

to be known as the E.T.S. Medal, which would be awarded annually or at longer intervals to individuals who had performed outstanding service in the field of electrodeposition. It is hoped that the scope of the Medal will be international. It had been unanimously decided by the Council that the first recipient of the Medal should be the first president of the Society, Mr. Samuel Field. A scroll was formally handed by the president to Mr. Field as a token of the award, as it had not been possible to cast the Medal in time for the celebration; it is hoped that it will be possible to present the Medal itself on the occasion of the Third International Electrodeposition Conference.

PRESENT STATE OF SOME GERMAN MUSEUMS

By FRANCIS J. GRIFFIN

IN *Nature* of May 11, 1946, p. 631, I gave some information on the condition of a number of German museums and their contents. I have recently heard from Prof. Martin Hering, of the Zoological Museum, Berlin, giving me more up-to-date information, which can be summarized here.

On January 1, 1946, Prof. Hering writes, the Russians returned the Zoological Museum to the University of Berlin, and it has now resumed work under its old title of Zoological Museum of the University. At the same time the hymenopterist, Prof. Werner Ulrich, was appointed director of the Museum, a post he holds simultaneously with that of director of the Zoological Institute of the Agricultural Faculty (formerly Agricultural High School) and that of director of the Institute of Agriculture. This appointment has met with general satisfaction.

The entomological collections of the Museum have survived the War undamaged in the cellars, with the exception of the Lepidoptera. This section is the most heavily damaged part of the Museum, but the roof has been repaired and the windows made weather-proof, partly with glass and partly with cardboard, so that damp can be kept out; the final drying out, however, must wait until next summer, since the walls are still too wet. For this reason, the Lepidoptera and Coleoptera will not be brought up from the cellars until next spring, and until then it will not be possible to see whether the conditions in the cellars have caused any damage. The collections have been there since 1943. Sampling suggests that no damage has been caused.

Dr. Deckert has returned from a prisoner-of-war camp and will resume his work shortly.

The library of the German Entomological Society is now in safety and no longer threatened by dampness; the damage is not so great as had been feared. All the Society's entomological periodicals were removed to the cellars, where they have suffered little, apart from a certain amount of mould on the bindings which is easily removed. Unfortunately, the Society has still not obtained permission to resume its activities. At the instance of the British Military Authority, a request was made in April to the Berlin Town Authority (*Magistrat*) for permission to start up again, but no answer had been received when writing. Prof. Hering adds that this is the more

regrettable since the Society was not involved in Nazi politics and refused to eject its Jewish members.

There is good news of Prof. Hering's famous "Minen-Herbarium". After having been plundered, it was largely brought together again by the school-teacher of the town to which it was sent, and is now restored to its rightful owner. Most of the lost specimens have been replaced, and Prof. Hering is now able to work again at his chief subject. Unfortunately, a few unique specimens are lacking. Of the 18,000 insects bred from the leaf-mines which were removed to the air-raid shelter in the Wilhelmsplatz, all have safely survived, including all the types.

Dr. Kaestner has written that the greater part of the surviving entomological material from the Stettin Museum has now been removed to Lublin. Dr. E. Urbahn, the lepidopterist, is not dead, as was thought, but is living at Zehdenick, near Berlin. His collection, which was housed in the Stettin Museum, was, however, destroyed before the removal of the latter.

The dipterist, W. Hennig, formerly at the German Entomological Institute at Dahlem, is at present working at the Zoological Institute of the University of Berlin.

The German Entomological Institute was, as I have already reported, evacuated to Blucherhof, Post Vollratsruhe, Mecklenburg, where it, and the library, is undamaged. Dr. Sachtleben is still director, and the Institute is now united with the Biologisches Zentralanstalt (formerly Reichsanstalt).

R. Friedlander and Sohn, booksellers and publishers, have resumed business under their own name, and their present address is Dorotheenstrasse 75, Berlin.

Max Gaede, collaborator in the Seitz book, died last spring, and K. M. Heller, coleopterist and Rhynchophora specialist, is also dead. Dr. Sick, a collaborator in Seitz's book, and latterly editor of the *Geometridae*, is unable, for reasons of health, to continue work.

The publishing house of Gustav Feller, of Neubrandenburg, has been completely burned out, and the whole stock of the "Catalogus Lepidopterorum" and all the other catalogues of this publisher, as well as Hering's "Blattminen Mittel- und Nordeuropas", is lost.

Prof. E. T. Titschack, formerly of the Hamburg Museum, was a Nazi and now lives near Bitterfeld.

Of the large work, "The Zoology of Peru", everything not already distributed is destroyed.

H. G. Amsel, microlepidopterist, of the Bremen Museum, was a Nazi and has been turned out of the Museum.

Klaus Günther, orthopterist, of Dresden, is alive, as is Prof. F. Peus, dipterist, who is now entomologist at the Museum in Munster, in Westphalia.

The following are also alive: Prof. Ferdinand Pax, formerly of Breslau and now in the Harz; Prof. Max Draudt, successor to Seitz in the editorship of the "Grossschmetterlinge der Erde"; and Prof. K. Escherich, formerly of Munich, now near Tegernsee.

Dr. Riehm, president of the Biological Central Station for Agriculture and Forestry (formerly "Reichsanstalt") in Dahlem, has been removed as a Nazi, and his successor is Dr. Schlumberger; while the present lecturer at the Agricultural Faculty of the University of Berlin is Dr. Fritz Zimmermann, formerly lecturer in entomology at Tetschen in Czechoslovakia and a microlepidopterist.