

# SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1899.

THE INTERNATIONAL CATALOGUE OF SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE.—SECOND CONFERENCE.

## I.

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IN SCIENCE for August 6, 1897 I gave an account of the steps which led to the holding of the first Conference on an International Conference of Scientific Literature, and a somewhat detailed description of the Proceedings of the Conference.\* At the invitation of the editor of SCIENCE, I shall describe below the work done since that time to reach a working plan for this most important undertaking.

The first Conference, in July, 1896, had reached certain definite conclusions, which may be briefly stated as follows: (a) That it was desirable to publish a catalogue of scientific literature by means of some international organization; (b) that the catalogue was to be primarily for the scientific investigator; (c) that papers were to be indexed according to subject-matter; (d) that the catalogue should comprise all published original contributions to science; (e) that the catalogue be issued in the double form of slips and books.

The Conference passed a resolution to the effect "that the Royal Society be requested to form a committee to study all questions relating to the Catalogue referred to it by the Conference, or remaining undecided at the close of the present sittings of the Confer-

\* The article was also published in separate form.

MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to the responsible editor, Professor J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-on-Hudson N. Y.