

THE COLUMBUS MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

THE arrangements for the Columbus meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science are taking definite shape and a large attendance and an interesting program are certain.

The following affiliated societies have already indicated their intention of meeting at Columbus at the same time:

American Society of Naturalists.
American Society of Zoologists.
American Physical Society.
Botanical Society of America.
Botanists of the Central States.
American Phytopathological Society.
Entomological Society of America.
American Association of Economic Entomologists.
American Mathematical Society (Chicago Branch).
American Nature-Study Society.
American Microscopical Society.
Society for Horticultural Science.
Association of Official Seed Analysts of America.
American Federation of Teachers of the Mathematical and the Natural Sciences.
The School Garden Association of America.

Some slight conflict, owing to the fact that the committee, designated to take charge of the Second Pan-American Scientific Congress to be held in Washington, without consultation with the officers of the American Association for the Advancement of Science or, apparently, with other well-posted scientific men in this country, changed the date of the Congress from October, 1915, to December 27, 1915-January 8, 1916, thus occupying a large part of the time already set aside for the meetings of many national scientific organizations, nearly all of which are to meet elsewhere than in Washington.

The group of economic and historical societies have met this unfortunate situation by changing their plans to meet in Washington. Their sessions are to be held during the first week of the Congress. The American Association for the Advancement of Science and its affiliated societies, however, owing to the fact that the Congress is to be devoted very largely to economic subjects, have seen no reason to

alter their plans and will carry forward the Columbus meeting which every indication shows will be eminently successful.

The authorities of the congress, however, are anxious to secure some degree of cooperation from the American Association for the Advancement of Science and its affiliated societies and have extended an invitation to these organizations to come to Washington at the conclusion of the Columbus meeting and attend the meetings of the second week of the congress (January 3-8, 1916). It has also been suggested by the assistant secretary general of the congress (Dr. G. L. Swiggett), that the association might to advantage hold an adjourned session of one day in Washington to indicate its desire to assist in welcoming the delegates from other American countries to the United States.

Whether this invitation will be accepted is a matter which can not well be decided until the Columbus meeting. That such a session of the association should be called an adjourned session from Columbus would, in a way, be discrediting the Columbus hosts of the association, since the coming meeting should be definitely known as the Columbus meeting and not as the Columbus-Washington meeting. It might, however, be arranged so that the American Association could hold a special session at Washington on some one of the dates indicated and which need not in any way detract from the success of the Columbus meeting or from the fact that the convocation week meeting of 1915-1916 shall go down to history as the Columbus meeting.

L. O. HOWARD,
Permanent Secretary

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE spring meeting of the American Chemical Society for 1916 will be held in Urbana, Illinois, April 18 to 21, inclusive. At that time the new chemical laboratory of the University of Illinois, said to be the largest in the world, will be dedicated.

MR. E. W. SWANTON has been elected president of the British Mycological Society.