

were Lord Edward Grey and Lord Buxton, of England; P. G. Van Tienhoven, of Holland, and the eminent naturalist, M. Jean Delacour, of France.

Mr. Pearson, who has just returned on the U. S. Steamship *Leviathan* from a lecturing and organizing tour through seven of the countries in Europe, writes:

Europe is looking to America for leadership in some of the lines of endeavor in which we as a nation have specialized. There is no country in the world that is so thoroughly organized and has such advanced laws for bird protection as the United States, and many of our methods can be and doubtless will be adapted to meet European conditions.

Through southern Europe especially very little attention is paid to bird protection. This may be illustrated by the fact that in all France in the year 1921 there were only sixty convictions for violation of the bird laws. During the same period in New York State alone there were more than one thousand. In Hungary I was told that during the past year with all of the thousands of bird killers in the country not one had been prosecuted. In Italy I saw nets, traps and various cages used to catch small song birds for food. There is a vast traffic in the bodies of these little songsters in that country. In Rome I saw in cages small birds whose eyes had been blinded by red hot irons on the theory that in their darkness they would sing better and thus prove more effective decoys in alluring other feathered friends to destruction.

Our International organization is now in effective operation in the United States, Canada, Australia, Norway, England, Holland, Luxemburg, France and Italy. Other countries have recently been invited to unite with the movement, and action by them may be expected soon. Members of the committee in the different countries are formed into national sections which deal especially with bird protective problems distinctly national in their scope.

Everywhere I went in Europe our plan was received most cordially.

INDUSTRIAL STANDARDIZATION

WE learn from *The Electrical World* that an unofficial conference of the secretaries of various standardizing organizations was held early in July at Zurich, Switzerland. This was the second conference of its kind held, the first conference having taken place in London in April, 1921. At that conference the secretaries of seven standardizing organizations were present, whereas at the Zurich conference secretaries from thirteen different countries were present. These included representatives from Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Great Britain, Holland, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States.

The conference, which lasted from July 3 to July 6, was given over to a discussion of the practical application of standards in the various countries and of the extent to which international collaboration is

possible. There is a marked difference in industrial standardization and in the method of its application in the various countries involved. In Great Britain and in the United States the standardizing body is an industrial organization seeking government support, while in France, for example, the standardizing body is a government institution.

Reports were made by the various secretaries on progress in the different countries, and the American representative, Dr. Paul G. Agnew, was supported in his resolution that in order to help the cause of standardization ideas can not be exchanged too soon. Possessing no executive authority, the recommendations made by the secretaries as a whole will have to be placed before the executives of the respective national organizations. Progress has been made, however, toward closer international collaboration between secretaries and toward international amity on questions of standards. Mr. Zollinger, secretary of the Swiss committee, acted as chairman of the conference, and C. le Maistre of Great Britain acted as vice-chairman.

THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

THE American Public Health Association extends to the public health profession and others interested a cordial invitation to attend its fifty-second annual meeting, in Boston, from October 8 to 11. Headquarters will be at the Copley-Plaza Hotel.

The annual meetings are always important events and the meeting this year is of more than usual interest since it ends the first twelve months of the new program adopted as a result of the association's reorganization in 1922. Two general sessions and twenty-six meetings of the scientific sessions will be held this year. In addition, many trips of technical and general interest have been planned in historic Boston as part of the entertainment and educational program. On Monday evening, October 8, the formal opening session will be followed by a reception. On Wednesday evening, October 10, Sir Thomas Oliver, the distinguished English industrial hygienist, and Dr. George E. Vincent, president of the Rockefeller Foundation, will address the second general session. The scientific program, embracing all branches of public health, will be held according to sections as follows: Public Health Administration; Laboratory, Sanitary Engineering, Vital Statistics, Child Hygiene, Food and Drugs, Industrial Hygiene, Public Health Nursing, Health Education and Publicity.

Among the subjects scheduled for discussion are papers on food inspection, growth of children, full-time health officers, mental hygiene in the school program, nutrition work, the effect of so-called moonshine liquors, standards for school house construction and