

ANTHROPOLOGY

The anthropology of Porto Rico offers an attractive field of study not only in the ethnology of the present inhabitants, but also and more particularly along the lines of archeology. Much material has been gathered from the surface, but a broad field is offered in the investigation of anciently inhabited caves and in the scientific working over of numerous kitchen middens.

OCEANOGRAPHY

The oceanographic work falls naturally into two general divisions—physical and biological. In both of these divisions there is opportunity for new and very valuable research.

The physical division should include a study of the tides and of the ocean currents in the neighborhood of Porto Rico. The present tidal data consist of several short and disconnected series of observations—the longest series having been made at San Juan in 1899. Observations of ocean currents are few and crude—those of the *Blake* were obtained by comparing dead-reckoning positions of the vessel with observed positions.

Tidal observations could best be carried on by the establishment of self-registering gauges. These could be established at the principal harbors and continuous records for several months or a year obtained.

Current observations to be of value must be obtained by a properly equipped ocean-going vessel, and such a vessel could obtain in a short voyage results of extreme value. At the same time, the vessel could and should be equipped for biological study—the current observations and the deep sea dredging for animal life going on side by side. For these two branches of oceanographic work a vessel is absolutely essential.

The specimens which are collected will eventually find lodgment in the American Museum of Natural History, except for the "first set" of duplicates. These will be deposited with the authorities of Porto Rico for the inauguration of an insular museum, and the academy's investigators will take particular pains to insure the good quality and extent of this series. EDMUND OTIS HOVEY

THE NINTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF APPLIED CHEMISTRY

PROFESSOR PAUL WELDEN, president of the congress, in a personal letter writes as follows:

1. The meetings will be held in St. Petersburg from the 8th to the 14th of August, 1915.
2. Excursions are to be made to Finland, Moscow, Kiev, Baku in the Caucasus, etc.
3. In addition to the usual addresses, systematic reviews of the work in particular fields (with discussions) are to be given by specialists, on the invitation of the committee of organization, to a greater extent than formerly.
4. Particulars as to receptions, entertainments, etc., can only be given later.
5. The question of reduced railway fares on the Russian railroads is now under consideration by the government.
6. No obstacles will be placed in the way of the journey of Jewish chemists to the Congress provided (a) that at the frontier, in addition to the vised passport (requisite for every passenger), cards of membership, signed by the president and honorary secretary of the congress shall be presented.
7. An announcement of the Ninth International Congress in English will be sent in the course of the next few days or weeks to North America and England.

THE RUSSELL SAGE INSTITUTE OF PATHOLOGY

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Russell Sage Institute of Pathology, held in New York on June 5, the following officers were elected:

President, Dr. D. Bryson Delaven.
Vice-president, Dr. Simon Flexner.
Secretary, Dr. Theodore C. Janeway.
Treasurer, Dr. Graham Lusk.

Appointments to the scientific staff were as follows:

Scientific director, Dr. Graham Lusk.
Medical director, Dr. Eugene F. Du Bois.
Chemist, F. C. Gephart, Ph.D.
Assistant, Dr. A. L. Meyer.