

THE GEORGE MERCER AWARD

The George Mercer Award for 1952 was announced at the annual dinner of the Ecological Society of America at Ithaca, New York and a plaque was presented to the recipient. Dr. Robert B. Platt received the award for his paper entitled "An ecological study of the mid-Appalachian shade barrens and of the plants endemic to them," published in the **Ecological Monographs**, volume 21, 1951. The \$100 award was presented to Dr. Platt by Dean Howard M. Phillips of Emory University.

The George Mercer Award was established by Dr. F. W. Preston in honor of a young man who showed great promise of becoming an outstanding biologist, Lieutenant George Mercer, of the British Army of World War I, killed in action October 3, 1918. The purpose of the award is to commemorate the sacrifice of a young naturalist and ecologist, and to encourage others to publish papers comparable with those it is reasonable to suppose he would have published if he had lived.

This award is made by the Ecological Society each year to a young man who, during the past two years, has published a very outstanding paper in the field of ecology.