

Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine; the Union of American Biological Societies; the American Association of Scientific Workers, and the American Association of University Professors; Chairman or member of the editorial board of *Physiological Reviews*; the Board of Trustees, *Biological Abstracts*; the Committee to Promote Research on the Nature of Aging, National Research Council; the Public Advisory Committee, U. S. Public Health Service, and the Medical Advisory Committees of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis; Consultant to the U. S. Food and Drug Administration, and serving the Federal Trades Commission; the Office of War Information; the Aero-medical Service, and the Office of Price Administration.

But in whatever direction his bull-like energy and bull-dog determination are turned, whatever honors

or obligations turn to him, Carlson remains the fearless, shrewd, self-reliant, feet-on-the-earth realist. Recently in Kansas, a mental telepathy enthusiast told how he suddenly felt at just nine o'clock one evening that his mother, in New York, needed him; and how he learned later that she had fallen down stairs that very evening at exactly nine o'clock. "And what," he said to Dr. Carlson, "do you think of that?" "My first thought," came the prompt response, "is of the hour difference between Eastern and Central time."

Dr. Carlson has long been known to his friends as Ajax. Every one thinks the nickname came from A. J.; but we know better. The name had to come, for was not Ajax the only heroic figure from the past who never called on man or God for aid, but always fought his own way out of trouble?

## OBITUARY

### EPHRAIM PORTER FELT 1868-1943

DR. E. PORTER FELT, widely known and respected in entomological circles for many years, died suddenly of a heart attack in his office at the Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories, Stamford, Conn., on December 14, 1943. Dr. Felt, the son of Charles Wilson Felt and Martha Seeth Ropes Felt, was born in Salem, Mass., on January 7, 1868. He graduated from the Massachusetts Agricultural College in 1891, and in 1892 and 1893 continued his studies at Cornell University under a fellowship, obtaining the degree of Sc.D. in 1894. During the years 1893 to 1895 he taught natural science at the Clinton Liberal Institute, Fort Plain, N. Y. In 1895 he was appointed assistant to Dr. J. A. Lintner, then state entomologist of New York, and following Lintner's death in 1898, he was made state entomologist, a position which he filled with distinction until his retirement in 1928. Following his retirement he became chief entomologist and director of the Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories, Stamford, Conn., where he continued his entomological work until his death.

As one of Professor John Henry Comstock's students at Cornell, Dr. Felt became one of the outstanding entomologists of the country. His annual reports of the state entomologist of New York are noteworthy entomological publications, and nearly every issue contains original contributions. Entomology was the center of Dr. Felt's life and activities. From 1898 to 1911 he was the entomological editor of the *Country Gentleman*, and when the *Journal of Economic Entomology* was started in 1908 he was its first editor, a position to which he was elected annually until his retirement in 1935, and in which he labored effectively

for the good of entomology. Following the end of his active duties as editor he was elected honorary editor. In 1907 he was a member of the special commission for the study of the gipsy moth and brown-tail moth situations, inaugurated by A. H. Kirkland. The "Colcord Indexes to the Literature of American Economic Entomology," II to VI, were edited by Dr. Felt, the last one with the assistance of S. W. Bromley. In 1923 and 1924 he served as chief entomologist of the Gipsy Moth Bureau of the State Conservation Commission of New York, and for many years he was a member of the supervisory board of the American Yearbook Corporation. During the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo, N. Y., in 1901, Dr. Felt was the honored recipient of one gold and three silver medals for his scientific contributions.

Dr. Felt was a fellow and an emeritus life member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a member of the Entomological Society of America, of which he was vice-president in 1916; the American Association of Economic Entomologists, of which he was president in 1902; and of its Eastern Branch; of the New York Entomological Society; of the Entomological Society of Washington and of the Cornell Chapter of the Society of the Sigma Xi. He was a constant attendant at meetings of national and regional entomological associations and shade tree bodies and gave freely of his time and knowledge to policy-making committees.

His scientific contributions run into hundreds of titles, many of them dealing with descriptions of new species of Itonididae. He was particularly interested in gall-producing insects, and his "Key to American Insect Galls" (N. Y. St. Mus. Bull. 200, 1918) and his later book "Plant Galls and Gall Makers" (Ithaca,

N. Y., 1940) are widely used. Many of his publications deal with insects injurious to trees, and all entomologists are familiar with his two-volume work entitled "Insects Affecting Park and Woodland Trees" (Mem. 8, N. Y. St. Museum, 1905-6), with its numerous excellent illustrations and colored plates. In 1924 the Macmillan Company brought out his "Manual of Tree and Shrub Insects." For many years he was interested in the dispersal of insects by air currents and published several papers on this subject. Although never wavering from his interest in entomology, during his last years he published extensively on the care of trees, as witnessed by his books on "Pruning Trees and Shrubs," "Our Shade Trees" and "Shelter Trees in War and Peace," all brought out by the Orange Judd Company as part of their Farm and Garden Library.

In addition to his life-long interest in gall insects and in shade tree insects, Dr. Felt was concerned with the major insect pests of the eastern United States, and always participated in conferences dealing with their control. In addition he was a frequent speaker at entomological gatherings and before groups interested in the care of trees. His entomological interests were varied and his writings, both scientific and popular, were always thoughtful and sound. During his busy and complete life he contributed extensively to the advancement of entomology in this country. Always affable and willing to share his information, Dr. Felt was liked and admired by every one and the familiar figure of this slender, scholarly gentleman will be missed at many future entomological gatherings. The paths of many scientific workers are made easier by the industry of a few, and Dr. Felt was one

of the few. Dr. Felt was married in 1896 to Helen Maria Otterson, who died in 1939. He is survived by a son and three daughters.

H. B. WEISS

## RECENT DEATHS

DR. THOMAS SCOTT FISKE, emeritus professor of mathematics at Columbia University and for thirty-five years secretary of the College Entrance Examination Board, from which he retired in 1936, died on January 10. He was seventy-eight years old.

RAY T. STULL, chief of the heavy clay section of the National Bureau of Standards, died on January 5 at the age of sixty-eight years.

DR. JOHN CARL BELTZ, research chemist of the U. S. Bureau of Mines, Washington, D. C., died on January 10 at the age of forty-seven years.

DR. BENJAMIN WESLEY KILGORE, state chemist of North Carolina, died on January 3 in his seventy-seventh year. He was formerly director of the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station and of the Extension Service and dean of the College of Agriculture of the North Carolina State College.

DR. JOHN S. FONDA, assistant director of sales of the Grasselli chemicals department of E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company, died on December 22. He was forty-six years old.

DR. WILLIAM P. FRASER, emeritus professor of biology of the University of Saskatchewan, formerly chief of the Dominion Laboratory of Plant Pathology at Saskatoon, died on November 23 at the age of seventy-six years.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### SURVEY OF THE AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

AN appraisal has been initiated by the American Forestry Association of the effect of the war on the forest resources of the country so that post-war reconstruction and problems of forest management and land economy may be dealt with on a factual basis. The survey has the support and cooperation of state and federal forestry agencies and the forest industries. It will be completed, it is estimated, in from two to three years. John B. Woods, of Portland, Oregon, an authority on timber valuation, formerly forester for the Lumber Code Authority under the National Industrial Recovery Act, will direct the survey. He will be at the head of a staff of well-known specialists in forest appraisal and will be assisted by an advisory council of five members prominent in state and federal forestry, forest industry and in agriculture.

Members of this council are: William G. Howard, of Albany, New York, director of Lands and Forests, New York State Conservation Department; James W. Girard, of Washington, D. C., Division of Forest Economics, U. S. Forest Service; William B. Greeley, of Seattle, Wash., a former chief forester of the United States, now secretary-manager of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association; S. T. Dana, dean of the School of Forestry and Conservation of the University of Michigan and editor of the *Journal of Forestry*; and E. O. Siecke, Wisner, Nebr., farmer and veteran forestry leader in Texas and the South.

The main objective of the appraisal is to provide information for the handling of local, state and national postwar forest and land-use problems. According to Ovid Butler, executive secretary of the association, a forest appraisal consultant will be appointed in each of the principal forest regions of the country. With a state as a study unit, they will inventory forest