

of the *Geological Magazine*, an office which he held until his death.

Among his lines of research other than those on sponges may be mentioned those on the fossil radiolaria from the rocks of Central Borneo, on the borings in the Funafuti Atoll, on the Cretaceous entomostraca of England and Ireland, and on the annelid remains in the Siluric of Gotland and in numerous other formations of the New and Old World. But despite the value of these investigations, Hinde's name will always be most closely associated with the development of the science of palaeospongiology. What Zittel did for fossil sponges as a group, Rauff for the Paleozoic species of the world, Počta for the Cretaceous sponges of Bohemia, Kolb for the Jurassic and Schrammen for the Cretaceous of Germany—all this Hinde undertook and largely completed for palaeospongiology in Great Britain. His death not only deprives England of an eminent paleontologist, but it takes from the science of palaeospongiology one of its founders—a man who for four decades devoted his time to the elucidation of the diverse problems connected with the anatomy, taxonomy and geologic occurrence of a group of fossils of which practically nothing was known fifty years ago.

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INQUIRY OF THE AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE PEACE COMMISSIONERS

IN September, 1917, as a result of conferences between Colonel E. M. House and President Wilson, Colonel House was authorized to organize forces to gather and prepare for use at the Peace Conference the most complete information possible, from the best and latest sources, for consideration by the Peace Commissioners.

The expenses were provided for from the special emergency fund placed by Congress at the President's disposal.

Colonel House held preliminary conferences with Dr. S. E. Mezes, president of the College

of the City of New York; Professors James T. Shotwell, of Columbia University, and Archibald C. Coolidge, of Harvard University, about the broad lines of the work, and its organization, which, after a time, became known officially as "The Inquiry."

It was soon evident that the scope of the inquiry would demand not only a personnel of size and quality hitherto unknown in any such work but headquarters where safety from enemy activity of records and secret documents could be assured. "The Inquiry" has worked in the closest touch with the Military Intelligence Division. There was also needed an already established organization for many kinds of research, mapmaking, etc., which could be immediately utilized. This problem was finally solved when the American Geographical Society placed its building, at 156th Street and Broadway and a part of its staff, including its director, Dr. Isaiah Bowman, at the disposal of "The Inquiry" without cost.

The work from that date, November 10, 1917, got really under way, and has proceeded under careful guard night and day. Such measures were considered vital, owing to experiences at other peace conferences, notably that after the Franco-Prussian war. It was considered necessary, too, to abstain from publication of details of the work of "The Inquiry" until its results were safely on ship-board. A large part of them are now on the way to Europe, and by the time the President, the other peace commissioners and their staffs, together with the twenty-three members of "The Inquiry," arrive in France, the material used will be ready for them. The main body of it left the building of the American Geographical Society in three army trucks on Monday, December 2. Other results of the work are already in Paris, where Colonel House has been arranging the preliminaries of the forthcoming conference.*

Similar inquiries have been in progress abroad, notably in France and England. There have been frequent conferences for delivery of material and exchange of views, marked by a spirit of friendly cooperation

throughout. Some of the material from Europe, such, for example, as the complete texts of important treaties signed since the beginning of the war, has never been made public.

Primarily, "The Inquiry" has been a fact study, conducted in a scientific spirit by specialists and scholars, both American and from various European countries affected by the war. In order to give high value to any statement of fact, the inquiry has been entirely independent of any political hypothesis.

"The Inquiry" has had a personnel of about 150 people. Among them are:

Director, Dr. S. E. Mezes, president of the College of the City of New York.

Chief Territorial Specialist, Dr. Isaiah Bowman, director of the American Geographical Society. Specialist on Economic Resources, Allyn A. Young, head of the department of economics at Cornell University.

Charles H. Haskins, dean of the graduate school of Harvard University, specialist on Alsace-Lorraine and Belgium.

Clive Day, head of economics department at Yale, specialist on the Balkans.

W. E. Lunt, professor of history, Haverford College, specialist on northern Italy.

R. H. Lord, professor of history at Harvard, specialist on Russia and Poland.

Charles Seymour, professor of history at Yale, specialist on Austria-Hungary.

W. L. Westermann, professor of history at the University of Wisconsin, specialist on Turkey.

G. L. Beer, formerly of Columbia University, specialist on colonial history.

Cartographer, Mark Jefferson, professor of geography, Michigan State Normal College.

Roland B. Dixon, professor of ethnography at Harvard.

In addition there are eleven assistants and four commissioned officers of the Military Intelligence Division assigned to the inquiry for special problems on strategy, economics and ethnography. These officers are:

Major D. W. Johnson, Columbia University.

Major Lawrence Martin, University of Wisconsin.

Captain W. C. Farabee, the University Museum, Philadelphia.

Captain Stanley Hornbeck, author of "Contemporary Politics in the Far East."

The above named, together with map makers

and other assistants, sailed with the Peace Commission on the *George Washington*.

Passing by the countless details, "The Inquiry," broadly, has covered the following fields:

1. *Political History*—

- (a) Historic rights, including suffrage laws.
- (b) Religious development and customs.
- (c) Rights of minority peoples in composite populations; subordinate nationalities.

2. *Diplomatic History*—

- (a) Recent political history related to diplomacy, treaties, etc.
- (b) Public law, constitutional reforms, etc.

3. *International Law*—

- (a) To lay the groundwork toward bringing the subject up to date.
- (b) Study of treaty texts since the beginning of the war.
- (c) Geographical interpretation of problems of territorial waters, frontiers, etc.

4. *Economics*—

- (a) International: raw materials, coaling stations, cable stations, port works, tariffs and customs unions, free ports, open ports.
- (b) Regional: industrial development, self sufficiency, traffic routes in relation to boundaries and material resources, including food, minerals, water power, fuel, etc.

5. *Geography*—

- (a) Economic geography.
- (b) Political geography.

6. *Physiography*—

- (a) Strategic frontiers.
- (b) Topographic barriers.

7. *Cartography*—Maps to illustrate every kind of distribution that bears on peace problems, such as: (a) Peoples, (b) Minerals, (c) Historical limits, (d) Railways and trade routes, (e) Crops and livestock, (f) Cities and industrial centers, (g) Religions.

8. *Education*—

- (a) Status in colonial possessions.
- (b) In backward states.
- (c) Opportunities of oppressed minorities.

9. *Irrigation*—

- (a) Present development.
- (b) Possibilities in general reconstruction.

In its latest stages "The Inquiry" had its work centered on territorial matters, so that all the specialists going abroad are territorial specialists, except the direct representatives of

the State Department. Part of the force in international law are already in Europe, including David H. Miller, chairman of the law committee of the State Department.

Every important nationality of Europe and western Asia has had representatives here for conference with "The Inquiry." Authorities native to the affected countries in Europe have lent their aid and have placed at the disposal of the "Inquiry" all sources of information in their native languages. These, together with numerous secret documents and much information hitherto unavailable to scholars, has resulted in a bibliographic collection altogether unique and valuable. It will become part of the records of the State Department.

The cartographic force of the American Geographical Society, greatly augmented by government aid, began a map-making program hitherto without precedent in this country, all work being carefully drawn from the latest and best sources. Maps have been made to visualize not only all manner of territorial boundaries, but distribution of peoples, number and local densities of population, religions, economic activities, distribution of material resources, trade routes, both historic and potential strategic points.

A series of base maps and block diagrams, the most nearly complete series existing, has been prepared by the American Geographical Society, bearing upon all the geographical problems both of the war and the peace which is to follow. This series has been adopted by the War Department and prescribed by its Committee on Education and Special Training for use in all colleges and other centers where units of the Students' Army Training Corps are located, and for use by chairmen of the War Issues Course Groups. Many of these base maps and block diagrams have already been procured by colleges and universities.

Upon these base maps the Peace Commissioners, or others, by use of colored lines, may immediately have a map showing new state lines, ethnic boundaries, a rectified frontier, or a distribution of any sort, and at the signing

of the treaty of peace, a complete record of the new map of Europe.

All information gathered by "The Inquiry" has been so carefully classified, indexed and subdivided that it will be instantly available.

The library for the commissioners will also include hundreds of maps and books from the American Geographical Society, from Harvard, Princeton, Haverford College, the Library of Congress and the New York Public Library. These, with the data gathered by the inquiry have been constantly under guard.

The American Geographical Society will prepare, under the supervision of its director, Dr. Isaiah Bowman, a complete history of the work of "The Inquiry." A history of it will also be prepared for the History Board of the War Plans Division of the General Staff of the War Department.

President Wilson visited the headquarters of "The Inquiry" on October 12, on which occasion he registered his name on the wall in the office of the director of the American Geographical Society. Immediately under it are the names of Secretary Lansing, who visited the "Inquiry" on two occasions, and of Colonel House.

During the year there were a large number of other distinguished visitors, including Secretary Houston, Governor McCall and Major Requin, for a time General Foch's Chief of Staff. The last-named, at the time of his visit, constructed a blackboard sketch of the first battle of the Marne, and this, now carefully preserved, has great historical interest.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE SALTERS' INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY¹

THE Salters' Company has during many years given evidence of its interest in the promotion of scientific education and research by the provision of fellowships tenable by post-graduate workers. It has now taken a further very important step in announcing a scheme for the establishment of an institute to be called "The Salters' Institute of Industrial

¹ From *Nature*.