

It was, I think, a keen disappointment to him that the recommendations of the Plaice Committee of 1921 and of the Plaice Conference at Amsterdam in 1925 could not be put into operation. But he did not lose heart; he supported his staff in working out alternative methods of coping with the overfishing problem, which bore their first fruit in the Sea Fishing Industry Act of 1933.

In addition to his papers on the plaice, Borley published in 1923 an admirable study of the bottom-deposits in the North Sea, and was largely responsible for a special investigation of herring-trawling carried out just before the Great War, on which we reported jointly in 1922.

Borley was a colleague of mine for many years, and no man could wish for a better. He was always helpful, always put the work first and himself second. His great knowledge and experience was always freely at the service of his colleagues. He was a

lovable personality, and inspired both affection and respect in all those associated with him in the work of the Fisheries Department, of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, and of the Discovery Committee.

E. S. RUSSELL.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Prof. V. A. Karavajev of Kiev, an authority on the taxonomy and bionomics of ants, on January 7, aged seventy-five years.

Prof. J. P. McMurrich, emeritus professor of anatomy in the University of Toronto, on February 9, aged seventy-nine years.

Prof. N. V. Nassonov, formerly director of the Zoological Museum of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences, on February 10, aged eighty-five years.

News and Views

The Linnean Society and National Parks

As a result of the discussion on the objects of national parks held by the Linnean Society of London on December 8 (*NATURE*, 142, 1087; 1938) and subsequent debates, the Society has adopted the following resolution: "The Linnean Society of London accepts the definition employed in the African Fauna Convention as an ideal for the preservation of Nature; but it knows that the term 'National Park' has been given to areas which for various reasons are unsuitable for inclusion within the definition,—e.g. too limited or situated too near populated areas. For such it recommends the setting apart within each Park of special nature reserves under proper control; and it would like all authorities with power over Parks to seek advice from such bodies of naturalists as are competent to give it." The definition given by the African Fauna Convention (H.M. Stationery Office. Treaty Series, No. 27. London, 1933) is as follows: "The expression 'national park' shall denote an area (a) placed under public control, the boundaries of which shall not be altered or any portion be capable of alienation except by the competent legislative authority, (b) set aside for the propagation, protection and preservation of wild animal life and wild vegetation, and for the preservation of objects of æsthetic, geological, prehistoric, historical, archaeological, or other scientific interest for the benefit, advantage, and enjoyment of the general public, (c) in which the hunting, killing or capturing of fauna and the destruction or collection of flora is prohibited except by or under the direction or control of the park authorities. In accordance with the above provisions facilities shall, so far as possible, be given to the general public for observing the fauna and flora in national parks."

British Dyestuffs: Award of the Perkin Medal

THE Perkin Medal of the Society of Dyers and Colourists has been awarded to Mr. James Baddiley, of Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd., "in recognition of his national services for the renaissance of the British dyestuffs industry through many important investigations in the field of colour chemistry conducted or directed by him". In the thirty years since its inauguration, the Medal has only been awarded eleven times—four times to Englishmen, three times to Germans, three times to Frenchmen and once to an Alsatian. In an address delivered after the presentation, Mr. Baddiley said that great progress has been made in dyestuffs laboratory technique, such as the use of X-ray diffraction methods for determining molecular structure, optical diffraction in the visible and ultra-violet bands, and cathode-ray refraction. In the dyeing of cotton, substantial advances have been made, particularly with regard to light fastness. In the direct cotton colour field constant research had been given to straight-chain poly-azo dyes with 2-5-7 aminonaphthol-sulphonic acid and its derivatives as end-component, and this line of research had led to the production of the Durazols, which are representative of direct cotton colours of high fastness to light.

THE dyestuffs chemist, affirmed Mr. Baddiley, has shown his ability to meet the problems presented by new artificial fibres very promptly, by producing the Solacets, a series of truly water-soluble dyes, possessing high affinity and building-up properties and capable of being applied as though they were direct cotton dyes. In regard to pigments, Mr. Baddiley mentioned the invention of the phthalocyanines in I.C.I. laboratories; these, he said,