dom from engagement at this time combined with his warm friendship with Kermit Roosevelt, gained during association on the famous "River of Doubt" expedition in South America, led to his immediate selection for the present Asiatic trip. Needless to say, hundreds of volunteers from all parts of the country, trained and untrained and of both sexes, have sent in urgent pleas for employment, but none could be accepted.

The Roosevelts, themselves, will doubtless devote much of their time to big game hunting, but practically all of it will be directed to obtaining selected animals of different ages and sexes to fulfill the requirements of large habitat groups for the Museum. Among the animals to be especially sought for this purpose are Marco Polo's Sheep (*Ovis poli*) which, on account of its very long and gracefully curved horns, is generally regarded as the finest of all wild sheep; the Thian Shan Ibex (*Capra sibirica*), a magnificent species with scimitar horns averaging nearly a foot longer than those of the European Ibex, and the Markhor (*Capra falconeri*), handsomest and most prized of all wild goats. These and other rare and interesting ruminants inhabit very high and mostly very rough country at altitudes of 16,000 feet or more, where a large part of the time will be spent. In central Turkestan beyond the Himalayas, however, there is lower ground and warmer climate, and here it is hoped to hunt for long-haired tigers. Specimens of these tigers have reached one European museum and two races have been characterized indicating distinctions from the Manchurian Tiger and the southern forms. No specimens are in American museums, and the large fauna which is doubtless associated with animals of this kind is very little known.

WILFRED H. OSGOOD
FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF FORESTRY

BY agreement between the International Institute of Agriculture and the Italian government a committee has been established for organizing a world's forestry congress to take place in Rome early in May, 1926. The headquarters of this committee, which is composed as follows, are at the International Institute of Agriculture in Rome: *President,* Professor Arrigo Serpieri, director of the Royal Higher Institute of Agriculture and Forestry at Florence, member of the Italian government; *Vice-presidents,* M. Anders Fjelstad, delegate of Norway at the International Institute of Agriculture, and Dr. Alessandro Stella, director-general of Forests and State Lands at the Italian Ministry of National Economy; *Secretary,* Signor Ariberto Merendi, Chief Inspector of Forests at the Ministry of National Economy; M. Deoclecio de Campos, delegate of Brazil at the International Institute of Agriculture; Signor Gian Francesco Guerrazzi, delegate of Italian Somaliland at the Institute, and Professor Asher Hobson, delegate of the United States of America at the Institute.

The congress will bring together experts in forestry and the timber and allied industries from all parts of the world. At the same time, in conjunction with the International Fair at Milan, there will be held an important exhibition of forest products and the machinery used in their conversion, which will enable visitors to examine the different products of the wood-manufacturing industries and the wood-working machines made in the various countries. Various excursions to the more typical forest lands in Italy, and possibly in other countries, will be arranged to follow the work of the congress.

WORK OF THE NORTHEASTERN FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION

ANNOUNCEMENT is made by the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station that its work will be expanded during the coming year to include investigations of insect pests and tree diseases in cooperation with the Bureau of Entomology and the Bureau of Plant Industry. The investigations of insect pests are being financed in part by contributions from several individuals, who desire to remain anonymous, for the control of the white pine weevil. H. J. MacAloney, of the New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse University, will be in general charge of the work. The sum of $2,500 for each of the two succeeding years has been made available for the study, which will be conducted in cooperation between the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, the Bureau of Entomology, the Harvard Forest, the New York State Conservation Commission and other interested agencies. The white pine weevil, at the control of which the study is aimed, is an insect which annually causes much damage by destroying the terminal shoots of young pine trees. This results in decreased growth, and frequently in malformation of the trees attacked. The insect is distributed throughout the eastern United States and is one of the serious drawbacks to the profitable growing of white pine.

Other entomological studies which will be conducted next year at the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station include observations on the larch sawfly, which some forty or fifty years ago practically exterminated all the mature larch in the northeastern states, and which appears again to be becoming active in increasing numbers. This work will be handled by J. A. Beal, of the New York State College of For-

estry, who will also study the part played by insects in the disintegration and disappearance of logging slash and of the possible danger of breeding insects injurious to living trees in such slash. Cooperation between the Forest Experiment Station and the Maine Forest Service in studies of the spruce budworm and other destructive forest insects will be continued.

Dr. Perley Spaulding, a graduate of the University of Vermont and a member of the Office of Forest Pathology in the Bureau of Plant Industry, will be assigned to the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station for the studies of tree diseases. Dr. Spaulding's investigations will stress particularly the chestnut blight, which has destroyed immense quantities of chestnut trees in the northeastern states, and which is now present throughout practically the entire range of chestnut. His studies will be directed particularly to the location and propagation of all trees which are apparently more or less immune to or are able to recover from the effects of the blight. It is hoped that certain blight-resistant individuals may be found from which it will eventually be possible to reforest areas where the chestnut has been destroyed with trees that are able to withstand the disease. Chestnut has been so important a source of fence posts, telephone poles, railroad ties and tannin extract, as well as a general utility farm timber, that it is exceedingly important to make every effort to save it from complete extermination. Dr. Spaulding's activities will also include, so far as time permits, studies of the white pine blister rust and of the decay of logging slash of different kinds of trees and under different conditions.

SIGMA XI AND THE CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

A NOTABLE event in the history of science took place on April 2 with the installation of a Sigma Xi Chapter at the California Institute of Technology at Pasadena. The installation ceremony was conducted by the national president, Dr. F. K. Richtmyer, who came to California for this purpose. The charter membership includes forty-one members of the institute staff, twenty-three graduate students and eighteen members of the Mount Wilson Observatory staff. The following officers were elected for the new chapter:

R. A. Millikan, *President.*
A. A. Noyes, *Vice-president.*
W. N. Lacey, *Secretary.*
R. W. Sorensen, *Treasurer.*

Following the installation ceremonies a dinner was served to 250 alumni of Sigma Xi, and responses were made by J. C. Shedd, president of the Sigma Xi Alumni Association of Southern California; W. L. Hardin, past president of the Sigma Xi Alumni Association; Dr. D. C. Miller, president of the American Physical Society, and Dr. P. Debeye, of Zurich, Switzerland.

At the close of the dinner a notable address was given by Professor Richtmyer, before an appreciative audience, on the subject of "Some aspects of X-ray work." The lecture was illustrated with apparatus furnished through the courtesy of the General Electric Company.

JOHN C. SHEDD,
National Secretary, pro tem.

THIRD NATIONAL COLLOID SYMPOSIUM

THE provisional program of the Third National Colloid Symposium at the University of Minnesota, to be held on June 17, 18 and 19, is as follows. Dr. Harry N. Holmes is chairman of the symposium.

Molecular weight and solution: W. D. BANCROFT, Cornell University.

Some new aspects of the surface tension of colloidal solutions which have led to the determination of molecular dimensions: LECOMTE DU NOÜY, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

The orientation and distribution of molecules: IRVING LANGMUIR, General Electric Company.

Photographic sensitivity: S. E. SHEPPARD, Eastman Kodak Company.

Adsorption: DR. FREUNDLICH.

Catalysis by Metallized Silica Gels: L. H. RYERSON, University of Minnesota.

Colloidal water and ice: HOWARD T. BARNES, McGill University.

Colloidal chemistry of rennet coagulation: L. S. PALMER, University of Minnesota.

The viscosity of protoplasm: L. V. HEILBRUNN, University of Michigan.

Antigenic properties of bacterial toxins neutralized by surface tension depressants: W. P. LARSON, R. S. EVANS, H. O. HALVERSON, University of Minnesota Medical School.

Physico-chemical studies on blood coagulation: I. N. KUGELMASS, Yale University Medical School.

The effect of anions on the colloidal and chemical properties of aluminum hydroxide: LEWIS B. MILLER, U. S. Public Health Service.

The nature of soil colloids: PHILIP L. GILE, U. S. Bureau of Soils, Washington, D. C.

The colloid chemistry of soils: E. TRUOG, University of Wisconsin.

Soil water: F. J. ALWAY, Division of Soils, University of Minnesota.

Colloids in geology: W. J. MEAD, University of Wisconsin.

Lithopones: C. A. MANN, University of Minnesota.

The plasticity problems of rubber: W. J. KELLY, Goodyear Rubber Co.

An experimental study of emulsification on the basis