The committee find according to a report in the London *Times* that, comparing the year 1923–24 with the year 1913–14, the number of full-time students in science at the British universities shows an increase of 60 per cent., while the number of bachelor degrees obtained in science has more than trebled. Over the same period, the number of full-time, post-graduate students engaged in scientific research has increased to more than four times the 1913–14 figure. The Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, the committee observe, have afforded great assistance to research students in training, but, except in one or two instances, the Research Associations of the department do not appear to be very extensively developed.

The funds at the disposal of the department are large, but in view of the sums annually spent on scientific research in the United States, and our general public expenditure, they can not, in the opinion of the committee, be described as adequate to the great needs of our industries. It appears from inquiries that there is considerable unemployment among recently trained scientific research workers, and that this is most serious in the case of research chemists.

The committee conclude that the value of scientific research to industry is now widely recognized; but that the part that industry itself can play in maintaining an adequate supply of research workers, and in promoting or supporting scientific research, is not so well understood. They suggest that the government could offer considerable inducement to commercial firms to support research, by permitting sums devoted to this purpose to be treated as trade expenses for the purpose of assessment for taxation. They consider it imperative that, before more men and women are encouraged to undertake scientific research training, the demand for them should first be assured. The committee do not look to the greater industrial concerns—many of which already realize to the full the value of scientific research—to provide a solution of the present difficulty, but rather to the hundreds of smaller firms whose industrial research associations, if fully developed, could utilize many more scientific research workers; to the benefit, the committee submit, not only of each particular industry, but of the industry of the country as a whole.

The committee further suggest an extension of the method adopted by the various research committees and coordinating boards of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, and by the Ministry of Agriculture and other Departments; a inquiry with a view to the establishment of an organization on the lines of the "A. D. Little" Laboratories in the United States; and also an extension of the scheme at present in operation in Bristol University, under which an industrial firm endows for two years a research student who works on a special line of investigation in the laboratories of the university.

In a memorandum appended to the report the committee strongly recommend the formation of a permanent expert advisory committee on industrial inventions, the functions of which would be (1) to examine the claims of inventions and to decide which are of probable industrial value; and (2) to arrange for the semi-large scale, or complete commercial trial, of inventions passed by the committee.

RESULTS OF THE ASIATIC EXPEDITION OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM

THE American Museum of Natural History has received cables from Roy Chapman Andrews, leader of the museum's third Asiatic expedition, now in Mongolian territory, giving details of the progress of the expedition. Dr. Clark Wissler has made public the following statement:

The results of the third Asiatic expedition prove the presence of early man in Asia and that is no mean achievement. It is certain that when the first try for paleolithic man in central Asia not only returns rich collections, but reveals two widely separated horizons, it is certain that the whole chapter of stone age history is to be read in Asia as well as Europe. This prospect holds out a promise for America, where there has been no clew to the direct relation of prehistoric man to the ancients of the old world.

Having found the implements which are associated with Neanderthal man in prehistoric Europe it can be safely predicted that sooner or later his bones will be found in Mongolia. The recent discovery of a Neanderthal skeleton in Palestine brings this type of fossil man one step nearer to Central Asia.

This discovery by the American Museum of Natural History adds another epoch to the prehistory of man in Asia. Andrews reports that a large collection has been made, sufficient fully to characterize the culture, and that it is parallel to the Azilian of Western Europe.

Azilian is the last of the old stone age cultures and marks the transition to the neolithic, or second great stone age. But the report goes further in stating that the finds promise to be somewhat older than the Azilian of Europe, which would put them back well within the old stone age.

We are also told that some sites examined yielded mouterian stone tools. This is a period in stone age chronology far back of the Azilian, in fact just before the appearance of the more modern types of man in Europe, or in the time of the Neanderthals.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

THE fifty-fourth annual meeting of the American Public Health Association will be held in St. Louis,