

selected are Marquesas Islands, Austral Islands, Tongan Islands, Hawaiian Islands.

B. 1921-22: A boat with a crew and staff of scientists to make careful observations, in selected localities along the route Honolulu, Wake, Marshall, Eastern Carolinas, Gilbert, Ellice Islands, Samoa, Tonga, Friendly, Cook, and Society Islands, returning to Honolulu via Tongareva, Malden, Christmas and Fanning Islands. In connection with the previous year's work this cruise should aid in determining through what place or places in the "Polynesian Sieve" the ancient migrations came.

THE PAN-PACIFIC SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS

As the result of informal conferences and much correspondence, a scientific congress has been organized to meet at Honolulu, August 2 to 20, 1920.

The purpose of the congress is to outline scientific problems of the Pacific Ocean region and to suggest methods for their solution; to make a critical inventory of existing knowledge, and to devise plans for future studies. It is anticipated that this congress will formulate for publication a program of research which will serve as a guide for cooperative work for individuals, institutions and governmental agencies.

Representative scientists from the countries whose interests in whole or in part center in the Pacific will be present, and a number of men whose researches demand a knowledge of the natural history of the Pacific islands and shore lands have expressed their intention to attend.

The program of the conference is in the hands of the Committee on Pacific Exploration of the National Research Council, which consists of the following members:

John C. Merriam, University of California, chairman; Wm. Bowie, U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey; R. A. Daly, Harvard University; William M. Davis, Harvard University; Barton W. Evermann, California Academy of Science; Herbert E. Gregory, Yale University; E. B. Mathews, National Research Council; George F. McEwen, Scripps Institute; Alfred

G. Mayor, Carnegie Institution; William E. Ritter, Scripps Institute.

The meetings will be arranged to place emphasis on the following topics:

1. Research desirable to inaugurate; projects described in considerable detail with reference to their significance, and their bearing on other fields of study. Investigations designed to lay the foundation for a higher utilization of the economic resources of the Pacific may be included.

3. Methods of cooperation with a view to eliminating unnecessary duplication of money and energy.

4. The best use of the funds now available and the source of further endowments.

In addition to those maintained by the Federal and Territorial governments, the active scientific organizations of Hawaii include the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum of Polynesian Ethnology and Natural History, the College of Hawaii, the Sugar Planters' Experiment Station, The Marine Aquarium and the Volcano Observatory.

Between Honolulu and San Francisco regular sailings are maintained by four steamship companies, and established routes bring Hawaii into connection with Canada, New Zealand, Australia, the Philippines, China and Japan. In order to procure desirable accommodations, reservations for both outward and return passage should be made at an early date.

Further information if desired may be obtained from members of the Committee on Pacific Exploration or from the undersigned.

HERBERT E. GREGORY,

Chairman, Pan-Pacific Scientific Congress
BERNICE PAUAAHI BISHOP MUSEUM,
HONOLULU, HAWAII,
March 20, 1920

APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

THE Governor of New York State has signed the annual appropriation bill, providing for the maintenance and future development of the State College of Agriculture at Cornell University. The college thus becomes assured of a total appropriation of \$1,787,888.80, of which \$517,000 is for the erection of

new buildings and \$14,530 for the State Game Farm,

Although the new law makes only a little more than half a million dollars available at once for new construction, it directs the state architect to prepare plans for the further extension of the college; and it authorizes the board of trustees, following the architect's plans, to enter into contracts for additional construction to the amount of \$3,000,000.

The remaining \$1,256,358.80 is for the salaries of the staff and expenses of operation during the fiscal year from July 1, 1920, to June 30, 1921. This appropriation is larger than last year's by \$282,855, of which about two thirds will go for increased salaries.

The law also provides for some new officers of administration, principally a vice-dean of resident instruction and a vice-director of the Experiment Station. There is already a vice-director in charge of the extension service. The filling of the new positions will therefore complete the administrative organization in the three chief phases of work which the law requires of the college.

SELENIUM AND TELLURIUM

At the recent meeting of the American Chemical Society in St. Louis a report of progress of the sub-committee of the National Research Council on The Uses of Selenium and Tellurium was presented by Victor Lenher, of the University of Wisconsin, at the request of the Engineering Division of the National Research Council. This sub-committee is working in close contact with all of the producers of selenium and tellurium in the country, and is carrying out one of the ideals of the National Research Council, which is to promote and coordinate research work in every direction.

The source of selenium and tellurium is in the anode mud from the electrolytic refining of copper. Copper refineries can annually produce under present conditions approximately 300,000 pounds of selenium and about 125,000 pounds of tellurium. A few hundred pounds of these elements would amply supply the market to-day. The large amounts of these elements available and for which there is no practical use, has caused the National Research

Council to create a committee whose duty it is to find possible methods for their utilization. This committee consists of Arthur E. Hall, chairman, H. G. Greenwood, Victor Lenher, O. C. Ralston, E. W. Rouse, S. Skowronski and A. W. Smith, and it has been working in close contact with the producers of selenium and tellurium. Arrangements have been made whereby large quantities of these elements can be procured for experimental purposes at cost price from the Raritan Copper Works, Perth Amboy, N. J., the United States Metals Refining Co., Chrome, N. J., the American Smelting and Refining Co., Omaha, Nebraska, and the Baltimore Copper Smelting and Rolling Co., Baltimore, Md.

Mr. E. W. Rouse, of the Baltimore Copper Smelting and Rolling Co., Baltimore, Md., will ship at any time reasonable quantities of selenium gratis to investigators upon the recommendation of the Committee of the National Research Council on the Uses of Selenium and Tellurium. Mr. Arthur E. Hall, of the Omaha plant of the American Smelting and Refining Company, will forward reasonable quantities of tellurium gratis under the same conditions.

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CONSTANTS

THE American Chemical Society at its St. Louis meeting passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS, every industry, for its successful operation, depends upon an accurate knowledge of the properties of the materials it uses and produces and the numerical values of these properties which are known as their constant, and

WHEREAS, during the war, it became evident that much of the published data on these constants was found to be extremely inaccurate, entailing considerable loss in time and money and it was found in many cases that data very much desired was not to be found in published records, and

WHEREAS, up to now publication of such constants in tabular form has been mostly in some foreign language and consequently of limited availability, and

WHEREAS, under allotment by the Inter-Allied Council and the International Research Council, the National Research Council of the United States (an organization duly created by the President of the United States) has decided that this deficiency