

asked to arrange for exhibits to represent their various lines of work. Manufacturers and publishers are also heartily invited to exhibit their products. No charge is to be made for the entry of any exhibits, but the requisite space should be arranged for in advance and each exhibit should be placed and cared for by the exhibitor or his representative. The association will make arrangements for the necessary rooms, lighting, etc., but of course can not be responsible for the articles and materials exhibited. Arrangements for the entering of exhibits, by individual scientists and research laboratories as well as by manufacturers and publishers, are to be made by correspondence with Dr. Charles A. Shull, Department of Botany, the University of Chicago.

Many of the research laboratories of Washington are to be open for visit and inspection by those who attend the approaching Washington meeting and numerous special devices and research methods will be on exhibition in this way.

It seems clear that these American Association for the Advancement of Science exhibitions should become increasingly valuable as definite aids to the advancement of American science. Great progress has already been made, but this feature of the annual all-science meetings is worthy of much more attention than has been accorded it in the past. These meetings are unique in the fact that they offer each year the only opportunity for a large and representative gathering of all kinds of scientific workers and teachers of the sciences from all parts of the United States and Canada. Attendance at the annual gatherings in recent years has been about two thousand and it is safe to predict that a much larger number will attend the Washington meeting next December. It is specially desirable that scientific workers should be acquainted with the activities of their colleagues, not only in their own respective fields but in all fields, for we are increasingly impressed with the essential unity of science. The annual exhibitions furnish a very valuable and helpful means toward this end and a much needed adjunct to the presentation of papers before the several societies and sections.

BURTON E. LIVINGSTON,  
*Permanent Secretary*

#### MEETING OF THE AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION

THE eighty-sixth annual meeting of the American Statistical Association will be held at Chicago on December 29 and 31. The experiment tried out last year of having the several sessions of the annual meeting deal with various phases of one general subject proved so successful that it has been decided to repeat the plan at the coming annual meeting of the

association. The president, after consultation with other members of the association, has selected the topic "Population," and has developed a program on that theme. The subject is not only of great importance both theoretically and practically, but is one in which the statistician is in a strategic position to make a vital contribution to current political and economic thought. Moreover, it is a subject which bears directly upon the research activities of many of our members.

The subject of population is also arousing interest in allied scientific fields. For this reason it has been possible to arrange for joint sessions with the American Economic Association, and the American Association for Labor Legislation. With the economists we will discuss the connection between population and natural resources; with the labor legislation group the subject of population and the labor supply. In addition, we will develop independently three sessions, the first dealing with a statement of the problem and its various ramifications; the third dealing with the racial constitution of the population and the problem of immigration; and a final meeting in which we will discuss the outlook for the future, and the practical steps which should be taken in developing a rational public health, economic and social program.

As the subject is such a broad one and the time in which to cover it is so limited, the individual sessions are necessarily rather long and in some cases contain more papers than is altogether desirable. But it was necessary to arrange the program thus, in order to cover all angles of the subject and to round out every vital phase of the question. It is, therefore, impossible to appoint set persons to discuss each paper. But since many of our members are actively engaged in research work in this field, it should be possible to have a lively, even if it appear like an impromptu, discussion from the floor. There will be a reasonable length of time set aside expressly for such discussion and it is hoped that many of our members will show their interest by adding their contributions to the set papers which are scheduled.

Though the general outline of the program is fairly well settled, there is still time to make a few additions and changes and to this end suggestions and recommendations are earnestly requested. Information concerning original investigations now in process and the names of contributors who are doing valuable work on this subject should be sent to the president. Above all it is hoped that many members will attend and take an active part in the discussion. The success of the conference, as a whole, will depend upon the enthusiasm and whole-hearted support of each member.

LOUIS I. DUBLIN,  
*President*