that the necessary funds for its erection have been given by the Rockefeller Foundation, which some years ago aided in the construction of the Brick Building. The new structure, 59 × 51 feet in outside dimensions, will have the same height and architectural style as the present building. The four tiers of stacks, corresponding to the present stack floors, will provide space for almost twice as many volumes as there are on hand at present. On all floors reading tables will be provided. On the upper two floors there will be a generous amount of space between the tables and the stacks, so that readers should not be disturbed by those who are moving about in the stacks. A part of the basement will be used for the sterilization of glassware, distillation of water and other services requiring steam. Two dark rooms are also provided.

THE DETROIT MEETING OF THE AMERICAN AT WOODS HOLE

As has already been reported in *SCIENCE*, sessions of the American Chemical Society will open at Detroit on September 9 and will last through the week.

At two o'clock on Monday the first general session will be held in the Scottish Rite Cathedral of the Masonic Temple. The program will include the presentation of the Women's Award to Dr. Mary Engle Pennington and the presentation of the American Chemical Society Award in Pure Chemistry to Lawrence Olin Brockway. Dr. M. L. Crossley, of the American Cyanamid Company, will make an ad-