

from all nations for the last six months—that which Pasteur would have appreciated beyond all—it is as a resurgence of hope of humanity for peace and concord among the peoples of the world. And at this moment does it not seem to you, gentlemen, that Pasteur is here among us, as he was thirty years ago on his seventieth anniversary? Do you not hear him say to you as he did then, those words which should become a reality: “You bring me the deepest joy that can come to a man who believes invincibly that science and peace will triumph over ignorance and war, that the peoples of the world will come together, not to destroy but to build, and that the future is to those who have rendered the greatest service to suffering humanity.”

PASTEUR VALLÉRY-RADOT

PARIS, FRANCE

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE THE CINCINNATI MEETING

PREPARATIONS for the third Cincinnati meeting, which will celebrate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the association, are in an advanced stage. The meeting is to open on Thursday, December 27, and will close on Wednesday, January 2. The general secretary and the permanent secretary recently visited Cincinnati and conferred with members of the local committee that has charge of preliminary arrangements. The local committee, under the able chairmanship of Professor Louis T. More, has everything well in hand. Especially has Professor Edgar Dow Gilman, secretary of the committee, rendered very efficient and invaluable service to the association and to the thirty societies that are to meet with the association at Cincinnati. Nearly all the meeting rooms have already been assigned, and arrangements have been made for the several general sessions, for the exhibition of apparatus, etc., and for the registration offices.

The preliminary announcement of the approaching meeting, a booklet of eighty-five pages, has just been issued from the permanent secretary's office. Copies have been sent to all members of the association and to others who are members of societies that are to take part—as far as the requisite lists have been furnished by the societies. The booklet contains more information concerning the approaching meeting than has been possible in the case of any similar announcement in past years. Also, it has been possible to publish this announcement earlier than in recent years, because of improving cooperation among the Washington office, the local committee and the section and society secretaries and committees.

The most important message carried by the announcement is perhaps the statement that reduced

railway rates are available for those who are to attend, from practically the whole of the United States and Canada. These are to be secured on the certificate plan, as in recent years. A first-class, full-fare, one-way ticket to Cincinnati should be purchased and a *certificate* for the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting, on *standard certificate form*, should be secured. The certificate is to be left at the validation desk in the registration room, upon arrival; it will be endorsed and validated without further attention from its owner and may be secured at the same desk on a later day. The railway agents at Cincinnati will sell each holder of an endorsed and validated certificate a continuous-passage return ticket for one half of the regular fare, by the same route as that followed in the trip to Cincinnati. Thus the round-trip will cost those who attend the meeting an amount equal to one and one half times the regular one-way fare. This privilege will be available to all who are members or associates of the association in good standing, or who are members of any society or organization meeting with the association at this time, or who are members of any society officially associated or affiliated with the association, or who are delegates from institutions or personal guests of persons entitled to reduced rates. Registration will be necessary in order to secure the reduced railway rates, and all who register will receive the badge for the meeting and a copy of the general program.

Several new features will characterize the seventy-fifth anniversary meeting. There will be a prize of one thousand dollars awarded to some person presenting a notable contribution to the advancement of science, either before the association as such or before one of the societies. It is planned that several supplements to the general program will be issued as the meeting proceeds, thus bringing to publication any program material that may be received too late for inclusion in the regular edition, additions, corrections, etc. An exhibition of scientific apparatus, products and books is being arranged and a good number of exhibits are already entered. It is hoped that the exhibition may be a very important feature of this meeting and that future exhibitions may be of progressively greater importance. Those desiring to enter exhibits should make arrangements with Professor R. E. Oesper, chairman of the sub-committee on exhibition, the University of Cincinnati. Professor Oesper has given much time and attention to preparations for this feature of the meeting. The association's collection of portraits and autograph letters of its past presidents will be exhibited for the first time at Cincinnati.

The opening session will occur on Thursday evening, December 27, under the presidency of Dr. Charles D. Walcott, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

The lecture of the evening will be given by Dr. J. Playfair McMurrich, of the University of Toronto, who is retiring president of the association.

On Friday afternoon, Mrs. Charles D. Walcott, of Washington, will show some of a fine collection of lantern slides colored by herself, from photographs she has taken of wild flowers of the Canadian Rockies. Mrs. Walcott will give explanations and present observations on the habitats of the plants represented. She has spent many years in the preparation of these slides.

The second annual Sigma Xi lecture, under the joint auspices of the association and the society of Sigma Xi, will be given on Friday evening, December 28, in the auditorium of the Hughes High School, by Dr. Willis Rodney Whitney, director of the research laboratory of the General Electric Company, Schenectady. The topic of the lecture is to be "The Vacuum, There's Something in It," and it will be illustrated by experimental demonstrations of the latest developments in the field of vacuum tubes.

In celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary, the Saturday evening session is to be devoted to short addresses by a number of past presidents of the association. Dr. T. C. Mendenhall and Dr. T. C. Chamberlin are among the older past presidents who expect to be present. It is regretted that Professor Edward S. Morse, the past president of longest standing, will not be able to attend, but it is hoped that a letter from him may be read.

An important paper on the history of the association is to be read by Dr. Herman L. Fairchild, emeritus professor of geology in the University of Rochester. This will probably occur on Saturday afternoon. It is expected that Dr. Nevin M. Fenneman, professor of geology and geography in the University of Cincinnati, will deliver a lecture on the geology of the Cincinnati region, illustrated with lantern slides. This is planned for Monday evening.

A complimentary concert by the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra on Sunday afternoon will be a very attractive feature of the meeting. A general reception to those in attendance will be given by the University of Cincinnati on Thursday evening, following the opening session.

The preliminary announcement contains the usual list of hotels and their rates. The general headquarters of the association will be at the Hotel Sinton, where many of the societies also will have their headquarters. Other societies are to have headquarters at the Hotel Gibson and other hotels. Those who desire hotel accommodations for the meeting should engage them at once by writing to the hotel.

Very excellent arrangements have been made for daily luncheons, in the cafeterias of the university and of Hughes High School, in the vicinity.

Every person whose name occurs as author of a paper on the program, as the information reaches the Washington office, is being requested, by special letter, to send to Science Service, 1115 Connecticut Ave., Washington, D. C., a brief and clear abstract of his paper. These abstracts will be used by Science Service and the publicity committee for the meeting. It is hoped that all who receive these requests will respond very promptly, so that the publicity work may be largely completed in advance. In recent years the association meetings have been given increasingly satisfactory publicity service by the daily press throughout the country. Those who are to present papers are urged to help in this important aspect of the meeting by not failing to supply Science Service with suitable abstracts of their contributions. The material of any paper will not be released until the day on which the paper is to be read.

Persons attending the meeting may have mail, etc., addressed to them in care of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Registration room, Women's Building, University of Cincinnati.

The section organizations of the association, and the numerous scientific societies that are to meet with the association this year, will hold numerous sessions for the reading of papers and the delivering of addresses, by leaders and specialists in nearly all branches of science. Sixteen pages of the preliminary announcement are devoted to a summary account of these sessions. The American Mathematical Society (Chicago Section) and the Mathematical Association of America will meet with Section A. The American Physical Society and the American Meteorological Society will meet with Section B. The first joint intersectional meeting of the American Chemical Society with Section C will occur at Cincinnati. It has now been several years since the American Chemical Society has appeared in the chemical programs of the annual gatherings of the association and it is expected that the cooperation of the society will add much to the interest and value of this meeting. Astronomy will be represented by several sessions of Section D, and geology and geography will be represented by an unusually fine program of Section E, as well as by the sessions of the Association of American Geographers and the National Council of Geography Teachers. The American Society of Zoologists, the Entomological Society of America, the American Association of Economic Entomologists, and the Wilson Ornithological Club, will all hold many important sessions devoted to zoological science. Botanical sciences will be cared for by sessions of Section G and of the Botanical Society of America and the American Phytopathological Society. The American Society of Naturalists, the Ecological Society of America and the American Nature-Study Society will

hold important sessions in connection with Sections F and G. There will be sessions of Section H and an Anthropologists' dinner. There will be a session devoted to intelligence tests by Section I. Section K will present several sessions on the general topic, "Social and Economic Progress since the War." The Metric Association will hold its annual meeting and dinner. The history of science will be well represented at the seventy-fifth anniversary meeting, not only by special sessions on this subject under Section L, but also by many papers and addresses in the various sections and societies. A special program and conference on philological sciences is being arranged, also under Section L, and a session on auxiliary language is being planned. In connection with Section L the National Association of Teachers of Speech will hold its annual meeting, with some specially important features. A session will be devoted to engineering by Section M. Two sessions have been arranged on scientific questions related to medicine by Section N. Agriculture will be represented by sessions of Section O and the American Society of Agronomy, the American Society for Horticultural Science, the Potato Association of America and the Association of Official Seed Analysts. Section Q will hold several sessions on education, with important programs.

The preliminary announcement includes the usual lists of association officers, council members, committees, etc.

Business to come before the council or the executive committee at Cincinnati should be in the hands of the permanent secretary by December 20. The executive committee will hold a session on Wednesday evening and another on Thursday forenoon. The council will hold its main session on Thursday afternoon. The secretaries of the sections and the members of the executive committee are to meet and dine together Sunday evening.

The third Cincinnati meeting promises to be one of the most important meetings in the history of the association and it will surely be worthy of its special characterization as the seventy-fifth anniversary meeting. All who are interested in the progress of science and education, who are not to attend other scientific meetings occurring in convocation week this year, should not fail to come to Cincinnati.

BURTON E. LIVINGSTON,
Permanent Secretary.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE

WE learn from the London *Times* that the report of the committee appointed (under the chairmanship of Mr. Ormsby-Gore) to inquire into the activities of the Imperial Institute and the resolutions passed by

the Imperial Economic Conference on considering that report have been issued as a White Paper. After a review of the history and work of the institute the committee declare:

The founders' conception of one great Imperial organization displaying all the resources of the empire and advancing the work of empire development in scientific and industrial research and in technical and commercial education was a memorable one. At the present day, however, it seems to us that the existence of such an institution is no longer within the bounds of practical possibility. The rapid advance of the Dominions as self-governing communities within the empire, the wonderful developments in commerce and industry, the great progress in science and the ever-increasing complexity of mechanical inventions during the last generation, and the growth of numerous departments of state and of various public and semi-official institutions engaged in specialized research of one form or another have all tended to make the aims of such a central organization as the institute was originally meant to be impossible of achievement.

The committee recommended that the institute should discontinue the attempt to illustrate by means of exhibition galleries the natural resources of the empire, and that a really representative selection of empire products be made for the purpose of a traveling exhibition of a purely educational character, and that the possibility of organizing traveling exhibitions of the staple products of the colonies and protectorates in the appropriate trade centers should be considered.

The Imperial Institute should, however, continue to function at South Kensington as a clearing house of intelligence and information, equipped with laboratories to enable it to carry on only the work of preliminary analysis and investigation of raw materials. All inquiries entailing elaborate investigation or real scientific research should be referred to the competent authorities. Reliable up-to-date sample rooms, illustrative of important empire raw materials, should be maintained.

Recommendations were also made as to the future management of the institute, and the scheme was made dependent upon the support of the overseas governments being promised for a definite period. The annual cost of the institute under the committee's scheme is estimated at about £40,000 a year. The complete amalgamation of the Imperial Mineral Resources Bureau and the institute was advocated, and it was proposed that the institute should be made responsible to the Department of Overseas Trade. Failing the support of overseas governments, an alternative scheme was drawn up by which the institute could carry on the most essential feature of its present work—i.e., that of an intelligence and informa-