

# CHARLES HAMILTON SEEVERS

1907-1965



Prof. Charles Hamilton Seevers, Research Associate in the Division of Insects, Chicago Natural History Museum, and Chairman of the Department of Biology of Roosevelt University, died on December 12, following a brief illness. He was an internationally recognized authority on the classification, biology, and evolution of the Staphylinidae or rove beetles, whose

more than 30,000 described species constitute one of the largest families of living things.

Prof. Seevers was born in Topeka, Kansas, April 19, 1907. He received his bachelor's degree in chemistry from Washburn College, Kansas, in 1928, and his doctorate in Zoology from the University of Chicago in 1932. He was an instructor at the Northwestern Missouri State Teachers College in 1933. In 1934, he was appointed Associate Professor, and later, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Zoology of Central Y.M.C.A. College, Chicago, where he remained until 1945. In that year he became Chairman of the Department of Biology of Roosevelt University, a school he helped establish.

Although he did his doctoral research in experimental embryology, he later turned to the study of the rove beetles that live with termites. One of his two major monographs, published by the Museum, deals with the classification and evolution of these species, the other with those that are guests of army and driver ants. A third large monograph, revising the classification of 200 North American genera of one subfamily, was brought to a conclusion shortly before his death.

In recognition of his outstanding research, he was appointed a Research Associate by Chicago Natural History Museum in 1943. He was later elected a Contributor, for his gift to the Museum of his valuable personal collection.

Prof. Seevers made several collecting trips to Mexico and one to Colombia. He also made two extended trips to Europe to study type-specimens, and on one of these he made an inventory of the Knirsch and Brancsik collections of beetles, which were later purchased by the Museum.

As a teacher, Prof. Seevers was outstanding. The lucidity and currency of his lectures in such diverse fields as embryology, genetics, parasitology, histology, and comparative anatomy will long be remembered by his thousands of students, many of them now doctors, dentists, and biologists.

Prof. Seevers is survived by his widow, Frances B. Seevers, Curator of the Biology Department at Roosevelt University, and by his only brother, Dr. Maurice H. Seevers, Chairman of the Department of Pharmacology at the University of Michigan Medical School.

# New Grants to Anthropology

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION has awarded the Department of Anthropology of the Museum two grants: (1) for the support of research entitled "Evolution of Social Organization in Prehistoric Arizona" for a period of two years; and (2) for support of an "Undergraduate Research Participation Program" for 1966. The latter grant will be used to provide increased opportunities for the scholarly development of eight outstanding undergraduates. Both grants will be under the direction of Dr. Paul S. Martin, Chief Curator Emeritus, Department of Anthropology.

The grant for archaeological research in Arizona is the fifth one to be awarded the Museum; and the grant for training undergraduate students is the second one.

Dr. Martin's undergraduate program, typical of a number of new Museum programs in education, acquaints prospective students in archaeology with theoretical and practical field work during the summer digs at the Museum's Field Station in Vernon, Arizona. The result, it is hoped, will be a clearer, more rounded view of archaeological anthropology for the undergraduate planning to make this field his life's work.

COVER: Mount Kangchenjunga on the Nepal-Sikkim border, the third highest mountain in the world (28,146 feet). This photograph was made from Darjeeling, India, some 50 miles away, by John Moyer of the Museum staff, while he was serving as a United States Consul in India.

## CHICAGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Founded by Marshall Field, 1893

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