

THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR INFANTILE PARALYSIS

THE third annual report of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, containing a broad outline of the work which was sponsored by the foundation during 1941, was issued on January 12. Basil O'Connor, president of the foundation, states that the task of the National Foundation in attempting to conquer infantile paralysis and to ameliorate its effects has fallen into two main divisions: national and local. The National Foundation acts in the national field chiefly as a research grant-making, coordinating and educating agency. Its activities are divided into five divisions: virus research, nutritional research, after-effects research, epidemic aid and education. To carry out this program during the past fiscal year, \$807,131.50 was spent as follows:

For virus research, grants and appropriations totaling \$186,565.06 were made to universities, schools of medicine, hospitals, research foundations and state departments of health.

For studies on nutrition, \$67,969.17 was granted.

For after-effects research, included in which is the work of Miss Elizabeth Kenny and fifteen other grantees, \$285,572.54 was authorized.

For epidemic aid, clinics, respirators, splints and frames, nursing and medical help to communities, organizations and institutions during emergencies, \$89,048.13 was spent.

For education, \$154,091.11 was expended for nursing and physiotherapy instruction, publications, motion pictures and health exhibits.

During the past year over a thousand new chapters composed entirely of volunteers were formed at a cost to the foundation of \$23,885. To-day 1,500 counties are served by chapters. Chapters aided needy infantile paralysis victims regardless of their age, race, color or creed. This assistance included financial help for the purchase of orthopedic equipment and services and for the payment of medical, hospital and nursing expenses. For these purposes \$1,137,222 was left with the chapters in 1941. Volunteer groups also aided doctors and public health officials in carrying out the epidemic program in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, Pennsylvania and in many other emergency areas.

PRESENTATION TO WILFRED HUDSON OSGOOD

THE sixty-sixth birthday of Dr. Wilfred Hudson Osgood, of the Field Museum of Natural History, of whose staff he has been a member for thirty-two years, has been memorialized by the publication of a testimonial volume of four hundred pages.

According to the official statement the book opens

with two dedicatory articles. One is by Stanley Field, who became president of the museum in 1909 (in the same year that Dr. Osgood joined the staff) and has continued at the head of the board of trustees ever since. The other is by Major Clifford C. Gregg, director of the museum. Mr. Field and Major Gregg both express their appreciation of Dr. Osgood as a man and of his scientific work, and give reminiscences of his career. In the pages that follow the biographical sketches appear eleven scientific articles by zoologists on the staff of the museum and by colleagues of Dr. Osgood in the study of mammals from other institutions both in this country and abroad. The book, entitled "Papers on Mammalogy," appears as Volume 27 of the Zoological Series of the museum.

A specially bound copy was presented to Dr. Osgood on December 8, simultaneously with the beginning of international distribution of the edition of several hundred copies to scientific institutions and scientific workers.

Dr. Osgood's scientific career covers a period of forty-four years. A graduate of Stanford University, he took his Ph.D. degree at the University of Chicago. For twelve years prior to going to Field Museum, he was a biologist on the staff of the U. S. Biological Survey. He joined the staff of Field Museum on July 1, 1909, as assistant curator, and became chief curator of the department of zoology in 1921, continuing in that capacity until his retirement from active service on December 31, 1940. Since his retirement he has retained his association with the museum as curator emeritus, and has continued the pursuit of various important researches with undiminished enthusiasm.

Dr. Osgood has led many expeditions for Field Museum, in South America, Africa and Asia. Among the most important were the Marshall Field Expedition to Chile in 1922-23, the Magellanic Expedition of Field Museum which in 1939-40 explored and collected in the southernmost reaches of South America rounding out the explorations of 1923, and the Chicago Daily News-Field Museum Abyssinian Expedition in 1926-27. He personally financed and conducted an expedition to French Indo-China in 1937.

In the closing paragraph of his preface to the testimonial volume, Stanley Field, president of the museum, writes: "The great growth of Field Museum has coincided with Dr. Osgood's régime as chief curator of zoology. This growth has been two-fold, in the direction of exhibition on one hand and in the development of the scientific collections and researches based on them on the other. No one in Field Museum's organization has played a more active or more effective part in this vital developmental period of the museum than has Wilfred Hudson Osgood."