

War Department

Office of Engineers, P. B. Fleming

Ordnance, J. E. Munroe

Air Service, W. R. Davis and R. L. Walsh

Signal Office, P. S. Edwards

Chemical Warfare Service, C. R. Alley

The importance of maintaining a high morale among the scientific force and its bearing on the results achieved was emphasized. Two factors influence the morale generally—reclassification and appropriations. These factors create an uncertainty about tenure of office on the one hand and permanence of activities on the other. It was the sense of the conference that morale among the scientific personnel must be strengthened and that adequate provisions for promotion of both financial and honorary nature, as well as the stabilization of research by safeguarding it against the effects of retrenchment, would go far towards accomplishing this end. Dr. Cottrell suggested the advisability of having some agency set up as a trustee of accumulated funds. Contingent assets to the government might be used for such a cause. He then cited the patent situation as an illustration and pointed out that a simple article might be turned out which might have tremendous returns, whereas a serum of great importance to the human race would yield little financial return. He suggested that profits from the exploitation of the one might be used in the production of the other. He called attention to the fact that the proposed patent bill had a clause providing for the creation of an organization to handle profits from patents and distribute them in rewarding inventors. In other words, it is his idea that we should look forward to the time when a fund derived from revenue will go a long way towards making fundamental research self-sustaining. He was asked to put his ideas in tangible form for presentation at the next meeting of the conference.

General Smither appointed the following committee to study the manner of stabilizing the sinews of research in the government service with relation to the appropriation of money by the congress: Surgeon General H. S. Cumming, *chairman*, G. K. Burgess, F. G. Cottrell and George Otis Smith.

The matter of medical aides in the scientific units of the government service was next discussed. It was the consensus of opinion that some provision should be made for adequate medical attendance at government bureaus where work of a general hazardous nature is being conducted. Surgeon General Cumming was asked to devise some plan whereby ways and means may be found, either by legislative enactment or otherwise, to give him the authority to assign medical aides to such bureaus.

The next conference will be called in September.

THE BRUSSELS MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF RESEARCH

At the General Assembly of the International Council of Research held at Brussels, July 7 to 9, 1925, the agenda consisted principally of propositions submitted by Denmark, Holland and Switzerland to amend certain statutes of the International Research Council. The effect of the original statutes was the exclusion of the Central Powers. Article I (1) based membership in the new organizations upon the Resolution of London (Oct., 1918), namely: "Les nouvelles Associations reconnues utiles au progrès des sciences et de leurs applications seront établies, dès maintenant, par les Nations en guerre avec les Empires Centraux, avec le concours éventuel des Neutres." Article III (3) names the countries originally admitted or admissible. The proposition to let down the bars was presented on the part of Holland by Professor Lorentz.

The delegates from the United States were Vernon Kellogg, *chairman*, W. W. Campbell and Charles E. St. John, who had been instructed by the National Research Council to favor and to work openly for making its councils and unions international in fact as well as in name. The vote upon one proposition is instructive and very illuminating as it illustrates the extent to which political rather than scientific considerations controlled.

YES—10 NATIONS

	Weight
Denmark	1
Great Britain	5
Holland	2
Italy	5
Japan	5
Norway	1
South Africa	1
Sweden	2
Switzerland	1
United States	5
	<hr/> 28

NO—6 NATIONS

	Weight
France	5
Belgium	2
Czecho-Slovakia	3
Egypt	1
Morocco	1
Poland	4
	<hr/> 16

NOT PRESENT

	Weight
Australia	2
Brazil	5
Canada	2
Chili	1
Greece	1

Mexico	3
Monaco	1
Peru	1
Portugal	2
Siam	2
Uruguay	1
Yugo-Slavia	3
	24
Spain	5

NOT VOTING

It is needless to say that there was great disappointment over the outcome and that there were grave fears for the future of a scientific association international only in name.

Near the close of the last session Professor Gullstrand, president of the Royal Society of Sweden, expressed clearly his deep sense of the danger that faces the present international scientific organizations if the situation is not relieved in the very near future. Similar expressions of disappointment and apprehension were voiced by Kellogg of the United States, Knudsen of Denmark, Lyons of England, Vegard of Norway and Lorentz of Holland, expressions received with approval by the majority of nations represented.

It was the general opinion that the statutes of the International Council of Research should be amended at the earliest possible date, so that a change in the statutes would not require a two thirds majority. The absurdity of the present condition becomes apparent when it is noticed that a unanimous vote at the assembly would not have been sufficient to effect a change in the statutes.

Several procedures are open for accomplishing the ends sought. That which seemed to find favor was action by the Executive Committee in calling a special assembly at an early date or a vote by letter-ballot conducted by the executive committee at the request of one third of the weighted membership.

The other item on the agenda, the appointment of a committee for the study of the relationships between solar and terrestrial phenomena, received favorable action. The composition of the committee is S. Chapman (*chairman*), G. Abetti, C. G. Abbot, H. Deslandres, G. Ferrié, C. E. St. John, G. C. Simpson and C. Störmer.

CHARLES E. ST. JOHN

THE JOHN T. SCOPES SCHOLARSHIP FUND

THE scientists who were ready to testify in behalf of Mr. Scopes, recently convicted under the anti-evolution law of Tennessee, are sponsoring the raising of a scholarship fund which will enable Mr. Scopes to continue his scientific training as soon as possible.

It is Mr. Scopes's desire to undertake graduate work in some branch of natural science. At present,

however, he is without a teaching position or other means of obtaining the necessary money. Although he has been offered numerous lucrative lecture and stage engagements which would net him many thousands of dollars, he has refused them, wishing to avoid even the appearance of self-exploitation. Impressed with Mr. Scopes's intellectual qualities and modesty, and believing that he is entitled to some substantial recognition for the trying experiences that he has undergone in the service of science, and of liberty of thought and speech generally, the scientists who were associated with the defense have organized a committee to raise a scholarship fund of \$5,000 to enable Mr. Scopes to undertake graduate work at an institution of higher learning of his own choosing during the next few years. Dr. Maynard M. Metcalf, of Oberlin College and the Johns Hopkins University, the first scientist to testify in Mr. Scopes's behalf, has consented to act as chairman of the scholarship fund committee; Dr. Kirtley F. Mather, of the Harvard Geological Museum, Cambridge, Mass., is vice-chairman, and Watson Davis, managing editor of Science Service, Washington, D. C., will act as secretary-treasurer.

Other scientists who came to Dayton to testify for the defense include: Professor William A. Kepner, University of Virginia; Dr. Jacob G. Lipman, director Agricultural Experiment Station, New Brunswick, N. J.; Dr. Charles H. Judd, University of Chicago; Dr. Fay-Cooper Cole, University of Chicago; Wilbur A. Nelson, Tennessee state geologist; Dr. Winterton C. Curtis, University of Missouri; Dr. W. M. Goldsmith, Southwestern University; Dr. H. H. Newman, University of Chicago; Dr. Frank Thone, Science Service.

It is hoped that a sufficiently large portion of the fund can be raised within a week or two so that Mr. Scopes can make his plans to enter upon his graduate work this fall. Contributions can be sent to any member of the committee and they will be promptly acknowledged. Scientists who will act as chairmen for various regions of the country will shortly be designated and will have charge of the raising of the fund in their particular geographical location.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

CORRESPONDING members of the Royal Geographical Society of Great Britain have been elected as follows: Senor Don Luis Cubillo, director of the Geographical Institute, Madrid; The Reverend Father Josef Fischer, S.J., of Feldkirch, Austria; Mr. A. P. H. Hotz, C. B. E.; Professor Emmanuel de Martonne, professor of geography at the Sorbonne, Paris; Professor Eugenius Romer, professor of geography at the