

The following By-Laws were adopted:

1. *Officers.* The officers of the Council shall be a president, secretary, and treasurer. The president and secretary shall be members of the Council. The treasurer shall be a member of one of the constituent societies of the Union.
2. *Tenure of office.* The president and secretary shall take office after the close of the annual meeting of the Council at which they are elected, and serve until the close of the next annual meeting, except that the officers elected at the first meeting of the Council shall serve at that meeting also. The treasurer shall be elected for three years.
3. *Executive committee.* The executive committee of the Council shall consist of the president and secretary and three other members to be chosen by ballot at the annual meeting of the Council.
4. *Vacancies.* Vacancies in the offices or in the executive committee shall be filled by the executive committee.
5. *Duties.* The duties of the officers shall be those usually pertaining to their respective offices. The duties of the executive committee shall be to carry forward all projects referred to it by the Council; to recommend new projects to the Council; to review projects proposed by members of the Union and make recommendations to the Council concerning them; to consider and recommend additional societies for membership in the Union; to nominate committees; to fill vacancies in the offices or committees; to determine times and places of meeting of the Council and of the executive committee; to prepare the annual report of the Council; and to perform such other functions as the Council may direct.
6. *Committees.* The executive committee shall appoint a committee on bibliography and publication and such other committees as the Council may direct.
7. *Relation to other organizations.* The Council shall take cognizance of the work of the National Research Council, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and other similar organizations, with a view to cooperation and avoidance of unnecessary duplication of effort.
8. *New members.* Upon recommendation of the executive committee, the Council may admit additional societies to membership in the Union, and determine their representation in the Council.
9. *Finances.* The Council shall have power to receive and administer funds for the promotion of the purposes of the Union. Investments shall be made by the treasurer with the advice and consent of the executive committee. For the defraying of current expenses, the Council shall recommend assessments upon the member societies, to be distributed in such manner as the Council shall determine.
10. *Meetings.* The Council shall meet annually at such time and place as the executive committee shall determine and at other times on call of the executive committee.

11. *Amendments.* These by-laws may be amended at any regularly called meeting of the Council by a majority of those present and voting, provided notice of the proposal to amend, together with a copy of the proposed amendment, is mailed by the secretary to each member of the Council at least two weeks in advance of the meeting.

The report of the Committee on Bibliography and Publication, appointed on April 23, 1922, in conjunction with the National Research Council, was presented by the Chairman, J. R. Schramm. The recommendations of the Committee were adopted, and the Committee was instructed to prepare for publication a report of its work.

It was moved and carried that an American Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, to cooperate with the International Commission, be appointed in consultation with the societies most interested.

In connection with the annual meetings of the societies, the executive committee was instructed to appoint a coordinating committee to arrange the meetings of the various societies with as little conflict as possible.

Officers were elected as follows: President, C. E. McClung; Secretary, I. F. Lewis; Treasurer, A. L. Quaintance; additional members of Executive Committee, E. W. Allen, C. W. Greene, and C. A. Kofoid.

I. F. LEWIS,
Secretary

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

COOPERATION IN SCIENTIFIC WORK

A PLENARY session of the International Commission on Intellectual Cooperation, instituted by the assembly of the League of Nations, has been held at Geneva under the presidency of Professor Bergson. According to a report in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, the commission approved the action of its subcommittee on bibliography recommending, in view of the impossibility of establishing at the present time a complete international library, the coordination of libraries already existing in the principal centers. The subcommittee recommended also the publication of a bibliographic index and conferences of experts on analytic bibliography to coordinate the work of reviewers and existing libraries, and thus prevent duplication of effort.

The commission decided to transmit to the Council and to the Assembly of the League of Nations a draft agreement for the protection of property rights in scientific work, as elaborated by Professor Ruffini, of Turin, formerly minister of public instruction in Italy. The request is made that the several governments establish protection for authors of scientific discoveries analogous to that accorded by law to the artist and the author. The establishment of an inter-

national agreement for the protection of scientific property rights would result in the creation of a new international league, which would rank with the two leagues now existing, the one for the protection of industrial rights and the other for the protection of artistic and literary property. Ruffini, in modeling his draft agreement, made use of the two French drafts, that of the French Confederation of Intellectual Workers (*The Journal*, May 19, 1923, p. 1467) and that submitted to the French parliament by M. Joseph Barthélémy, deputy from the department of Gers and professor in the law department of the University of Paris.

The Commission on Intellectual Cooperation adopted the following resolutions for promoting mutual aid in intellectual work:

1. The commission warmly approves the creation of national commissions on intellectual cooperation, such as have been established in the countries of central and eastern Europe.

2. The commission invites national commissions already created, and those that may be established later, to appoint delegates to meet with it to consider the best means of organizing mutual aid in intellectual work.

3. The commission begs the Council to request governments that are members of the League of Nations to lend moral and financial support to the endeavors of the national commissions.

4. The commission begs authority from the Council to accept donations from institutions that manifest an interest in its endeavors, such funds to be placed at the disposal of the national commissions.

Various reports on the present conditions of intellectual work in the several countries were presented to the commission. M. de Reynold, professor at the University of Bern, after investigating conditions in Switzerland, Germany, Holland, the Scandinavian countries and Luxemburg, and among Russian emigrants, has reached the conclusion that intellectual life is suffering even in countries that remained neutral during the war. This is due, on the one hand, to the economic crisis, and, on the other hand, to the indifference of governments and people, especially of the younger generation, to the needs of science and art. M. Castella, who was chosen to make a special inquiry in Switzerland, declared that in that country an undermining of cultural studies is taking place; students are becoming more and more utilitarian. M. Luchaire, who took charge of the inquiry among the Latin races of Europe, also testifies to a falling off of interest in intellectual work that promises no immediate practical return.

THE AUSTRALASIAN CONGRESS OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

WE learn from *The British Medical Journal* that the Australasian Medical Congress—the first to be

held under the direction of the federal committee of the British Medical Association in Australia—will open in Melbourne on November 12; it will meet under the presidency of Mr. G. A. Syme, and the parent association will be fitly represented by Sir William Macewen, F.R.S., the distinguished regius professor of surgery in the University of Glasgow, and president of the British Medical Association last year. He is expected to arrive in Sydney about October 17, by the mail boat from San Francisco, and will be the guest of Sir Walter Davidson, Governor of New South Wales. He will be entertained at dinner by the members of the Glasgow University Club on October 22, and by the New South Wales Branch on October 24. In Melbourne he will be the guest of the governor of Victoria, Lord Stradbroke, and afterwards of Lord Forster, the governor-general of the commonwealth. The arrangements for the congress are now far advanced, and everything is said to give promise of a most successful gathering. There will be twelve sections, the presidents being selected from the various states of Australia and from New Zealand. An exhibition of trade products, including medical and surgical instruments, books, drugs, foods and other articles of direct interest to the medical profession will be held in the new anatomy department of the University of Melbourne during the congress. This new department, the erection of which was begun in January, 1922, will be very complete. It will have two dissecting rooms, each capable of accommodating 300 students, a well equipped museum and a large theater. It will also provide a histological laboratory to accommodate 250 students, and special rooms for operative surgery, neurology and physical anthropology. It is hoped that Sir William Macewen will accept the invitation of the University Council to take part in the opening ceremony during the congress.

THE RESEARCH COUNCIL OF THE STATE COLLEGE OF WASHINGTON

At the State College of Washington during the past year there was organized a research group known as the Research Council of the State College of Washington. Dr. Victor Burke was elected president and H. J. Dana, secretary.

The object of the organization is to stimulate research among the non-agricultural members of the faculty. The membership qualifications are similar to those of Sigma Xi, active membership being restricted to those members of the faculty (not connected with the College of Agriculture) who have made contributions to knowledge. Associate membership is open to those showing an active interest in research and who give promise of later achievement. It is the policy to favor the election of promising