

The principal topics for discussion at the conference of delegates will probably include the following subjects: (1) Plans for cooperation in solar research, and the preparation of a general program of observations; (2) formation of an international committee to conduct this work; (3) adoption of a system of standard wave-lengths.

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*INVITATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ARTS AND SCIENCE.*

THE organizers of the congress, to be held at the universal exposition, St. Louis, on September 19-25, 1904, desire to invite the special attention of professors and men of science in the United States and Canada to the unexampled opportunity which it offers to meet and hear a great number of eminent men of learning. It is expected that more than three hundred eminent scholars of Europe and America will deliver discourses in the various departments and sections of the congress, and that several hundred shorter communications will be made by those present.

It is the desire of the directors of the fair and of all concerned in the organization that professors and instructors in our colleges and universities, and members of the learned professions generally, shall, so far as possible, do honor to our distinguished visitors by attending the congress. For this no fee is charged and no formality is necessary except enrolment on arrival. It is, however, desirable to apprise Mr. Howard J. Rogers, director of congresses, Universal Exposition, St. Louis, Mo., in advance, what departments of the congress one desires to attend. A program of its proceedings, with such other instructions as may be necessary, will be sent by Mr. Rogers on application.

NICHOLAS MURRAY BUTLER,

*Chairman of the Administrative Board.*

SIMON NEWCOMB,

*Chairman of the Organizing Committee.*

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*SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.*

THE nomination of Dr. George H. Darwin, Plumian professor of astronomy and experi-

mental philosophy at Cambridge, as president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science was confirmed by the general committee at the Cambridge meeting, and he will preside at the meeting to be held next year at South Africa. Dr. John Perry, professor of mechanics and mathematics at the Royal College of Science, London, was elected treasurer in succession to Professor Carey Foster. The association will meet in York in 1906. It held its first and its fiftieth meeting at York, and two years hence will celebrate its seventy-fifth anniversary.

ON the occasion of the meeting of the British Association at Cambridge the university conferred its doctorate of science on the following men of science: Johan Oskar Backlund, director of the Central Nicolas Observatory at Poulkovo; Henri Becquerel, professor of physics in the École Polytechnique, Paris; Julius Wilhelm Brühl, professor of chemistry in the University of Heidelberg; Adolf Engler, professor of botany in the University of Berlin; Paul Heinrich von Groth, professor of mineralogy in the University of Munich; Albrecht Kossel, professor of physiology in the University of Heidelberg; Henry F. Osborn, professor of zoology in Columbia University, New York; Nikolaas Gerard Pierson, sometime Prime Minister of the Kingdom of the Netherlands; Vito Volterra, professor of applied mathematics in the University of Rome; Sir David Gill, F.R.S., his Majesty's astronomer at the Cape of Good Hope; Alfred William Howitt; Sir Norman Lockyer, F.R.S., director of the Solar Physics Observatory, South Kensington; Major Percy Alexander MacMahon, F.R.S., late Royal Artillery, formerly professor of physics, Ordnance College, Woolwich; Sir William Ramsay, F.R.S., professor of chemistry, University College, London; Arthur Schuster, F.R.S., professor of physics in the Victoria University of Manchester; Sir William Turner Thiselton-Dyer, F.R.S., director of the Royal Botanic Garden, Kew.

THE Seventh International Zoological Congress will meet in Boston in 1907 under the presidency of Mr. Alexander Agassiz.