Obituary Notices

Dr. Géza de Horváth

IN these days of narrow specialization it is refreshing to look back on a generation of workers who, by their extensive biological knowledge and literary erudition, were able to deal satisfactorily with the multitude of new forms of life which improvement in transport and the rapid exploitation of the world during the latter half of the last century, were bringing to the European museums.

With the death of Dr. Géza de Horváth at Budapest on September 8, 1937, in his ninetieth year, entomology has lost one of the last of such men. When Horváth was a young man, Prof. Carl Stål, working in the Swedish State Museum at Stockholm, was busy founding the modern classification of the Hemiptera, and it was Horváth and his famous Finnish contemporaries Prof. O. M. Reuter and Dr. E. E. Bergroth, more than any others, who were destined to elaborate this system and build up from it our present knowledge of the systematics of the order.

Horváth was born on November 23, 1847, at Csécs in Northern Hungary. He was educated at the Kassa Gymnasium, where he was a pupil of the celebrated Prof. Jeitteles, and from there went up to the University of Vienna to study medicine. After graduating, he at first worked as an assistant in the Hungarian National Museum, but after about eighteen months he left the Museum to take up a medical practice in the provinces.

In 1880 Horváth was called upon to organize a *Phylloxera* experiment station at Budapest and acted for some time as its director. With the solving of the *Phylloxera* problem throughout Europe, the work of this station was directed towards the control of other injurious insects, and in 1890 it was renamed the Institute of Experimental Entomology. With the help of Jablonowski, such pests as the Moroccan locust, the nun moth, the hessian fly, the frit-fly, the grain sawfly, the grain aphid, clover weevils and the sugar-beet beetle were satisfactorily investigated.

Horváth returned to the National Museum in 1895 and worked as head of the Department of Zoology. Here as a specialist on the Hemiptera, he acquired a world-wide reputation. His systematic papers alone run into several hundreds. He made various scientific expeditions abroad and was a member of the permanent committee of the International Congress of Zoology, and of the International Committee of Zoological Nomenclature. In this capacity he visited the United States in 1907. Horváth was elected a member of the Hungarian Academy and was an honorary member of several foreign scientific societies. In 1927 he was elected president of the tenth International Zoological Congress held at Budapest. He retired from the directorship of the Museum in 1921, but continued to work on the Hemiptera until his death. W. E. CHINA.

Sir Edward Denham, G.C.M.G., K.B.E.

WE regret to record the death of Sir Edward Denham, distinguished Colonial administrator and captain-general of Jamaica, which took place on June 2 at the age of sixty-one years.

Edward Brandis Denham was born in 1876, the son of the late Mr. Charles Denham of Sydney. He was educated at Malvern and Merton College, Oxford, and was appointed to a cadetship in Ceylon in 1889 after competitive examination. He had risen in the Colonial service to the rank of principal colonial secretary of Ceylon and colonial secretary of Mauritius, when in 1923 he was appointed Colonial Secretary of Kenya at a time when the present issue of the famous White Paper, laying down the principle of the paramountcy of native interests, was bringing about important changes in the attitude of the administration in dealing with various native questions. The communal system of representation, giving separate representation to Europeans, Indians, Arabs and natives was then being introduced, and in 1924 a measure of self-government was granted to the native tribal councils. These changes threw a heavy burden on Denham's shoulders, which was still further increased when, in 1925, the death of the governor, Sir Robert Coryndon, required him to take up the duties of acting governor, an office which he held until the arrival of Sir Edward Grigg as Coryndon's successor in October 1925.

While acting governor, Denham made a tour of the Nyanza and Kikuyu provinces and the Kitui district, the most thickly populated parts of the Colony, with the view of studying the changing mentality of the native in contact with Europeans and their civilization. The results of his observation were embodied in an original and extremely valuable report, which was published as a Blue Book. Especially noteworthy were his remarks on the working of the recently established native councils.

In 1928 Denham was promoted to be governor of Gambia, and in 1930 he was transferred to British Guiana, where he did much valuable work in the development of the resources of the Colony. His appointment as captain-general of Jamaica was made in 1934. His successful efforts in social and economic reform, and the part he played in the recent troubled conditions make his premature death an irreparable loss to the island and to the Empire.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Dr. Ch. E. Guillaume, formerly director of the Bureau International des Poids et Mesures, aged seventy-seven years.

Prof. Rudolf Vondráček, professor of fuel technology and metallurgy in the Brno Technical College, on June 12, aged fifty-seven years.