

Geographical Society, Ecological Society of America, Society of American Foresters, Society of Mammalogists and the Wildlife Society.

He is survived by Inez Muriel Hodges Palmer, to

whom he was married at Fairbanks, Alaska, in 1934; there are no children.

W. L. MCATEE

FRANK DUFRESNE

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE IN GREAT BRITAIN

A MEMORANDUM drawn up by the British Ecological Society on wildlife conservation and ecological research from the national standpoint, as reported in *The Times*, London, states that the protection, scientific study and intelligent use and enjoyment of native plant life and animal life can only be brought about satisfactorily if the State takes a leading responsibility. It is pointed out that local or private bodies, however well informed, are not in a position to discover, or to hold, the correct balance between the complex and conflicting interests which are deeply involved in many wildlife problems. The memorandum reads:

There appears to be no other satisfactory method than to place the responsibility for advice and coordination upon a separate body acting under the Privy Council. It is recommended that a limited number of areas should be selected which are of sufficient scientific importance to warrant their acquisition by the State for the primary purpose of the conservation and scientific study of the principal types of plant and animal community represented in this country. These national reserves should be managed by a national service of conservators and wardens, under the direction of a national authority, who should proceed under powers similar to those employed for the acquisition of land for State forests. A national biological survey should be established to concern itself with the constantly changing wild and naturalized flora and fauna. This body should be charged with fact-finding, research and advice on the conservation, regulation, control and management of plant and animal life in Great Britain.

At least one general ecological research institute with suitable laboratories should be established by and under the powers granted to the proposed national authority. At this institute facilities should be provided for investigations by workers from the universities and the closest touch should be maintained between the institute and the university departments carrying on ecological research, including the development of humane methods of pest control. There should be established, under a Committee of the Privy Council, an Ecological Research Council as the national authority to cover the vast and hitherto neglected field of research. The pressing need is to extend the field of biological research beyond that now covered. With good sense and sound management overlapping of work or competition for money should never arise.

COMMISSIONS IN THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT, REGULAR ARMY

1. The Surgeon General invites attention of all Medical Department officers and former officers, other than those retired, of both male and female component corps to War Department Circular 243, dated 10 August 1945. Subject: "Interests in Commissions in the Regular Army," a summary of which follows:

(a) Present indications are that a number of outstanding officers who have proved their capabilities in this emergency will be needed in the Regular Army peacetime establishment. Until appropriate legislation is enacted, the War Department can not announce the conditions which will govern selection of these officers or the number required. However, it is desired that officers who have served in the emergency, whether or not they are still on active duty, be given the opportunity of indicating their interest in obtaining a Regular Army commission. An officer making such a statement of interest may go off active duty or remain in the service without prejudice to his chances of being tendered a commission when legislation is enacted. It is the intention of the War Department that the fact that an officer has not remained in active service will not affect the grade to be offered or the position he will occupy on the promotion list.

(b) The plan for selecting and integrating officers into the Regular Army officers corps, as well as the size and composition of that corps, will finally be determined by Congress. The War Department will recommend that these officers integrated into the Regular Army be of such age and physical condition as will permit them to serve for a reasonably long period before being retired. No officer will be appointed in a grade higher than that which he held in wartime.

(c) The content of this circular will be brought to the attention of every officer at the earliest opportunity.

2. Officers currently on active military duty and who are interested in being considered for commission in the Regular Army, following enactment of appropriate legislation, may submit a statement of interest to their immediate commanding officer as outlined in the above mentioned circular.

3. Officers and former officers other than those retired who have served since 7 December 1941, and who have been relieved from active military duty under honorable conditions, may submit their statement of interest as outlined in the above mentioned circular direct to The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C.

4. The submission of a statement of interest in a Regular Army commission in no way obligates an officer to apply for such a commission at any time.

5. At such time when the policies establishing the conditions and procedures for selection and integration of officers into the Regular Army, Medical Department, are finalized, the Surgeon General will make immediate announcement in this publication.

THE COOPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE TEACHING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

THE Cooperative Committee on Science Teaching consists of representatives from different organizations of scientists. These representatives are recommended to the American Association for the Advancement of Science and appointed by the Executive Committee. The following are members of this committee. Others will probably be added as recommended by their organizations. It is understood that the committee will meet in October, 1945, to organize itself and to make plans.

Professor K. F. Lark-Horovitz, head of the department of physics, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana. (American Association of Physics Teachers.)

Glen Warner, Woodrow Wilson Jr. College, Chicago. (American Association of Physics Teachers.)

Professor Lloyd W. Taylor, head of the department of physics, Oberlin College, Ohio. (American Institute of Physics.)

Professor Raleigh W. Schorling, University of Michigan. (Mathematical Association of America.)

Professor E. H. C. Hildebrandt, department of mathematics, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill. (National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.)

Professor B. S. Hopkins, department of chemistry, University of Illinois. (American Chemical Society.)

Professor L. L. Quill, head of the school of chemistry, Michigan State College, Lansing. (Division of Chemical Education, American Chemical Society.)

Professor Glenn W. Blaydes, department of botany, The Ohio State University. (Botanical Society of America.)

Professor George A. Thiel, head of the department of geology, University of Minnesota. (Geological Society of America.)

Dr. E. C. Stakman, University of Minnesota. (Executive Committee of the A.A.A.S.)

Dr. R. J. Havighurst, division of human relations, University of Chicago. *Chairman.*

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE OF THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

POSTWAR plans for the New York Botanical Garden which involve a minimum of \$6,580,000 in capital expenditure and new endowment are described in the *Garden Week Report*. Of this sum, \$1,680,000 is in-

cluded in the post-war capital budget of the City of New York. The balance of \$4,900,000, which includes \$300,000 to enable the Garden to participate in the city's expenditure, will be sought through private subscription. The money thus raised will be designated as the Fiftieth Anniversary Fund. The Honorable John W. Davis, former Ambassador to Great Britain, has accepted the chairmanship of a national committee of sponsors for the raising of this sum.

A new museum building to cost \$977,500 is planned, and in addition the relocation of roads and construction of new bridges, a new rose garden on the west side of the grounds adjacent to the other plantings, and a new exhibition greenhouse to enable the garden to present more effective displays and to accommodate the Sunday crowds.

A restaurant and a public rest-room also are among the plans. Numerous other additions and improvements include enlarging the size and scope of the monthly *Journal*.

This program of development involves the capital expenditure of \$2,305,000 for improvements to physical plant, grounds and equipment.

The balance of \$4,275,000 in new permanent funds is desired for the following projects:

To expand the garden's laboratories for research in plant diseases, plant breeding and plant physiology.

To establish seven new curatorships and two assistant posts on the scientific staff.

To create a scholarship fund to foster the advanced training of potential leaders in the plant sciences.

To develop, through more effective display, greater interpretative use of the museum, which is the only public museum in this country exclusively devoted to botany.

To enhance the series of special outdoor gardens and displays of such plants as azaleas, rhododendrons, irises, dogwoods, peonies, roses, dahlias, hardy asters and chrysanthemums, of which the garden already has exceptional collections, and of others which might be established.

The curatorships contemplated include chairs in South American tropical botany, African botany, plants of Eastern Asia, economic botany, fossil botany, in which the garden is recognized as having one of the world's finest collections of specimens, and cryptogamic botany. Other positions called for include a curator of education to plan, coordinate and expand the program of formal and informal public education and information services, and an assistant custodian of the herbarium of more than two million specimens.

Although the annual maintenance costs of the garden are largely met by city appropriations, the educational and scientific work is chiefly dependent on private support. Since 1930 its annual income has shrunk about \$75,000 a year, necessitating sacrifices of essential personnel and other economies