

real and immediate. Biologists know how rapidly the progress of destruction proceeds and how soon the end comes when the diminution in numbers of any species has once become conspicuous. Increasing values always lead to redoubled efforts and multiplied appliances for securing a catch and the vicious cycle gains in velocity as it decreases in diameter.

The commercial interests are strangling the goose that has laid for them so many golden eggs and some are beginning to be apprehensive for the future. Unless public sentiment can be developed, unless the efforts of the Bureau of Fisheries can be supported by adequate appropriations, and unless the taking of salmon can be subjected to reasonable restrictions that splendid fish will in a short time be as much of a luxury on the Pacific coast as its congener is to-day on the Atlantic.

HENRY B. WARD

JOSEPH PANTEL (1853-1920), A JESUIT AND A SCIENTIST

THE first days of last February saw the closing of a remarkable scientific career, when the death of Fr. Pantel, S.J., occurred in Toulouse, France. By dint of tireless work and scientific investigations, he had gained for himself an international reputation. He had developed a keen power of observation and was considered by all the men of science who knew him as a first class biologist.

Twice the Academy of Sciences of Paris recognized the merits of his works. In 1898, it conferred on him the "Thore Prize" for his masterly monograph on the "*Thrixion halidayanum*"; in 1906, the "Gama Machado Prize" for his studies on the cells of the masculine type of the "*Notonecta glauca*." This second time the work had been done in collaboration with his disciple, Rev. Robert de Sinéty, S.J.

In 1891-92 he studied at Louvain University in the Carnoy Laboratory. In later years the systematic study of the Coleoptera and Orthoptera, their anatomy and biology, constituted the main guiding lines of his research

work. The observations and discoveries he made were published by several scientific magazines, *La Cellule* and *Le Neuraxe*, of Louvain, and by many scientific societies, The Royal Spanish Society of Natural History, The Royal Academy of Arts and Sciences of Barcelona, the Entomological Societies of France, Holland and others.

The most famous entomologists of Europe revered his learning and admired his modesty. In his honor they designated several new species with the name of "*Panteli*" and several genera—a genus of Orthoptera "*Pantelia*" (Bolívar) and a genus of Diptera "*Panteliola*" (Rev. Kieffer). Dr. P. Halbfass, teaching in the University of Münster in 1903, spoke of Fr. Pantel in glowing terms of admiration. Being a Lutheran, he did not mention to the class that Fr. Pantel was a Jesuit but he confessed that he had been sent to study under his direction by his well-known professor, Dr. O. Hertwig, who saw in Fr. Pantel an eminent scientist.

Parasitism among insects, customs and social habits of the pirates and robbers among the winged tribe, the shameless impudence of beggarly insects which cause the death of others in order that they may live—such were the topics of interest in the studies of Fr. Pantel.

After the war the services of Fr. Pantel as professor were enlisted in the Catholic Scientific Institute of Toulouse. The writer can testify that, in the work of the class-room, Fr. Pantel was equally eminent. His lectures were always very carefully prepared and delivered, the right word always in the right place. No unnecessary repetitions that tire the mind or distract the attention. Fr. Pantel gave his lectures, guided by psychological principles and never did spare labor to obtain the best results in the shortest time. As an instance of the last assertion the writer may adduce the fact of Fr. Pantel's spending in his early career 17 hours work for the preparation of a class-room lecture lasting 55 minutes.

The number of students who came to attend his lectures was a silent testimony of the value of his teaching. They came from Spain, Por-

tugal, Italy, Germany, England, Ireland, Belgium, South America and even remote Australia.

J. H. FOULQUIER, S.J.

SACRED HEART COLLEGE,
DENVER, COLO.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF JAMES WILSON

SYMPATHY at the death of former Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson was sent to his family in the form of a resolution adopted at a meeting of the chiefs of the various bureaus of the United States Department of Agriculture. Tribute was paid to the former head of the department for "his patriotic devotion to the interests of all the people, his broad vision, and his practical wisdom." As a token of respect the flags on all department buildings were placed at half-staff, and remained so until after the funeral, which took place at Traer, Iowa.

Because of the time of the funeral, the department was unable to send representatives from Washington. The department, however, designated Dr. Henry C. Taylor, Chief of the Office of Farm Management, who was in the Middle West; Frank S. Pinney, Federal agricultural statistician at Des Moines; and R. E. Doolittle, Chief of the Central Food and Drug Inspection District at Chicago, to represent it at the funeral.

A floral tribute was sent by officials and employees of the department as a token of esteem for their former chief. The message of sympathy sent the family of Mr. Wilson followed a similar personal message sent by Secretary of Agriculture Meredith. The resolution of the bureau chiefs, forwarded by Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Ball, read:

The members of the Department of Agriculture, feeling deeply the loss of their former secretary, James Wilson, of Iowa, desire to express their sympathy with his family and their appreciation of his great services to the United States as Dean of Agriculture, member of Congress, and Secretary of Agriculture. His patriotic devotion to the interests of all the people, his broad vision, and his practical wisdom place him high among those who

have deserved well of their country. Beloved as a friend, admired and respected as an official, his example as a man and a statesman is one to which all Americans may turn for inspiration and emulation: Therefore be it

Resolved, That in the death of James Wilson American agriculture has lost one of its greatest exponents and American citizenship one of its finest exemplars.

In token of respect the flags on all department buildings will be placed at half-mast, and a copy of this resolution will be sent to the family.

RESEARCH IN AVIATION

AN addition has been made to the activities of the Imperial College at South Kensington in the establishment of a new department of aeronautics. The movement was initiated by Sir Basil Zaharoff's endowment of the University of London chair of aviation, to which Sir Richard Glazebrook was appointed, with the duty of directing the new department.

The London *Times* states that the department was established to give effect to the scheme proposed by the committee on education and research in aeronautics in their report, dated December 12, 1919, in which the opinion was expressed that the Imperial College should become the central school for advanced study in aeronautical science. The school is administered by an advisory committee of twelve members, with Sir Arthur Acland as chairman, representing the college, the air ministry, the aeronautical research committee, the University of Cambridge, the Royal Aeronautical Society, and the Society of British Aircraft Constructors.

A comprehensive scheme of instruction and training, mainly post-graduate in character, has been arranged for next session beginning in October, including special sections in aeronautical engineering, meteorology and navigation, and with the cooperation of the Air Ministry the services have been engaged of a distinguished staff of experts. Sir Napier Shaw will be professor of meteorology; Mr. Leonard Bairstow, professor of aerodynamics; Mr. A. J. Sutton Pippard will deal with the structure and strength of aircraft, and Mr. A. T. Evans with the aircraft engines. Courses of lectures