

light on its complications, spent much of the summer studying and annotating the material at the herbarium.

Professor Liberty Hyde Bailey, whose first work on the genus *Carex* was published by the herbarium in 1886, made a visit to the herbarium in September, studying, in his eighty-first year, the intricate sources of cultivated plants. Professor Bailey is the only living associate of Asa Gray.

Dr. Kenneth F. Baker, of the experiment station of the Pineapple Producers Cooperative Association of the Hawaiian Islands, *en route* to tropical South America to study and collect wild species of the pineapple group, spent several days in consultation with Dr. Smith, one of the world's authorities on this family of plants, and will later have the assistance of Dr. Smith in interpreting his results. Ernest Rouleau, curator of the herbarium of the University of Montreal, spent the summer at the Gray Herbarium as a special research fellow, studying herbarium technique.

THE EASTERN SHADE TREE CONFERENCE

A MEETING will be held at the New York Botanical Garden in Bronx Park on December 8 and 9 to consider problems arising out of the damage done to trees during the hurricane of September 21. The call for the meeting is being issued by Dr. William J. Robbins, director of the Botanical Garden, at the request of a committee composed of W. O. Filley, forester at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station; Dr. B. O. Dodge, plant pathologist at the garden; and Dr. E. P. Felt, director and chief entomologist at the Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories. Mr. Filley will serve as temporary chairman of the meeting, which will be opened with a short address by Dr. Robbins.

The loss of a million or more good trees in the eastern states during the hurricane which swept up the coast and across New England is the motive of the gathering, which is to be known as the Eastern Shade Tree Conference. The aim is to study the selection and culture of more sturdy, storm-proof trees; to propose a program of rehabilitation of damaged trees; and to endeavor to gain a greater control over tree diseases and pests for the protection of trees in future years.

Some of the special problems incidental to the damage wrought by the hurricane include more concentrated attention to the pests of trees which are increasing in this area. Of special importance is the Dutch elm disease, which is carried by a beetle which breeds in weak or unhealthy trees. Half a dozen other ravaging insect and fungous pests will be taken under consideration at the conference. The problems connected with them are outlined by Dr. Felt as follows:

The gipsy moth, a serious pest of shade and forest trees, has been slowly extending its range westward and has now become abundant in several localities in western New England close to or near the barrier zone. The control of this insect is becoming a general problem.

The European spruce sawfly, a recently introduced species established over much of New England, has caused serious damage to spruce forests in limited areas in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont and may develop as a destructive pest of Norway spruce.

The Japanese beetle has been steadily extending the range of serious infestation in New Jersey and adjacent areas and is now becoming extremely abundant and injurious in southeastern New York and southwestern New England.

The elm leaf beetle has defoliated many trees in the Hudson River Valley and in New England during the past 40 years. It is more than probable that this insect has played an important part in weakening many of the shade trees which were badly damaged by the hurricane. This is also true of canker worms and forest tent caterpillars.

The willow scab fungus is a disease which has killed many thousands of willow trees in the East. Its control is another of the serious problems for the tree owner. There are, in addition, the *Sphaeropsis* on Austrian pine and the *Cytospora* of the Norway and Colorado blue spruces.

THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

THE fifty-sixth annual meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union was held at the U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C., from October 17 to 21, 1938, with a registered attendance of two hundred and thirty-three. Fifty-nine scientific papers were read—many illustrated by color slides or films. The three days of program sessions included a like number of evening entertainments; open house at the museum, the annual dinner and business meetings of various sections. On Friday the more than two hundred ornithologists in attendance visited the agricultural research center at Beltsville, Md. Many remained on Saturday for a conducted tour of the National Zoological Park.

Officers elected for the new year were as follows: *President*, Dr. Herbert Friedmann, Washington, D. C.; *Vice-presidents*, Dr. J. P. Chapin, New York City; Dr. J. L. Peters, Cambridge, Mass.; *Secretary*, Dr. Lawrence E. Hicks, Columbus, O.; *Treasurer*, Rudyard Boulton, Chicago; *Council*, W. L. McAtee, Washington, D. C.; John T. Zimmer, New York City, and Robert T. Moore, Pasadena.

The Brewster Medal award was made to Dr. Thomas S. Roberts for his volumes on "The Birds of Minnesota." One fellow, Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, Washington, D. C.; two honorary fellows, Eliot Howard, of England, and Jacques Berlioz, of France, and six corresponding fellows, K. A. Hindwood, Australia; Konrad Lorenz, Austria; Wilhelm Meise, Germany; R. E. Moreau, Tanganyika, Africa; Ernst Shuz, Germany; N. Tinbergen, Netherlands, were elected.

In addition to 337 new associate members, eight new members were named: Thomas T. McCabe, Harold Michener, Gayle B. Pickwell, E. Lowell Sumner, Jr.,

of California; Austin L. Rand, New York; Alexander F. Skutch, Maryland; Herbert G. Deignan, Washington, D. C., and S. Gilbert Emilio, Massachusetts.

The 1939 meeting will be held in the San Francisco Bay region of California from June 19 to 23. Dr. Alden H. Miller, of Berkeley, is the chairman of the local committee. Dr. Alexander Wetmore, of the U. S. National Museum, has been named president of the eleventh International Ornithological Congress, which will hold a joint meeting with the American Ornithologists' Union at the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences in May, 1942.

LAWRENCE E. HICKS,
Secretary.

SYMPOSIA AT BROWN UNIVERSITY ON INTERMOLECULAR ACTION

A THREE-DAY meeting on "Intermolecular Action," sponsored by the Division of Physical and Inorganic Chemistry of the American Chemical Society, will be held at Brown University on December 27, 28 and 29. The members will attend the ceremonies dedicating the Metcalf Research Laboratory of the university on Wednesday afternoon, December 28.

In a series of twenty-two scientific papers, thirty-eight chemists will discuss "Gases and Pure Liquids," "Non-Polar Mixtures," "Highly Polar Mixtures," "Polar Mixtures" and "Ionic Solutions." Professor George Scatchard, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, chairman of the division, will preside.

Among the speakers will be Professor Joel H. Hildebrand, of the University of California, who was recently awarded the 1939 William H. Nichols Medal

of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society for his studies of liquid and solid solutions; Professor John G. Kirkwood, of Cornell University, to whom was awarded the \$1,000 American Chemical Society Award in Pure Science for original contributions in the field of intramolecular forces; Dr. F. Loudon, of the Institut Henri Poincaré, Paris, at present visiting lecturer at Duke University; and Professor Charles A. Kraus, of Brown University, president-elect of the American Chemical Society.

Dr. Niels Bjerrum, professor of chemistry at the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural College, Copenhagen, visiting lecturer at Brown University, and Dr. Frederick G. Keyes, head of the department of chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will deliver the dedication lectures on Wednesday afternoon. Dr. Bjerrum's subject will be "The Development of the Theory of Electrolytes," and Dr. Keyes will speak on "Contrasts."

The committee on arrangements, in addition to Professor Scatchard, includes Professors Cohn, Eyring, Hildebrand, Kraus and LaMer; Professor Farrington Daniels, of the University of Wisconsin; Dr. Louis S. Kassel, of the U. S. Bureau of Mines Experiment Station, Pittsburgh; Professor Philip A. Leighton, of Stanford University; Professor Samuel C. Lind, of the University of Minnesota; Wilber G. Parks, of Rhode Island State College; Thomas H. Roberts, of Edgewood, R. I., and Professors Earle K. Strachan and Laurence S. Foster, of Brown University. Dr. Harold C. Urey, of Columbia University, is secretary of the division.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE hundred and third meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will be held at Richmond, Va., from December 27 to December 31. Dr. Wesley C. Mitchell, professor of economics at Columbia University, will preside, and the address of the retiring president will be given by Dr. George D. Birkhoff, professor of economics at Harvard University. The preliminary program of the meeting, edited by Dr. F. R. Moulton, permanent secretary of the association, will be printed in next week's issue of *SCIENCE*. The first event of the meeting, except the meeting of the executive committee, will be on Monday evening, when a dinner will be given to members of the National Association of Science Writers and to editors of Virginia newspapers in honor of Austin H. Clark, of the Smithsonian Institution, formerly director of the press service of the association. Sir Richard Gregory, editor of *Nature*, will be the principal speaker.

DR. BERNARD SACHS has been elected a corresponding member of the Société Suisse de Neurologie "for eminent scientific merits and the prolific influence of his research work on the progress of neurology."

DR. MORLEY FLETCHER will represent the Royal College of Physicians, London, at the opening of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians. He will be presented with an illuminated address and a replica of the silver wand or caduceus, which was presented to the college by Caius in 1556.

ACCORDING to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association, the State Medical Society of Wisconsin at its annual meeting in Milwaukee presented the gold seal of the society to Dr. Eben J. Carey, dean of the School of Medicine of Marquette University, and to Dr. William Shainline Middleton, dean of the Medical School of the University of Wisconsin. Dr. Carey was honored for his "high accomplishments in medical edu-