

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