

families Rosaceae (including Malaceae), Ericaceae (including Vacciniaceae), Juglandaceae, Fagaceae and Poaceae.

Ashe was a quiet and retiring man, a hard worker, utilizing his personal time largely in study and writing; he was keenly observant, markedly original and independent, with a fine sense of humor, and with high standards of thought and conduct.

WILLIAM A. DAYTON

#### RECENT DEATHS

DR. WILLIAM W. KEEN, emeritus professor of surgery at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, died on June 7 at the age of ninety-five years.

DR. NATHAN AUGUSTUS COBB, of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture, died on June 4 at the age of seventy-three years.

DR. VIRGIL COBLENTZ, of Philadelphia, formerly professor of chemistry in the New York College of Pharmacy and chief chemist of E. R. Squibb and Sons, died suddenly on June 10. He was seventy-six years old.

EDWIN JULIUS BARTLETT, professor emeritus of chemistry at Dartmouth College, died on June 10 at the age of eighty-one years.

HERBERT PARLIN JOHNSON, formerly assistant professor of zoology in the University of California and associate professor of bacteriology in the School of Medicine at St. Louis University, died suddenly on April 29 at the age of sixty-eight years.

THE death is announced on May 29 of Dr. Cuthbert

Christy, London naturalist, explorer and expert in tropical diseases. He was sixty-eight years old.

MISS NORA E. DALBEY, associate professor of botany, Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, who was carrying on special work in cytology while on leave of absence, died at Merritt Hospital, Oakland, California, on May 23. Miss Dalbey received her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Kansas. She has been at Kansas State College since 1918.

A CORRESPONDENT writes: "Anthony Spuler, associate entomologist of the Washington Agricultural Experiment Station, State College of Washington, Pullman, and Mrs. Spuler were drowned at Lake Wenatchee, Washington, on Memorial Day when their small motor boat capsized in a storm. Mr. Spuler received his bachelor's degree in zoology in 1917 and his master's degree in 1919 from the State College of Washington, and has been a member of the teaching and experiment station staff of that institution since his graduation. He was best known for his work in developing the use of moth traps as an indicator of the time to spray for codling moth control and for his research on oil sprays and other insecticides. Many of the results obtained in his investigations are the bases of established orchard practices in the Pacific Northwest."

*Nature* records the deaths of R. H. Adie, formerly secretary of the School of Agriculture, University of Cambridge, and the Hon. Mrs. Huia Onslow (Muriel Wheldale Onslow), university lecturer in plant biochemistry in the University of Cambridge.

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### GIFTS TO THE BRITISH NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

AMONG the important acquisitions made by the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History) and reported in the London *Times* are two considerable gifts from Mr. A. S. Vernay.

Some 60 mammals and 590 birds obtained by the Vernay-Lang expedition to the Kalahari Desert in 1930 have been presented by him, together with 264 flowering plants and ferns from the same region. The mammals include specimens of 11 forms described in South Africa as new to science, and the plant collections, from an area poor in flora and imperfectly known, make a welcome addition to the small representation hitherto possessed by the museum. The second gift from Mr. Vernay consists of 184 mammals, 29 reptiles, 34 fishes and 500 butterflies obtained by Captain Beresford Holloway, who accompanied the donor on his recent expedition to the Malaya peninsula.

Other zoological gifts include 70 big-game trophies from India and Africa presented by Sir Richard Dane, and a collection made by Dr. E. B. Worthington during the Cambridge University expedition to the East African Lakes. In this are included 102 reptiles and amphibians, 900 fishes (including about 30 new species), and many molluscs and other invertebrates.

A gift to the Department of Botany is the British herbarium of the late Dr. John Thomas Irwin Boswell (1822-88), presented by Mr. F. J. Hanbury. This herbarium comprises about 20,000 sheets of well-mounted plants, contained in 14 mahogany cabinets. Boswell was the editor of the monumental third edition of the "English Botany," and was long connected with the Botanical Exchange Club as distributor. The accuracy and detail of his descriptions was based upon the material in this collection, which will be kept intact by the wish of the donor, who purchased it on Boswell's death. A collection of 372 Tanganyika