

DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

ALBERT W. SMITH, professor of mechanical engineering at Stanford University from 1892 to 1904; later successively director of Sibley College of Engineering of Cornell University and dean of the college, died on August 16 in his eighty-sixth year.

DR. LOUIS ROULE, professor of science at Toulouse University from 1885 to 1910, later professor at the

Paris Museum of Natural History, died on August 4 at the age of eighty-one years.

THE astronomical observatory of Vanderbilt University, founded over sixty years ago, will hereafter be known officially as "Barnard Observatory of Vanderbilt University" in honor of the late Edward Emerson Barnard, the distinguished astronomer who was an alumnus of the university.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

THE following resolutions were adopted at the annual meeting on May 15 of the trustees of the National Parks Association:

COMMERCIAL ENCROACHMENTS

Since the National Parks and Monuments comprise a valuable part of the heritage which we are now fighting to maintain, and

Since pressure was exerted during the first world war for such destructive and depleting uses as grazing, timber cutting and power development in the National Parks, and

Since increasing pressure for similar encroachment is being brought upon the National Park Service in the present war, be it therefore

Resolved, That the National Parks and Monuments should not be opened to any commercial use until there is definite proof of its necessity, and until all other possible sources of the needed materials have been explored, and be it further

Resolved, That the National Parks Association will examine each threat of commercial encroachment upon the National Parks and Monuments to determine whether it is inimical to the public interest.

THE QUARTERING OF ENEMY ALIENS IN NATIONAL PARKS

Since the proposed quartering of enemy aliens within the National Parks and Monuments would jeopardize the natural conditions, particularly in forested areas, which are subject to destruction by fire, and

Since such quartering of enemy aliens would certainly interfere with normal use by visitors seeking rest and inspiration therein, be it therefore

Resolved, That enemy aliens should be quartered in areas other than the National Parks and Monuments and where they will not endanger the war effort.

MILITARY USE OF NATIONAL PARKS AND MONUMENTS

Since the National Primeval Parks and National Monuments were established as outstanding natural areas worthy of complete preservation for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, and

Since extensive military training and maneuvers are incompatible with such use of these areas, and irreparable damage to their natural features must result therefrom, and

Since less restricted and equally suitable areas on other public lands are available for military purposes, be it

Resolved, That only in case of proven necessity, and after every other possible area has been investigated and shown to be unsuitable for the proposed use, and only in accordance with the recommendation of the National Park Service and the Department of the Interior, should National Primeval Parks and National Monuments be used for military purposes.

THE VIRGIN FOREST OF THE PORCUPINE MOUNTAINS

Since the virgin forest of the Porcupine Mountains on Michigan's upper peninsula constitutes the finest remaining example of the original forests in the Great Lakes region, and

Since there is imminent danger of these mountains being desecrated through reckless and wasteful lumbering or development for extensive tourist use with the resultant loss of their value as a superlative natural area, be it therefore

Resolved, That the Porcupine Mountains should be acquired by the Federal Government for preservation in their present primitive condition.

SABOTAGE FOREST FIRE CONTROL

Since the probabilities of subversive action in setting forest fires present a serious danger to the nation's heritage of superlative natural areas, and to the prosecution of the war, be it therefore

Resolved, That advance provision of adequate funds should be made for the purpose of preventing and combating such forest fires.

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE FORESTS

DR. GIFFORD PINCHOT, formerly Pennsylvania State Commissioner of Forestry and forester of the Department of Agriculture; Governor of Pennsylvania from 1923 to 1927 and from 1931 to 1935, has made public the following statement:

In a letter to Harrisburg I said that I had recently seen portions of the state forests of Pennsylvania butchered by lumbermen, and urged that it be stopped.

Harrisburg refused to stop it, and quoted in defense two men without professional training or practical experience in forestry. One of them set up our war needs in excuse. That excuse is worthless.

If the war needed every last tree in Pennsylvania, we should give it, of course. But the war does not need it.

The chief forester of the United States Forest Service