

prosecution of knowledge has formed a bond strong enough to resist the strain of national antagonism. And this bond was strengthened during the latter part of the last century, when branches of science developed requiring for their study the cooperation of all the civilized nations of the world. International associations and conferences rapidly multiplied, and the friendly intercourse between the learned representatives of different countries grew more intimate, in spite of their political differences, which were admitted but not insisted upon.

In former times, war frequently interrupted the cooperation of individuals without destroying the mutual esteem based on the recognition of intellectual achievements; peace then soon effaced the scars of a strife that was ended. If to-day the representatives of the scientific academies of the Allied nations are forced to declare that they will not be able to resume personal relations in scientific matters with their enemies until the Central Powers can be readmitted into the concert of civilized nations, they do so with a full sense of responsibility; and they feel bound to record the reasons which have led them to this decision.

Civilization has imposed restrictions on the conduct of nations which are intended to serve the interests of humanity and to maintain a high standard of honor. Such are the recognition of the sanctity of treaties—especially those designed to apply to a state of war—and the avoidance of unnecessary cruelties inflicted on civilians. In both these respects the Central Powers have broken the ordinances of civilization, disregarding all conventions and unbridling the worst passions which the ferocity of war engenders. War is necessarily full of cruelties: individual acts of barbarity can not be avoided and have to be borne. It is not of these we speak, but of the organized horrors encouraged and initiated from above with the sole object of terrorizing unoffending communities. The wanton destruction of property, the murders and outrages on land and sea, the sinking of hospital ships, the insults and tortures inflicted on prisoners of war, have left a stain on the history of the guilty nations which can not be removed by mere compensation of the material damage inflicted. In order to restore the confidence, without which no scientific intercourse can be fruitful, the Central Powers must renounce the political methods which have led to the atrocities that have shocked the civilized world.

The following delegates were expected to attend the Conference, representing different nations and academies:

Belgium.—Major Lecomte, director of the Royal Observatory of Belgium; M. Massart, professor of botany at the University of Brussels; Professeur de la Vallée Poussin.

France.—B. Baillaud, director of the Observatory of Paris; G. Bigourdan, astronomer at the Observatory of Paris; A. Haller, professor of organic chemistry at the Sorbonne; M. Lacroix, secretary of the Académie des Sciences, professor of mineralogy at the Sorbonne; Ch. Lallemand, director of the Trigonometrical Survey; Ch. Monreux, professor of pharmaceutical chemistry at the Ecole Supérieure; Emile Picard, secretary of the Académie des Sciences, professor of mathematics at the Sorbonne.

Italy.—Vito Volterra, professor of mathematical physics at the University of Rome, member of the Italian Senate.

Japan.—Joji Sakurai, professor of chemistry at the University of Tokyo; Aikitsu Tanakadate, late professor of physics at the University of Tokyo.

Portugal.—Professor Braamkamp Freire, president of the Academy of Science, Lisbon.

Serbia.—Bogdan Popovitch, professor of literature and rhetoric at the University of Belgrade; Dr. Zonjovitch, president of the Royal Academy of Belgrade.

United States.—H. A. Bumstead, professor of physics at Yale University; Colonel J. J. Carty, chief engineer of the American Telegraph and Telephone Company; W. J. Durand, professor of mechanical engineering at Stanford University; S. Flexner, director of the Rockefeller Institute; G. E. Hale, director of the Mount Wilson Observatory, A. A. Noyes, professor of chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

THE HARVEY SOCIETY

At a meeting of the Harvey Society held during September the following officers were elected:

President—Dr. Graham Lusk.

Vice-president—Dr. Rufus Cole.

Secretary—Dr. Karl M. Vogel.

Treasurer—Dr. F. H. Pike.

Other members of the Council—Dr. John Auer, Dr. James W. Jobling, Dr. Frederic S. Lee.

It was decided at this meeting that the number of lectures to be given during the winter of 1918-19 should not exceed six; that the lectures of last winter and this winter be incorporated together in one volume; and that the members of the society be charged dues

for one year only to cover the two years of activity. Following the policy of a year ago, the lectures to be given during this season are to be related to problems of the war.

The first lecture has already been given by Dr. E. K. Dunham. Two lectures which were arranged to be held, one by Dr. Stewart Paton on the "Psychology of the Aviator"; the other by Dr. Alonzo Taylor on the "World's Food Situation," have been postponed on account of the departure of these men for Europe. Lectures, however, have been provisionally arranged as follows:

January 11, Colonel Eugene R. Whitmore, "Infectious Diseases in the Army."

January 25, Dr. R. M. Yerkes, "Psychological Examination of the Soldier."

February 8, Dr. Yandell Henderson, "Physiology of the Aviator."

March 1, Dr. Frederic S. Lee, "Industrial Fatigue."

March 15, Colonel F. P. Underhill, "War Gases."

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NATURALISTS

THE American Society of Naturalists, in affiliation with the Botanical Society of America and the American Society of Zoologists, will hold its thirty-sixth annual meeting at Baltimore, under the auspices of Johns Hopkins University, on Saturday, December 28, 1918.

The Botanical Society of America will place the genetical papers of its program on Friday morning, December 27, and the American Society of Zoologists will group its genetical papers in a program for Friday afternoon. By this arrangement there will be sessions of interest to the members of the American Society of Naturalists on the day preceding the meetings of the society.

The American Society of Naturalists will offer, beginning Saturday morning, December 28, a program to which members of the society are invited to contribute papers.

The customary symposium of the Naturalists will this year be omitted. Well developed plans of the program committee were disarranged by conditions of the times at a date too late for readjustments.

The Naturalists' dinner, in which members of the affiliated societies are invited to participate, will be held on the evening of Saturday. At the close of the dinner Vernon L. Kellogg will talk on "The German philosophy of war."

Titles of papers offered by members of the society, with estimated length of delivery and statement of lantern or chart requirements, must be in the hands of the secretary by December 1. It is desired that papers be short and it should be remembered that the interests of the Naturalists are primarily on problems of organic evolution. The papers on the program will in general be arranged in order of the receipt of title except that papers on similar subjects may be grouped.

Attention is called to the change in the constitution by which a nomination for membership must now remain in the hands of the executive committee for at least one year before action can be taken upon it. Therefore, nominations to receive attention in 1919 must reach the secretary by December 31, 1918. Blank forms for nominations may be obtained from the Secretary.

Headquarters of the Naturalists will be at the Hotel Rennert, Liberty and Saratoga Streets. Members are advised to make early reservations. A list of boarding houses will be found at Registration Headquarters of the American Association for the Advancement of Science

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Secretary

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THE BALTIMORE MEETINGS OF SECTION F (ZOOLOGY) OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

THE coming meetings of Section F of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will be held at Baltimore in connection with those of the American Society of Zoologists on December 26, 27 and 28.

The address of Professor Herbert Osborn, of Ohio State University, the retiring vice-president, will probably be given Thursday afternoon, on the subject of zoological trends and values in relation to education.