

tions of the warm-hearted, polite and generous hospitality of the Latin peoples our representatives accept as evidences of the "waking up" of South America, and as tributes to our general superiority, sagacity and super-humanity.

Thus encouraged, these representatives of ours—these innocents abroad—generally open their hearts and give their hosts the benefit of their wisdom and patronage. In the present case it was suggested to a minister and also to a president that a certain group of teachers would like to visit the United States and the Panama Exposition, "and they seemed pleased with the idea" (p. 12). And such a new idea too, and one that would cost so little—to us! Of the city of S. Paulo, Brazil, it is said that the "people show intelligence and purpose in all their movements" (p. 8). How it must please the people of Brazil to be told that they show intelligence and purpose! It is frankly stated that the chief aim of the party was to "make favorable impressions everywhere," and it is believed that the general impressions on both sides were good (p. 20), while everywhere they found eagerness for "closer intellectual and cultural relations with the people of the United States" (pp. 8, 15, 19).

Is it any wonder that the utility of such expeditions is questioned? What do these young men know, and what can they reasonably expect to learn in the few strenuous days spent among them, of the grain, the traditions and the point of view of the people of South America? This particular expedition spent eight days in Brazil, three days in Uruguay, six days in Argentina, nine days in Chile, and one day in Peru—just twenty-seven days on the continent of South America! The author of the report lays stress on "the experience and knowledge gained on this trip" (p. 20), while some fear is expressed lest "this golden opportunity for mutual service may pass without profit" (p. 20)—a fear that we cordially share with the members of the party.

Evidently it is not realized by those who are responsible for them that such excursions tend to discredit the very men—their fellow-countrymen—who have lived for years in

South American countries, who must of a necessity form the very groundwork of any future business we can reasonably hope to develop; for they are the ones who have built up good reputations and sound business by right living and right dealing, and who do more for North American trade than all the junketing expeditions and drum-beating delegations ever sent out either by public or by other organizations whose judgment is not on the proper footing with their good intentions.

Our profound ignorance of Latin America is not to be whitewashed over by such processes; nor are the people of South America of the kind to be taken in with a lot of colored glass beads or palaver.

There are a few fundamental principles that should be called to the serious attention of those who are responsible for such expeditions as this one, or for efforts of any kind to cultivate trade or friendly relations with South America:

First, business relations and business confidence in South America are things of slow growth, just as they are in other parts of the world.

Second, the experience of residents, and authorities who have spent their lives in studying and meeting the conditions of commerce and intercourse can not safely or justly be brushed aside and disregarded.

Third, if the people of Latin America are to be patronized and talked down to, our efforts to gain their confidence or to establish cordial relations with them will never meet with any genuine success.

JOHN CASPER BRANNER

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, CALIF.,

January 8, 1915

*A NEW FIELD SCHOOL OF GEOLOGY FOR
HARVARD UNIVERSITY*

At a meeting of the visiting committee of the department of geology and geography held with the members of the staff on January 30, plans were presented and approved for extending the field work conducted by the department during the summer months. Professor Wallace W. Atwood, who recently re-

signed from the University of Chicago to join the Harvard staff, will have charge of this new work, and during the summer of 1915 will establish a camp in the San Juan Mountains of southwestern Colorado. Five weeks of introduction will be given, beginning early in August and closing about the tenth of September, and this course will be credited at Harvard University towards a degree.

The party will be limited in number, and opened only to those men who have had at least an introductory college course in geology. Under the direction of Dr. Atwood the party will actually conduct a piece of geological survey work, and at the close of the season have the opportunity of an expedition through the high mountain area. The field chosen is remarkably rich in its range of geological phenomena, in mining interests, and in scenic features. The equipment of the camp is provided for by funds furnished by the visiting committee of the department which will reduce the cost to each student to his share of the actual living and moving expenses associated with the camp, and it is estimated that these expenses will not exceed one hundred dollars for each member.

Applications for membership in this party should be addressed to Wallace W. Atwood, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., before May 1, 1915.

The usual field work offered in Montana and conducted under the endowment of Robert W. Sayles and under the direction of Professor J. B. Woodworth will be offered during the coming summer. That work will begin early in July, and close in time to permit those who wish to join the Colorado party. The combination of the two courses permits the student to spend ten weeks under instruction in the Rocky Mountains during the coming field season.

The following members of the visiting committee were present at the meeting when these plans were approved: Messrs. George B. Leighton, George P. Gardner, Guerdon S. Holden, Livingston Davis and J. Walter Wood.

THE SUMMER MEETING OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

THE society has accepted the invitation of the authorities of the University of California and Leland Stanford Jr. University to hold a special meeting at Berkeley and Stanford University, August 2-7, 1915, in affiliation with the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The following topics have been selected for particular discussion during the geological meetings: (1) Erosion and deposition in arid climates; (2) Diastrophism of the Pacific Coast; (3) Petrological problems of the Pacific area.

The sessions of Monday and Tuesday will be held at the University of California and that of August 4 at Stanford University.

Excursions under the leadership of local geologists will be organized during the remaining days of the week as follows:

Thursday, August 5, to Point Reyes Station, Marin County, for an examination of the San Andreas earthquake rift.

Friday, August 6, to Mussel Rock, San Mateo County, by the Ocean Shore Railway, for an examination of Pliocene strata, the type section of the Merced formation and post-Tertiary deformations of the coast.

Saturday, August 7, two excursions will be provided; one by the Oakland, Antioch & Eastern Railway (electric) to Mount Diablo for an examination of the Mount Diablo overthrust and the succession of Tertiary strata; and the second to Santa Cruz by the Southern Pacific Railway for an examination of uplifted marine terraces.

More extensive excursions may be arranged for the week following the meeting.

EDMUND OTIS HOVEY,
Secretary

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. ADOLF VON BAEYER, professor of chemistry at Munich, being eighty years of age, has retired from the active duties of his chair.

THE Daly Medal of the American Geographical Society has been awarded to M. Paul Vidal de la Blache, professor of geography at the Sorbonne, Paris.