

In his desire to accomplish and serve he never spared himself and he asked the best and most energetic efforts, likewise, of those who served with him. He achieved much and the people of Florida and the nation have benefited from his labors.

HAROLD MOWRY

FLORIDA EXPERIMENT STATION

DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

AUGUST BUSCK, who served in the U. S. Department of Agriculture for more than forty-five years as specialist in Microlepidoptera, died on March 7 at the age of seventy-four years.

DR. MARGARET E. MALTBY, associate professor of

physics, retired, of Barnard College, Columbia University, died on May 3 at the age of eighty-three years.

DR. LIONEL ROBERT WILBERFORCE, professor of physics at the University of Liverpool from 1900 until his retirement in 1935 with the title emeritus, died on April 1 at the age of eighty-two years.

THE Smithsonian Institution, Washington, has been given a portrait of the late Dr. George Washington Carver. The presentation was made on May 2 by Vice-President Wallace.

A RESOLUTION to designate February 11 of each year as Thomas Alva Edison Day in commemoration of his birthday was introduced in the Senate on May 2.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM

In his report on the condition and operation of the U. S. National Museum for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1943, Dr. Alexander Wetmore, director of the U. S. National Museum, states that appropriations for the maintenance and operation of the museum for the year amounted to \$892,630, which was \$61,652 more than for the previous year.

Although there has been a decrease in the total number of visitors to the museum below that normal for times of peace, the number recorded, 1,355,269, indicates the great interest that exists in the exhibits. The change in hours to allow the public halls to be open all day Sunday has permitted many people to visit the buildings whose time schedules would not have otherwise made such visits possible. This is particularly true of service men and women, about 2,000 of whom have been included among the visitors each week end.

Last year's report described steps taken for the adequate safeguard of collections. These precautions have gone forward, and a program of training has been initiated among groups of employees for the protection of visitors, employees and the various buildings. Air-raid alarm systems have been installed, fire-fighting, air-raid and first-aid equipment procured, air-raid shelters designated, and complete black-out facilities where necessary established. Practice air-raid drills were held, both in cooperation with the District of Columbia and independently of the city-wide drills.

Throughout the year members of the staff have been occupied with work connected with the conduct of the war, either through direct contact with various war agencies or through the Ethnogeographic Board. This has included "spot" information in various fields, research and experiment. The variety of these subjects is indicated by the following enumeration of some of

the items on which data were requested: Camouflage plants; natural vegetation of specific regions; illustrations of poisonous plants and of emergency food plants and data regarding them; destruction and mosquito-harboring epiphytes; distribution of certain plants of known economic importance; botanical exploration; the palatability of the flesh of land, freshwater and marine animals, their use for food and methods of capture; the serviceability of hides and skins for various purposes; disease transmission; noxious, poisonous or otherwise dangerous animals; intermediate hosts of animal and human parasites; aid in the preparation of survival manuals and other military and naval handbooks; distributional lists of insects and other animals of medical importance; outlines for insect surveys in foreign areas; instruction in mosquito identification; collection and preservation of specimens, especially those of medical importance; supplying duplicate sets of insect material not otherwise readily obtainable for the use of Army and Navy medical schools; biological and oceanographic problems; marine fouling organisms; bibliographic surveys; recommendations regarding personnel.

Assistance has been given in the identification of tribal culture patterns chiefly of the island peoples of the West Pacific area and of continental southeastern Asia. Other information provided, in this instance obtained from museum photographic files, related to the need of our aviators and soldiers to recognize religious caste markings, and, to assist in the orientation of aviators, the types of house construction in various parts of southern Asia. A mass of information directly based on the collections was given to such agencies as the Board of Economic Warfare and the War Production Board, bearing directly on the development of the use of substitute materials for civilian use. Various articles describing the more remote