

and (c) the botanical and genetical aspects of sterility and fertility.

*Character of the Sessions:* It seems desirable to hold a three-day conference with one day devoted to the interests of floriculture, one to the problems of fruit growing and one to the more purely scientific aspects of the subject. There will be invitation papers of the symposium type with shorter and more special contributions as offered. It is planned to have invitation papers presented by several noted horticulturists, botanists and geneticists especially from Europe.

*Time and Place:* An International Conference on Plant Sciences is to be held at Ithaca, N. Y., in 1926, which will be attended by horticulturists, geneticists, plant physiologists and others who will also be interested in the work of the Conference on Flower and Fruit Sterility. For this reason it has been decided to hold the conference in New York City during the week of August 9 to 16, 1926. This will immediately precede the Ithaca conference, whose sessions are from August 16 to 23.

Further notices regarding this conference will be made from time to time. An effort will be made to reach all who are interested in the subject. The co-operation of all who are interested is requested. The committee is now ready to receive titles of papers and an early report from those who plan to attend and particularly from those who wish to present papers is requested.

A. B. STOUT, *Secretary,*  
*Conference Committee*

598 MADISON AVENUE,  
NEW YORK CITY

#### PLANS FOR THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ENGINEERING AND INDUSTRY

FEDERAL authorities have tentatively approved the proposed location for the \$5,000,000 National Museum of Engineering and Industry, which it is planned to build within a few years in Washington, D. C. Under present plans the building, which will be five hundred feet in length and three stories in height, will be erected on land adjoining the Smithsonian Institution. The architect has just completed the preliminary drawings, which will be studied by the Fine Arts Commission. Final drawings, still to be made, must be completed before the commission gives its approval.

The museum will be the world's largest and finest, in its magnitude and completeness surpassing all Europe's industrial museums. The total floor area will be the equivalent of twenty-seven acres. This space will permit an impressive display of exhibits of engineering and the industries. Large corridors, a central rotunda, adequate administrative offices and

conference chambers and halls for the conduct of public lecture work are embraced in the plans. Provision is made as well for ample storage space, workshops and shipping rooms below the ground level.

To perpetuate the names of those whose ingenuity, initiative and perseverance have advanced the material progress of civilization, the central rotunda will be designated "The National Hall of Fame for Engineers, Inventors and Industrialists." Therein will be installed busts and memorials of the great figures of industrial and engineering history. An adjoining chamber will be known as "The Founders' Room" and contain busts, tablets or other memorials, uniform in character, of those whose foresightedness and whose contributions in time, money and effort have made possible the successful establishment and maintenance of the museum.

Under the present plan the new building will replace existing buildings now used to house industrial exhibits. The museum will receive exhibit articles from all the numerous government departments for preservation. These sources include the United States Patent Office, the Bureau of Standards, the Department of Commerce and Labor, the War and Navy Departments and other governmental agencies connected with industrial and scientific research. Private individuals, societies and corporations will be invited to submit to the institution any or all objects within their keeping that are deemed to have historic or technical interest in depicting the onward course of industrial evolution. While the plans call for the founding of a chain of sectional branch museums in industrial centers throughout the country, the central museum here is expected to shape the course of their destinies, opening up facilities and services of nation-wide scope to each. Each branch museum may obtain from the Washington institution authentic copies of all specimens preserved here.

Two of the projected sectional museums are already under way. In New York, Henry T. Towne has bequeathed \$1,000,000 toward the establishment of a "Museum of the Peaceful Arts." In Chicago, Julius Rosenwald has promised the first \$1,000,000 toward the establishment of an industrial museum to represent the interests of that territory. Each of the local institutions is expected to specialize in those industries which are of dominant importance in their respective districts.

#### STATEMENT SENT TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES BY THE ASSO- CIATION OF STATES GEOLOGISTS

At the annual meeting of the Association of American States Geologists held in Ithaca, New York, December 29 to 31, the following officers were elected