

One object of the expedition is to exterminate the rabbits on Laysan, where at least two European species introduced by a guano company have increased to such an extent as to endanger the continued existence of the vegetation, and indirectly, that of several species of birds inhabiting the reservation.

Through the courtesy and interest of Secretary Denby and Assistant Secretary Roosevelt, of the Navy Department, a vessel has been placed at the disposal of this party for a period of four months. Plans have been made for this boat to return once a month to Honolulu in order that the work of the expedition may be more effectively accomplished and to enable a number of scientists to participate who otherwise could not do so.

E. W. NELSON

Chief, Biological Survey

APRIL 26, 1923

THE INDIANA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

THE Indiana Academy of Science will hold its spring meeting and field excursion at Brookville, Indiana, on May 10, 11 and 12, 1923. This meeting is somewhat of the nature of a tribute to Dr. Amos W. Butler, one of the founders of the academy. Dr. Butler has just resigned his position as secretary of the Indiana State Board of Charities after twenty-five years of distinguished service. In 1881 he organized the Brookville Natural History Society and four years later, largely through his suggestion and efforts, this society was transformed into the Indiana Academy of Science. Dr. David Starr Jordan was the first president of the academy and on May 20, 1886, the first field meeting was held at Brookville. That night at a public meeting Dr. Jordan delivered an address on "Charles Darwin."

The program includes a public meeting to which citizens of Brookville are invited. Brief addresses will be delivered, as follows:

- (1) Brookville and its contribution to the intellectual life of the state: John C. Shirk.
- (2) The geologic aspects of Brookville and vicinity: D. R. Moore.
- (3) Changes in Indiana flora: Stanley Coulter.
- (4) Some reminiscences of early academy days: Amos W. Butler.

A day will be spent in a field excursion to

various points along the Whitewater River, or one of its tributaries. This section of the country is one of the most picturesque in Indiana. The town of Brookville is located at the junction of two branches of the Whitewater and flanked by lofty hills. There will be ample opportunity to study the natural history of the region and to discuss them at the informal meetings.

Scientists from neighboring states are invited to attend this meeting.

HARRY F. DIETZ

Press Secretary

AMERICAN SCHOOL IN FRANCE FOR PRE-HISTORIC STUDIES

IN entering upon the third year of its activities, the school invites the affiliation of capable graduate students of either sex who may wish to avail themselves of the opportunities that are offered.

The object of the school is to give the American student of man's antiquity and evolution and old world archeology sound first-hand knowledge in these lines under capable and experienced leadership.

The two first years of the school were devoted principally to instruction in the museums of France and to careful excavations on one of the sites of early man in that country, namely, La Quina. The work of the third year will differ in a measure. Its object will be first to acquaint the students directly with all the important sites and remains of early man in western Europe, and to engage in actual excavations only after the students have received a good foundation in the subject.

The work will commence on July 1 in London, and it will comprise on the one hand the study of the original specimens relating to early man in the various museums of England, France, Belgium, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Croatia, Austria and Switzerland, and on the other, visits to such important sites as the Piltdown, La Quina, Dordogne, Mauer, Eh-ringsdorf, Brno, Krapina and others as far as time will permit. Following this a site in France will be chosen where careful methods of excavation may be taught and practised; and when field-work becomes impossible the students desirous of staying abroad will be

helped to opportunities for further studies. The months of July and August, with probably a part of September, will be spent in visits to the various sites and museums; the rest of September and October will be devoted to field work in France; and for the winter months arrangements will be made in Paris or elsewhere according to the best interests of the students.

The conditions of affiliation with the school on the part of the students are good health and character, proper introduction, serious purpose and a spirit of earnest cooperation with the director. The students may be accepted for three, six, nine or twelve months. They pay nothing to the school or for field work, but defray all their personal expenses. To reduce the latter and facilitate matters in general, the students will elect among themselves a committee which will see to transportation, accommodation and other things concerning the whole group. Upon the completion of their course, deserving students will be given a suitable certificate by the school.

Applications should be sent to the director before May 30 at the latest. The participants will need to make steamship reservations well in advance and allow plenty of time for obtaining their passports and visés.

ALEŠ HRDLIČKA
Director, 1923-24

U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

At the meeting of the National Academy of Sciences held in Washington on April 25 Dr. A. A. Michelson, professor of physics in the University of Chicago, was elected president in succession to Dr. Charles D. Walcott, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. Dr. J. C. Merriam, president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, was elected vice-president in succession to Dr. Michelson. Dr. David White, of the United States Geological Survey, was elected secretary to succeed Dr. C. G. Abbot, assistant secretary of the Smithsonian Institution and director of the Astrophysical Observatory. Professor R. A. Millikan, of the California Institute of Technology, continues as foreign secretary and Dr. F. L. Ransome, as treasurer.

THE following men of science have been elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences: Solon Irving Bailey, Harvard Observatory; James Henry Breasted, University of Chicago; Ernest William Brown, Yale University; Carl H. Eigenmann, University of Indiana; Yandell Henderson, Yale University; Marshall Avery Howe, New York Botanical Garden; Max Mason, University of Wisconsin; Elmer Drew Merrill, Bureau of Science, Manila; Eugene Lindsay Opie, Washington University, St. Louis; Leonhard Stejneger, United States National Museum; George Fillmore Swain, Harvard University; Richard Chace Tolman, California Institute of Technology; David Locke Webster, Stanford University; Frederick Eugene Wright, Geophysical Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution; Robert Mearns Yerkes, National Research Council.

At the meeting of the American Philosophical Society on April 21, the following were elected to membership: Frank Aydelotte, Swarthmore; Edward Asahel Birge, Madison; Isaiah Bowman, New York; Carl Darling Buck, Chicago; Karl E. Compton, Princeton; Herbert Ernest Gregory, New Haven; Charles Downer Hazen, New York; Phoebus A. Levene, New York; George Perkins Merrill, Washington; Samuel Alfred Mitchell, Charlottesville; Richard Bishop Moore, Washington; William John Sinclair, Princeton; Vilhjálmur Stefánsson, New York; Rodney H. True, Philadelphia; Thomas Wayland Vaughan, Washington.

A CITATION for the award of a distinguished service medal to Dr. Harvey Cushing of Boston has been approved by Secretary of War Weeks. The citation refers to Dr. Cushing as senior consultant of surgery of the American Expeditionary Forces and in direct charge of treatment of gunshot wounds of the First Army Hospital during the Meuse-Argonne offensive and says: "He performed conspicuous and distinguished services to the government" and "his individual efforts in that capacity saved the lives of many severely wounded soldiers."

AWARDS of the Royal Geographical Society have been made as follows: The Founder's Medal to Mr. Knud Rasmussen for his exploration and research in the Arctic regions during the last twenty-five years. The Patron's Medal to the Hon. Miles Staniforth Cater