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FRANK EUGENE LUTZ

Dr. Frank E. Lutz, Chairman and Curator of the Department of Insects and Spiders of the American Museum of Natural History for the last twenty-two years and member of the Scientific Staff of that institution for thirty-four years, died on November 27, after several weeks of illness at the age of 64. He was born at Bloomsburg, Pa., on September 15, 1879. He attended Haverford College and the University of Chicago and received his final degree from the latter institution in 1907. From 1904 until 1909, he was attached to the Department of Genetics of the Carnegie Institution. In 1909 he went to the American Museum of Natural History as Assistant Curator in the Department of Invertebrate Zoology, and he served as Associate Curator of that department from 1917 to 1921. When the Department of Entomology was created as a separate entity in 1921, he was appointed Curator.

Doctor Lutz was noted as a scientist and educator for his work in two fields; for his research in biology and insect physiology and for his work in popular entomology and nature study. He is known to tens of thousands of readers for his *Field Book of Insects*, first published in 1917. In the early part of the century his experiments and subsequent papers on evolution and heredity in fruit flies were among the first contributions dealing with the genetics of these insects. Throughout his entire career he was interested in the "hows and whys" of insect habits. His studies of ultra-violet color patterns of flowers; his recordings of insect sounds; his studies of wind and insect flight, and diurnal rhythms, opened entirely new fields in the study of insect behavior. Doctor Lutz always claimed that his most interesting experiments were made in his own back yard and cellar. The unusual mechanical devices he invented for some of these studies are described in his recently published book *A Lot of Insects*, which is based on the insects of his suburban garden.

Doctor Lutz was a leader in popular education and in conservation. After beginning the first "trailside museum" at Bear Mountain, N. Y., in the summer of 1926, he was called upon by many organizations for advice in establishing similar nature-trails in park and wildlife areas throughout the United States. He was a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the New York Academy of Sciences, charter member and fellow of the Entomological Society of America (of which he was president in 1927); member of the American Society of Zoologists, member and past president of the New York Entomological Society, and a member of a number of other scientific organizations. In 1923 he was awarded the Morrison Prize for his essay on "The Colors of Flowers and the Vision of Insects with Special Reference to Ultraviolet," which embodied the results of his experiments as chairman of the Committee on Biological Relations Between Flowers and Insects, of the National Research Council. He was also an advisor to the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences. From 1925 to 1928 he directed the Station for the Study of Insects at Tuxedo, N. Y.

Doctor Lutz is survived by his widow, Mrs. Martha Ellen Brobson Lutz, and by four children; a son, Frank Brobson Lutz, and three daughters, Anna Lutz, Ensign Laura Lutz, and Mrs. Boyd Sherman.