

sive collections made by Dr. Smith in these various lands and adjoining seas were given to various museums, but mostly to the United States National Museum.

In honor of his contributions to science, four birds, two reptiles, one amphibian, nine fishes, three mollusks, two crustaceans, two insects and three other forms have been named after him. From 1898 to 1931 he was presented with seven medals in recognition of his achievements and services.

Dr. Smith's chief contributions to science occur in the fields of ichthyology and fisheries science. In the latter field he spent 36 years with the United States Fish Commission publishing about one hundred papers on fishery science and a somewhat larger number on ichthyology have appeared under his pen, describing numerous new species, new genera and families of fishes. Among a total of about 300 published papers by him there are one or more in nearly all fields of natural history. Since 1925 his published researches have been largely on fishes and other animals from Siam, now Thailand, where from 1923-1935, as advisor in Fisheries to His Siamese Majesty's Government, organizer of the Siamese fishery service, and first director of the fishery bureau, he had ample opportunity to collect and study the fauna of Thailand.

His interest in Siamese fishes was so great that upon his return to the United States he began the most important scientific contribution of his life, "A Monograph of the Freshwater Fishes of Siam." For the last six years this monumental work with about 300 illustrations has occupied all his time in the Division of Fishes, U. S. National Museum, where he was associate curator in zoology.

Although his untimely death has left the Siamese manuscript not quite completed it is hoped that it can be put in shape for publication by one of his numerous ichthyological friends.

LEONARD P. SCHULTZ

U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM

RECENT DEATHS

DR. JOHN STANLEY PLASKETT, who retired in 1935 as director of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory at Victoria, B. C., died on October 17 at the age of seventy-six years.

DR. JAMES ALLEN NELSON, for some years research entomologist in the Department of Agriculture at Washington, who had retired from active service, died on August 9 at the age of sixty-five years.

PROFESSOR JAMES TROOP, state entomologist of Indiana from 1899 to 1907, later head of the department of entomology and horticulture at Purdue University, died on October 14 at the age of eighty-eight years.

DR. LOUIS FAUGERES BISHOP, clinical professor of heart and blood vessel disease at Fordham University, died on October 6 at the age of seventy-seven years.

PROFESSOR HARRY SLOAN HOWER, head of the department of physics at Carnegie Institute of Technology, died on October 10 at the age of sixty-four years. He had been a member of the faculty since 1906.

DR. HANS SPEMANN, professor of zoology at the University of Freiburg, Germany, died on September 12.

Nature reports the death of Professor A. G. Green, formerly professor of tinctorial chemistry in the University of Leeds and director of research to the British Dyestuffs Corporation, on September 12, aged seventy-seven years; of Dr. W. Gardiner, honorary fellow and formerly fellow and bursar of Clare College, lately university lecturer in botany in the University of Cambridge, on August 31, aged eighty-one years; of Dr. A. K. M. Noyons, professor of physiology in the University of Utrecht, aged sixty-three years; and of Dr. E. Abelaus, formerly professor of physiology in the University of Toulouse.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

RESULTS OF THE ECLIPSE EXPEDITION OF 1940

A REPORT of the results of the National Geographic Society-National Bureau of Standards Eclipse Expedition of 1940 was presented at the meeting of the Washington Philosophical Society on October 11. The expedition was stationed at Patos, in the state of Paraiba do Norte of Brazil, this location being north and west of Recife. The eclipse was on October 1. The program of scientific work planned for this expedition was so varied in nature that results of considerable scientific importance were obtained, although

a thin veil of clouds partially obscured the eclipse during the period of totality. Dr. Irvine C. Gardner, the leader of the expedition, described the new corona cameras, polarigraphs and spectrographs which were specially designed and constructed for use at this expedition. Dr. Paul A. McNally, S.J., of the Georgetown College Observatory, reported on measurements of the times of contacts determined from photographs of the partial phases. Dr. E. O. Hulburt, of the Naval Research Laboratory, gave the results of measurements of sky brightness made during twilight and during the period of darkening by the eclipse.

From these measurements deductions were made regarding the temperature prevailing in the uppermost layers of the atmosphere. Dr. C. C. Kiess, of the National Bureau of Standards, obtained an excellent flash spectrum and presented the results of photographic photometric measurements of the relative intensities of the members of the Balmer series and other groups of related lines. T. R. Gilliland, also of the National Bureau of Standards, obtained measurements of the effective heights of the ionosphere during the total and partial phases of the eclipse. Colored motion pictures, made by Richard H. Stewart, of the National Geographic Society, showed the work of the expedition at the eclipse site.

THE ENGINEERS' DEFENSE BOARD

THE establishment of the Engineers' Defense Board, a new working organization of engineers and technologists from the several national engineering societies to deal with technical problems on shortages, substitutions, conservation, raw materials, production and reclamation in the nation-wide adjustment under the impact of the defense effort, was reported in last week's issue of *SCIENCE*. Members of the board include:

American Society of Civil Engineers: Carlton S. Proctor, consulting engineer, executive committee representative; Richard E. Dougherty, vice-president, Improvements and Developments, New York Central System; Charles F. Goodrich, chief engineer, American Bridge Company; Robert R. McMath, chairman of the board, Motors Metal Manufacturing Company; J. P. H. Perry, vice-president, Turner Construction Company.

American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers: John F. Thompson, executive vice-president, International Nickel Company, executive committee representative; Zay Jeffries, technical director, Lamp Department, General Electric Company; Wilber Judson, vice-president, Texas Gulf Sulphur Company; Frederick Laist, metallurgical manager, Anaconda Copper Mining Company; Wilfred Sykes, president, Inland Steel Company.

American Society of Mechanical Engineers: R. M. Gates, president, Air Preheater Company, executive committee representative; H. V. Coes, Industrial Department, Ford, Bacon and Davis, Inc.; K. H. Condit, dean of engineering, Princeton University; J. W. Parker, vice-president and chief engineer, Detroit Edison Company; W. R. Webster, chairman of board, Bridgeport Brass Company.

American Institute of Electrical Engineers: H. H. Barnes, Jr., General Electric Company, executive committee representative; C. A. Adams, E. G. Budd Manufacturing Company; C. B. Jolliffe, Radio Corporation of America; R. L. Jones, Bell Telephone Laboratories; Phillips Sporn, vice-president in charge of engineering, American Gas and Electric Service Corporation.

Society of Automotive Engineers: C. L. McCuen, vice-

president and chief engineer, General Motors Corporation, executive committee representative; Rex B. Beisel, chief engineer, Vought-Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation; C. E. Frudden, Allis Chalmers Company; Arthur Nutt, vice-president, Wright Aeronautical Corporation; James C. Zeder, chief engineer, Chrysler Corporation.

American Institute of Chemical Engineers: F. W. Willard, president, Nassau Smelting and Refining Company, executive committee representative; Webster Jones, Carnegie Institute of Technology; R. L. Murray, vice-president, Hooker Electrochemical Company; A. J. Weith, manager of research, Bakelite Corporation; R. E. Wilson, president, Pan American Petroleum Transport Company.

Serving as officers of the Engineers' Defense Board are Robert E. McConnell, OPM consultant, *chairman*; Dr. Harry Rogers, president of the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, *vice-chairman*, and Dr. A. B. Parsons, secretary of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, *secretary*.

THE "B-COMPLEX" AWARD OF MEAD JOHNSON AND COMPANY

NOMINATIONS are solicited for the 1942 award of \$1,000 established by Mead Johnson and Company to promote researches dealing with the B-complex vitamins. The recipient of this award will be chosen by a Committee of Judges of the American Institute of Nutrition and the formal presentation will be made at the annual meeting of the institute at Boston on April 1.

The award will be given to the laboratory (non-clinical) or clinical research worker in the United States or Canada who, in the opinion of the judges, has published during the previous calendar year, January 1 to December 31, the most meritorious scientific report dealing with the field of the "B-complex" vitamin. While the award will be given primarily for publication of specific papers, the judges are given considerable latitude in the exercise of their function. If in their judgment circumstances and justice so dictate, it may be recommended that the prize be divided between two or more persons. It may also be recommended that the award be made to a worker for valuable contributions over an extended period, but not necessarily representative of a given year. Membership in the American Institute of Nutrition is not a requisite of eligibility for the award.

To be considered by the committee, nominations for this award for work published in 1941 must be in the hands of the secretary of the American Institute of Nutrition, Arthur H. Smith, Wayne University College of Medicine, Detroit, Mich., by January 10. The nominations should be accompanied by such data relative to the nominee and his research as will facilitate the task of the committee in its consideration of the nomination.