sult of this work are: first, that imported stains available before the war were not necessarily constant because they bore the name of the same firm; second, that there is no evidence that stains imported to-day are the same as those obtained before the war; and third, that if the quality of stains is to be kept under scientific control, there is much more promise of doing so with the cooperation of domestic concerns than through dependence upon the foreign market.

H. J. CONN, *chairman*,
Commission on Standardization of Biological Stains

GENEVA, N. Y.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

PAUL EHRLICH

A BOOK on Paul Ehrlich as a man and a worker has been published to celebrate the seventieth anniversary of his birth on March 14, 1854. *The British Medical Journal* writes:

The book reveals very clearly that Ehrlich was a true genius. He conformed to very few or no rules, and performed his experimental work with the very simplest of apparatus. His laboratory contained a large table covered with endless bottles of reagents, with a Bunsen burner and a few test tubes in one corner; this constituted practically the whole of the apparatus which he used. Ehrlich had apparently a special kind of intuition which enabled him to divine from simple experiments the most profitable lines of further research. It must not be supposed, however, that his methods in any way resembled guesswork. He read enormously and very rapidly, and possessed the power of extracting with great speed from any new book those points which were of real importance to him. It is interesting to note that he considered the acquiring of unnecessary knowledge as actually undesirable. He experimented continuously, and tested and retested every result with the most scrupulous care. "Much work, little publication, and no preliminary communications" was his motto, and he followed it exactly. For example, salvarsan was discovered in 1907, but the discovery was followed by two years of careful animal experimentation before the drug was tried on man, and, as is well known, Ehrlich first gave it out to hospitals for testing clinically under carefully controlled conditions. It is interesting to note that 65,000 samples were distributed gratis by Ehrlich in this way. It was not until 1910 that the clinical results of his work were published, and it was only after these years of trial that the drug was put on the market. The whole procedure may well serve as a model for future workers.

The discovery of salvarsan was a result of immeasurable practical importance, and it is very instructive to learn that Ehrlich insisted that the discovery came as a mere by-product of a research started with purely theoretical aims.

Many characteristic anecdotes regarding Ehrlich are told in this book. One of the most amusing is the account of how he was asked to give the Herter Lectures in America in 1904, and for many months previous to the voyage he refused to see visitors on the ground that he must prepare his lectures; Professor Reid Hunt told him one day that he was certain that the lectures would actually be written on the steamer; later, in America, Professor Reid Hunt happened to visit Ehrlich an hour before the first lecture was to be given; Ehrlich turned to him and said, "You did me a great wrong when you said that I should write my lectures on the steamer; I did not do so, I have only started to write them now."

THE AMERICAN SCHOOL OF PREHISTORIC RESEARCH

THE American School of Prehistoric Research in Europe, which is affiliated with the Archaeological Institute of America and the American Anthropological Association will begin its fourth year on July 1. Qualified students of both sexes are admitted from both North and South America; enrollment may be for the summer term or for a longer period. There is no tuition fee, but contributions to the funds of the school by those who can well afford it are welcome.

The work of the summer term consists of excavations sufficient to give the students first-hand knowledge of methods and culture sequence; the study of museum collections; lectures by the director of the school, also (at various places) by distinguished European anthropologists; and excursions to the most important Paleolithic, Neolithic, Bronze and Iron-age sites.

The tentative program is as follows:

Southern England—London; Ipswich and Grime's Graves; Avebury and Stonehenge.
France—Somme valley; Paris; Saint-Germain; Brittany.
Belgium—Liège (French Assoc. for the Adv. of Science); Brussels.
Holland—Amsterdam; Haarlem (*Pithecanthropus*); The Hague (Intern. Congr. of Americanists, 1st part).
Denmark—Copenhagen.
Sweden—Göteborg (Intern. Congr. of Americanists, 2d part); Stockholm (if time permits).
Germany—Berlin; Halle; Leipzig; Jena; Weimar; Stuttgart; Tübingen; Constance.
Switzerland—Schaffhausen; Zürich; Berne; Bienne; Neuchâtel; Geneva.
France—Lyons; Roanne; Solutré; Aurillac; Brive; Périgueux; Les Eyzies (and the stations in the Vézère valley); Charente (Angoulême and La Quina).

After consultation with the director, students may choose for the winter term the center of learning which may offer them the best facilities for the working out of the problems in which they are interested.

Applications for admission to the school should be sent to the director, Dr. George Grant MacCurdy,