

is unwise to speculate on where it has been very inadequately done. The crucial question is if it will always be necessary, in order to correctly interpret our tests, to already know so much about our subject, that the test gives us no added information. To-day this is true in all the more complex mental processes; and it is not improbable that, as our tests are improved, a better understanding of human conduct at large will develop. This brings more into the foreground the quantitative features of experiment; to tell us something good to know more accurately than we could otherwise know it. It is the form and direction of the tests that has to be dealt with now. If we do not first interpret our tests by our subjects, we shall never understand our subjects through our tests.

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THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF SCHOOL HYGIENE

As has been already announced the fourth international Congress of School Hygiene meets at Buffalo from August 26 to 30. The congress is under the patronage of the president of the United States and Dr. Charles W. Eliot is the president. The vice-presidents are Dr. William H. Welch and Henry P. Walcott. The secretary-general is Dr. Thomas A. Storey, College of the City of New York, New York City, U. S. A., from whom programs and further information can be obtained. The congress meets in three sections, for each of which a large number of papers is announced on the preliminary program. The sections and the subjects covered are as follows:

Section 1. "The Hygiene of School Buildings, Grounds, Material Equipment and Up-keep." This section will include papers on topics related to the location, plan, construction, equipment and up-keep of city, village and rural schools, open-air schools, private schools, boarding schools, summer camps and special schools for backward, truant, delinquent, deficient, defective and deformed children, *i. e.*, site, architecture, decoration, ventilation, illu-

mination, cleaning system, plumbing, toilets, sewage disposal, school furniture, school books, water supply, drinking facilities, bathing facilities, swimming pools, school grounds, school athletic fields, fields for games, sport and play, lunch rooms and equipment, gymnasium, social rooms, rest rooms, libraries, laboratories, class rooms, study rooms and lecture rooms.

Section 2. "The Hygiene of School Administration, Curriculum and Schedule." This section will include all topics concerned with the hygienic factors found in school administration, curriculum and schedule as they apply to country, village and city schools; and to the modifications necessary for the best interest of our various special schools. Papers on such subjects as the following would belong to this section: Hygiene of the teacher; hygiene of the child; hygiene of the janitor and other school employees; hygiene of the schedule, growth and age; school fatigue; need for and management of school lunches and school baths; influence of the seasons; study periods; home work; recesses; vacations; athletics; the problems of heredity in relation to school hygiene; overcrowding; the teaching of hygiene; the training of teachers of hygiene; special phases of hygiene: as personal hygiene; oral hygiene; preventive hygiene; educational hygiene; community hygiene; sex hygiene; play; physical education; domestic hygiene; puericulture, and first aid; special plans for and results from the instruction of backward children, truant, delinquent and crippled children; the economics of school hygiene; relation to the home.

Section 3. "Medical Hygienic and Sanitary Supervision in Schools." This section will receive papers on the management, operation and results of medical, hygienic and sanitary supervision in public, private and special, country, village and city schools, colleges, universities and professional schools.

Such subjects as the following will be included: The control of health inspection; sanitary supervision; the organization of health departments in schools; the relationship to the board of health; the equipment, training

and compensation of school physicians; school nurses; school clinics; relation of health supervision in the schools to the practise of the physician, the dentist and the hospital; relation of medical and hygienic supervision in the schools to health supervision in the home; standardization of examinations; sanitary supervision of school rooms (class rooms), locker rooms, swimming pools, toilets, school books and school furniture; supervision of disease carriers; prevention of epidemics; follow-up methods and results; medical inspection and treatment; standardization of records.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

MCGILL UNIVERSITY held a special convocation on August 2 for the purpose of conferring honorary degrees in connection with the visit of the International Geological Congress to Canada. The degree of doctor of laws was conferred as follows: Helge Bäckström, Ph.D., professor of mineralogy and petrography in the University of Stockholm (presented by Professor Howard Barnes, F.R.S.); Alfred Bergeat, Ph.D., professor of geology in the University of Königsberg (presented by Professor Dale, M.A.); Alfred Harker, M.A., F.R.S., university lecturer in petrology in the University of Cambridge (presented by Professor John Macnaughton, LL.D.); James Furman Kemp, D.Sc., professor of geology, Columbia University, New York (presented by Professor McLeod, F.R.S.C.); Alfred Lacroix, D.Sc., professor of mineralogy at the Museum of Natural History, Paris (presented by Dean Adams, F.R.S.).

PROFESSOR W. A. BONE, F.R.S., has been awarded the Howard N. Potts gold medal for distinguished work in science or the mechanic arts by the Franklin Institute of Philadelphia, in recognition of his work upon surface combustion.

MR. JOHN TEBBUT, who has conducted a private observatory at Windsor, N. S. W., has recently celebrated two anniversaries, having entered on his eightieth year, and completed fifty years' membership of the Royal Society of New South Wales.

DR. HOMER DOLIVER HOUSE, associate director and lecturer on botany and dendrology of the Biltmore Forest School, has received the appointment of assistant state botanist of New York.

MR. A. R. HINKS, F.R.S., of the Cambridge Observatory, has been appointed assistant secretary of the Royal Geographical Society.

ACCORDING to *The Observatory* Mr. Edward Kitto has retired from the superintendence of the Falmouth Magnetic and Meteorological Observatory. In consequence partly of financial difficulties, the work of the observatory under its present constitution came to an end on June 30, but the department of terrestrial magnetism of the Carnegie Institution of Washington has arranged to carry on some of the observations for a few months longer.

SURGEON-GENERAL SIR DAVID BRUCE, head of the sleeping sickness commission which was sent to Central Africa nearly two years ago, has returned to England with Lady Bruce. Sir David will in a few weeks return to Nyasaland, where the other members of the commission are still working.

MR. CHARLES H. T. TOWNSEND, who was some time since especially charged by the Peruvian government with the investigation of the insect transmission of verruga, injected a dog with triturated females of *Phlebotomus* on July 11, and on July 17 secured as result an unmistakable case of verruga eruption. The gnats used for the injection were secured on the night of July 9 in Verrugas Canyon, a noted focus of the disease. This is the first experimental transmission of verruga by means of insects, and adds a notable case to the list of insect-borne diseases. The details of the experiment will appear shortly. Further transmission work in laboratory animals will be pursued at once, both by injections and by causing the gnats to bite.

FREDERICK G. CLAPP, managing geologist of the Associated Geological Engineers of Pittsburgh, Pa., and Alten S. Miller, of Humphreys & Miller, New York City, are examining the gas fields of Hungary in company with Professor Hugo Bockh, of that country.