

the Zoological Society in the Spring of 1922, addressed to zoologists and zoological institutions throughout the world, asking for support, has produced an unsatisfactory response; that, unless substantial help is forthcoming, the *Record* will be discontinued; but that the Zoological Society is "ready to continue the *Record*, and to regard a loss of £500 a year as part of our contribution to the common good of zoological science, if other institutions guarantee us against further loss."

The Library Committee of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia has been authorized by the Council of the Academy to offer to the Zoological Society of London a guarantee of One Hundred Dollars toward any deficit that may arise during the year ending July 1, 1924, resulting from the publication of the volume of the *Record* issued during that year, and to communicate its action to other zoological institutions, inviting them to take similar action.

We believe that the discontinuance of *The Zoological Record* would be unquestionably a great calamity to zoologists everywhere. We would therefore urge you to consider, as soon as possible, the question of offering a sum to the Zoological Society of London as a contribution to the guarantee fund asked for in Mr. Mitchell's letter and to communicate any affirmative action to the undersigned and to send any contribution direct to the Zoological Society at Regent's Park, London, N. W. 8.

THE REMOVAL OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE RECLAMATION SERVICE

ENGINEERS are protesting against the removal of Arthur P. Davis as director of the U. S. Reclamation Service. Secretary Work's action is characterized as prejudicial to the public interest and the secretary is described as pursuing a dangerous course. The Federated American Engineering Societies have raised formal and vigorous objection to the displacement of Director Davis. The position of the federation is explained in a statement by Executive Secretary L. W. Wallace, in which he says:

Because of the far-reaching results that might ensue and because of the seriousness of the situation, the organized engineers and technical men of the United States are preparing to make a thorough search into the considerations that led to the action taken in regard to the Reclamation Service. The American Society of Civil Engineers has appointed a special committee to investigate the matter. The public affairs committee of the Federated American Engineering Societies, of which J. Parke Channing of New York is chairman, has already addressed a letter of inquiry to the secretary of the interior concerning the action.

This is being done not from the standpoint of questioning the right of a Government official to discharge any one that he may elect, but from the point of view of the wisdom of the announced policy that a technical bureau can be more effectively directed by a man not technically trained and fitted in comparison with one so technically trained and fitted.

The work of the Reclamation Service is essentially engineering and technical. There are business aspects, to be true, but so far as is known there has been no criticism of the business direction of the Service, other than perhaps by certain interests in the West who have endeavored to secure a reduction in or have endeavored to repudiate payments for reclaimed lands purchased.

Should this demand prevail, the fundamental principle of the enabling act will be displaced and the revolving fund for the continuation of the work will be dissipated, so that other needed projects can not be carried out unless there be additional drains upon the Treasury of the United States. Furthermore, should such an eventuality ensue public confidence in the integrity of the direction of such work would be so shaken as to make it difficult to secure appropriations from Congress to extend the work of reclaiming the arid lands of the west.

In the main, the support for such has come from the West, but should there be a question as to the wisdom with which the projects are selected and executed, then it is entirely probable that the West would not receive support from other sections of the country. Therefore, not only is the morale of the technical service at issue but also the larger thing, perhaps reclamation itself.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES OF PHYSIOLOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY

THE eleventh International Physiological Congress, which will be held at Edinburgh on July 23-27, under the presidency of Sir Edward Sharpey Schafer, is apparently the first scientific meeting of its kind in Scotland, and promises to be very successful. Already more than 250 physiologists from various parts of the world have signified their intention of attending the meeting, and a large number of countries will be represented. The largest contingent from abroad is coming from the United States and Canada, and will number about forty. A second notice has just been circulated, from which we see that, on presentation of an official voucher, return tickets to Edinburgh will be issued at a single fare and a third by any railway booking office in Britain. The provisional program of the congress includes a reception by the Lord Provost of Edinburgh and an address by Professor J. J. R. Macleod, of Toronto, on insulin. Those who intend to take part in the congress should, unless they have already done so, communicate with one of the secretaries, Professor G. Barger or Professor J. C. Meakins, University of Edinburgh.

The seventh International Congress of Psychology will be held at Oxford on July 26-August 2, and will differ from preceding congresses in that it will be restricted to 200 members, membership being confined to trained psychologists, and a few others approved by the committee. It is hoped to provide international symposia on subjects of present interest, the contributions being circulated in advance, and each