surroundings. These two factors Dohrn considered to be of the greatest importance in indirectly influencing the character of the work to be undertaken.

The events of the past year have proved how fortunate it was that Naples, and not Messina, as was originally intended, should be the site of the aquarium.

In the organization of the aquarium the university idea was developed to a degree never before practically realized. In practise as well as theory this was an institution of learning as distinct from teaching. Here are gathered together at one time as many as seventy or eighty representatives of the leading universities of the world; professors, assistants and occasionally undergraduate students, all engaged in carrying on investigations. (The expenses of the zoological station are in part defrayed by money received from the sale of entrance tickets to the aquarium, and in part by the subvention of different countries. Germany pays for 22 places in the laboratory, Italy for 9, the United States for 5, England for 3, Russia 4, Austria 2, Hungary, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland and Roumania each 1.)

Here zoologists, chemists, anatomists, physiologists, pathologists, practising physicians and professional philosophers are all intent upon the study of various problems, the solution of which will eventually throw more light upon the origin and nature of the vital processes in the lower organisms, and consequently and ultimately in man. Thoroughly imbued with the spirit of Darwin, Dohrn long ago realized that the only successful way to understand the complex phenomena of human life was to begin by studying the simpler manifestations in the lower animals. The continuity and similarity of the life processes in the whole scale of animal life is unbroken. "You scientists have little understanding of history," complained Mommsen; "Why assume," retorted Dohrn, "that history begins and ends with man's appearance on the earth? Here in the aquarium we are interested in ancient history, for here we study man's ancestors."

From the crest of the mountains back of Sorrento, turning to the south, one looks down upon the Gulf of Salerno, on whose shores for centuries stood the most famous medical school of medieval times, where were gathered from the shores of Africa and Europe the most renowned students of their day. To-day, only the memory of that school remains. Turning to the north one beholds the great expanse of the Bay of Naples, and by the aid of a glass discovers the aquarium, the institution which to-day has fallen heir to all that was best in the traditions of the Salerno school. The latter was a slow growth, the result of the labors of many men upbuilding painfully for many years while the Naples Aquarium was the creation of one man—Anton Dohrn, whose life was devoted to devising and perfecting unequaled facilities for the study of zoology; and he builded better than he knew, for he actually, although unconsciously, created a university. Year after year a greater number of trained investigators, representing practically all the civilized governments of the world, are gathered together at the aquarium than are to be found in any other institution in the world. Within this building, racial prejudices and differences are ignored or forgotten by the brotherhood of scholars who carry on their work for the benefit of their common humanity.

The scientific work of Dohrn has received generous commendation from his fellow workers in the sciences, but it still remains for those who labor to preserve the peace of the world to show their appreciation of the quiet, unostentatious but potent influence upon the thought of mankind of "the peace congress" which is continuously in session at the Naples Aquarium.

STEWART PATON
PRINCETON, N. J.

THE PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY

AT the first meeting of the society at 10 A.M., on December 29, in the University Museum, Cambridge, there will be a Conference on the Aspects of Paleontology, the program of which is as follows:

Adequacy of the Paleontologic Record: Samuel Calvin, R. S. Bassler.

Interdependence of Stratigraphy and Paleontology: W. J. Sinclair, E. O. Ulrich.
Biologic Principles of Paleogeography: Charles Schuchert, F. H. Knowlton.
Paleontologic Evidences of Climate: T. W. Stanton, David White.
Migration: Henry S. Williams, Arthur Hollick.
Paleontologic Evidences of Adaptive Radiation: H. Fairfield Osborn.
Anatomy and Physiology in Extinct Organisms: Charles R. Eastman, Rudolf Ruedemann.
Contributions to Morphology from Paleontology: Wm. Bullock Clark, Charles D. Walcott.
Embryology and Paleontology: Richard S. Lull, William H. Dall.
Ontogeny and Paleontology: F. B. Loomis, Amadeus W. Grabau.
Phylogeny and Paleontology: Robert T. Jackson, D. P. Penhallow.
Paleontologic Evidences of Recapitulation: E. R. Cumings, L. Hussakof.
Isolation in Paleontology: John M. Clarke.
Continuity of Development from the Paleontologic Standpoint: W. D. Matthew, T. Wayland Vaughan.
Paleontology of Man: S. W. Williston, John C. Merriam.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

SECTION B, PHYSICS AND THE AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY

At the Boston meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Section B and the American Physical Society, will in general hold joint sessions for reading papers. The presiding officers will be Dr. L. A. Bauer, of Washington, chairman of Section B, and Professor Henry Crew, of Northwestern University, president of the Physical Society. The address of the retiring vice-president of Section B will be given by Professor Karl E. Guthe, of the University of Michigan. Section B will hold one joint session with Section A, at which several distinguished scientists have promised papers which will be of interest to other sections. Another session will be given to the discussion of the teaching of physics, perhaps in conjunction with Section L.

The program of special papers on research topics will be in charge of the secretary of the Physical Society and titles should be sent to him at Ithaca, N. Y. All titles should be in his hands by December 14, accompanied by a suitable abstract.

Ernest Merritt,
Sec. Am. Physical Soc.
Alfred D. Cole,
Sec. of Section B, A. A. A. S.

SECTION A, MATHEMATICS AND ASTRONOMY

Arrangements have been made for two joint sessions of Section A. The first of these is to be held jointly with Section B on Tuesday afternoon, December 28, and the second is to be a joint session with the American Mathematical Society on Wednesday morning. The vice-presidential address of Section B is to be given during the former of these sessions and that of Section A during the latter. The section will organize on Monday morning, and the sessions of Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning will be devoted almost exclusively to astronomical papers. Titles and abstracts should reach the secretary before December 15.

G. A. Miller,
Secretary of Section A

SECTION F, ZOOLOGY

Owing to a clerical error, the preliminary announcement of the Boston meeting wrongly states that a joint session will probably be arranged between Section F and the American Society of Zoologists. The officers of Section F proposed a plan for referring to the American Society of Zoologists the reading of all worthy zoological papers by authors who are not members of that society; but it was rejected by a vote "to keep the meetings of the American Society of Zoologists entirely independent." As a result, it is planned by the officers of Section F to hold on Friday, December 31, a meeting for reading of papers by members of that section who do not on their personal responsibility arrange for presenting their papers in the meetings of the American Society of Zoologists or elsewhere. On the days when that society is reading technical papers, Section F will offer a series of programs designed to appeal to the intelligent public and to men of science who are not primarily zoologists. Thus the conflicting