

such relief measures as you may deem most practical and to employ such methods as you may consider most efficacious; we are prepared to supply you, through our secretariat, with any information or explanations which you may require. We merely beg to draw your attention to the following points:

As a result of the depreciation in the Austrian exchange, quite insignificant sums, if converted into crowns, amount to very considerable figures. For instance, we have pointed out in the attached report that, with the aid of 1,000 Swiss francs, the Academy of Science in Vienna could resume its publications, and that a sum of 500 Swiss francs would enable almost any of the great scientific associations—such as the Anthropological Society or the Society for Modern Philology—to recommence their work.

We earnestly invite the universities, academies and learned societies of the whole world to send their publications to the Austrian universities, academies and learned societies, or to organize systems of exchange with them. We urge them to conclude with the *Amba* (the Austrian "office for providing books and instruments") agreements for cooperation similar to that established with England. Such agreements would provide an excellent basis for the organization of intellectual relief and might be extended, with suitable adaptations, to other countries whose needs are similar to those of Austria.

As regards the supply of purely material requirements (such as clothing, boots, articles of primary necessity, etc.) it is suggested that agreements should be concluded with the *Zegam* (the "Central Purchase Organization for Associations of Intellectual Workers").

We further invite universities, academies and learned societies to organize the exchange of professors and lecturers with similar establishments in Austria, and we suggest that men of science should either visit Austria themselves or endeavor by means of personal intercourse to break down the wall of intellectual isolation with which that unfortunate country is surrounded.

In order to relieve the unhappy condition of Austrian professors, men of science, writers

and artists, who are suffering increasingly from under-feeding, we would urge you to assist them and their families to spend their holidays abroad.

It might even be possible—and no form of assistance could be more useful or more urgently desirable—to place certain immediately available funds or foundations at the disposal of Austrian men of science and students in order to enable them to continue their researches and studies.

The aim of these suggestions, which are put forward at the beginning of a winter which may well prove decisive for the fate of Austria, is to encourage to the utmost the organization of relief measures from as wide a field and in as uniform a manner as possible.

Much can be accomplished with small means.

In coming to the assistance of Austria, and of other nations whose intellectual life is in danger, you will be strengthening that sense of professional brotherhood which should unite all brain-workers, you will be taking effective and practical action to promote intellectual cooperation, and, above all, you will be helping to support civilization in the struggle against the most serious peril which threatens it. For these reasons we are confident that our appeal will not be launched in vain.

For the committee on intellectual cooperation:

H. BERGSON,
of the "Académie Française,"
President

G. DE REYNOLD,
Professor of Berne University,
Rapporteur

O. DE HALECKI,
Professor of Warsaw University,
Secretary

GENEVA,

NOVEMBER 4, 1922

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

LONDON BIRD SANCTUARIES¹

THE committee on the establishment of bird sanctuaries in the royal parks, appointed by

¹ From the *London Times*.

Lord Crawford last year, has already added to the amenities of London. Early this spring small enclosures in Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens were prepared by suitable fencing, a small amount of planting, and exclusion of tidying gardeners. The birds accepted the hospitality; no fewer than twenty species, including willow wrens, great and blue tits, red-breasts and lesser whitethroats, spotted flycatchers, carrion crows, tawny owls, pheasants and moorhen nested there this year. According to a report just issued by the committee, it is proposed to extend these successful experiments. In Hyde Park the bank near the frame-house and an enclosure beside the magazine are to be allowed to grow wild, and some planting of suitable shrubs is to be carried out. The area on the east side of the Long Water in Kensington Gardens and a smaller enclosure on the west side are to be sanctuaries. The Duck Island in St. James's Park, two or three sites in Buckingham Palace Gardens, by consent of His Majesty, the islands in the lake in Regent's Park, the wilderness in Greenwich Park, and the Isabella Plantation in Richmond Park are all to be prepared and reserved. These admirable sanctuaries, due to the initiation of Mr. Harold Russell, a well-known London ornithologist, cost little, give pleasure to many, and will not incommode a single human being. They are not to incommode even the London cats, for the committee, after consultation with the Office of Works, decided that there was no practical cat-proof fence. But war is declared against the grey squirrels, absolute to extermination in Richmond Park, and intermittent in Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens. Public sentiment will be on the side of these pleasant rogues. The charge against them, of being habitual robbers of nests, is not proven, but, were it so, there are fences in the London Zoo which retained them, and which, therefore, could exclude them from the sanctuaries. Their charm persists through the year, and is, indeed, even greater in the bleak months when the migrant birds have left their sanctuaries bare. But perhaps they will succeed in defeating even Lord Crawford's competent committee.

THE AMERICAN ELECTROCHEMICAL SOCIETY

THE forty-third semi-annual meeting of the American Electrochemical Society will be held in New York City, at the Hotel Commodore, on May 3, 4 and 5, 1923. The principal attractions of the technical program will be a whole day session on the general topic: "The Production and Application of the Rarer Metals." The arrangements for this session are in charge of Dr. F. M. Becket, of the Electrometallurgical Corporation, New York City. There will be papers on vanadium, tungsten, cobalt, molybdenum, zirconium, cerium, uranium, tantalum, calcium, magnesium and others.

Among the speakers will be:

H. N. McCoy, president of the Carnotite Reduction Company, of Chicago.

H. W. Gillett, of the Bureau of Mines, Ithaca, N. Y.

B. D. Saklatwalla, of the Vanadium Corporation.

F. E. Carter, of the Baker Platinum Works, Newark, N. J. (paper on platinum).

H. S. Cooper (paper on zirconium metal).

J. A. Holladay, of the Electrometallurgical Corporation (paper on analyses).

M. A. Hunter, of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N. Y. (two papers; one on Ti).

Mr. Clancy (paper on alloys as catalyzers)

Mr. Cutter, of the Climax Molybdenum Company.

Russel Lowe, Barro Metal Corporation (paper on barro metal).

Colin G. Fink, secretary of the society (paper on tungsten).

C. E. Minor, Aravaipo Leasing Company, Klondyke, Graham County, Arizona.

W. R. Whitney, director of research laboratories, General Electric Company, Schenectady, N. Y.

Another session will be devoted to a discussion of "Electrode potentials," headed by Dr. Wm. G. Horsh, of the Chile Exploration Company, New York. The papers will cover studies on:

- (a) Reversible electromotive force.
- (b) Overvoltage.
- (c) Ion activities and dissociations.
- (d) Electro-titration.
- (e) p_H determinations.