consensus of scientific opinion that the Central Asian plateau, including Thibet, Chinese Turkestan and Mongolia, was not only the point of origin and distribution for many forms of animal life which exist to-day in America, Europe and many parts of the world, but was also the so-called "cradle of the human race." Although its important relation to human ancestry has long been recognized, no coordinated scientific investigation has ever been conducted on a large scale. Its zoology, paleontology, geology and botany bear the most intimate relations to the ancestry of man and it is with reference to this problem, which is of world-wide interest, that the expedition will conduct its work. It will furnish material for the Great Hall of Asiatic Life which is now being added to the buildings of the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. The expedition also proposes to present to the Chinese government a duplicate series of its collections which it is hoped will be used as the basis of a National Museum of Natural History in Peking.

The cordial support which all the officials of the Chinese government have accorded the expedition and the facilities which have been given to it for prosecuting its work, indicate what a keen appreciation of the value of scientific work there is in China.

The Chinese Geological Survey for a number of years has been carrying on geological and paleontological explorations in various parts of China and has already become an institution of recognized importance throughout the world because of the high standard of its work. The survey has cooperated in the most friendly and scientific spirit with the Third Asiatic Expedition and a plan of operations has been agreed upon which is proving of great mutual benefit.

The expedition expects to return from Mongolia about October 1, 1922. At that time Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn, president of the American Museum of Natural History, will arrive in Peking with his wife and daughter to inspect the results of the work and to plan for future investigations.

Professor Osborn is one of the greatest living authorities on the evolution of man. His visit to Peking can not but be an important event in the scientific life of China.

Mr. Clifford Pope, assistant in zoology, will not accompany the expedition to Mongolia but will continue his studies of the reptiles, fish and batrachians of China. He has already obtained more than 10,000 specimens and will visit all the provinces of China before his work is completed.

Mr. James Wong, interpreter, will make an expedition to Szechuan Province while the main party is in Mongolia. His work will be an examination and reconnaissance of the caves along the Yangtze River preparatory to paleontological studies for the winter of 1922-23.

Mr. Harry R. Caldwell, assistant in zoology, will continue his zoological survey of Fukien Province during the summer.

ROY CHAPMAN ANDREWS

PEKING, APRIL, 1922

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE UNIVERSITY OF HALIFAX

DETAILS of the plan recently announced for amalgamating all institutions for higher education in the maritime provinces of Canada into a central university at Halifax, with the assistance of the Carnegie Foundation, have been made public. Alumni of the various colleges at present are considering the proposal. The plan proposes:

1. That there should be formed in Halifax an overhead university connected with all the colleges, but not particularly with any one, which should do the work of graduate and professional schools for the provinces; that is, the work now carried on by Dalhousie University in law, medicine, dentistry and pharmacy, and that carried on by the Nova Scotia Technical College in engineering, should be done by the university, together with the junior and senior years and the scientific portion of the freshman and sophomore years of each college.

2. That the various colleges situated outside of Halifax, namely, Acadia, Kings, Mount Allison, St. Francis Xavier and University of New Brunswick, should move to Halifax, erect buildings of their own, provide dormitory facilities, class rooms, dining rooms, chapel and other needed buildings for their own students, and in general conduct the work in English, French, German, Latin, Greek, mathematics and history for the first two years, caring for the housing and discipline of their students.

3. That all examinations should be conducted by the overhead university and all the degrees, with the exception of those in theology, be conferred by the university.

4. That financially the Carnegie Corporation would be willing to assist the colleges which would have to move, and perhaps also the overhead university, so that the general scheme might be well started, and then it was hoped the provincial governments would provide any money necessary for the overhead university; but all fees for classroom work should be handed over to the university, and that the colleges should only do such work as their endowments would permit.

ACTIVITIES OF THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

A REVIEW of the activities of the Rockefeller Foundation in 1921, written by its president, Dr. George E. Vincent, will be issued in a few days. The things done by the foundation directly and through its departmental agencies —the International Health Board, the China Medical Board, and the Division of Medical Education—are summarized as follows:

Continued a quarter-million annual appropriation to the School of Hygiene and Public Health of Johns Hopkins University;

Pledged two millions to Harvard for a school of health;

Contributed to public health training in Czechoslovakia, Brazil, and the United States;

Aided the Pasteur Institute of Paris to recruit and train personnel;

Promoted the cause of nurse training in America and Europe;

Underwrote an experimental pay clinic in the Cornell Medical School;

Formally opened a complete modern medical school and hospital in Peking;

Assisted twenty-five other medical centers in China;

Promised a million dollars for the medical school of Columbia University;

Contracted to appropriate three and one half millions for the rebuilding and reorganization of the medical school and hospital of the Free University of Brussels;

Made surveys of medical schools in Japan, China, the Philippines, Indo-China, Straits Settlements, Siam, India, Syria, and Turkey;

Supplied American and British medical journals to 112 medical libraries on the continent;

Supplemented the laboratory equipment and supplies of five medical schools in Central Europe;

Defrayed the expenses of commissions from Great Britain, Belgium, Serbia, and Brazil;

Provided 157 fellowships in hygiene, medicine, physics, and chemistry, to representatives of eighteen countries;

Continued a campaign against yellow fever in Mexico, Central and South America;

Prosecuted demonstrations in the control of malaria in ten states;

Cooperated in hookworm work in nineteen governmental areas;

Participated in rural health demonstrations in seventy-seven American counties and in Brazil;

Neared the goal of transferring to French agencies an anti-tuberculosis organization in France;

Provided experts in medical education and public health for counsel and surveys in many parts of the world, and rendered sundry minor services to governments and voluntary societies.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN CERAMIC SOCIETY

THE American Ceramic Society held its twenty-fourth annual convention at the Hotel Statler, St. Louis, Mo., February 27 to March 3. One and a half days were devoted to general sessions, one and a half days to divisional meetings, and two days to plant visits.

An organization of 1,575 members, it has seven industrial divisions, all of them strong and independent of one another, but united in one body, the American Ceramic Society.

On the program for the general sessions, there were nineteen papers and seven films. The Art Division had seventeen papers besides demonstrations. The Enamels Division had seventeen papers, four colloquiums, and one extensive report of their research committee. The Glass Division had fourteen papers, six colloquiums and two reports of their research committee. The Heavy Clay Products Division had eight papers and four colloquiums. The Refractories Division had twenty-five papers and twelve topics for discussion. The Terra Cotta Division had fifteen papers. The White Wares Division had sixteen papers and three colloquiums.

The society is governed by a board of trustees consisting of the president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and five trustees. The