

sailed in 1908 for the North Pole, left Bregus, Newfoundland, on May 10, in the 100-foot schooner *Morrissey* for New York. The ship will be taken to a Staten Island shipyard to be outfitted for an expedition to Greenland in quest of specimens for the new Hall of Ocean Life in the American Museum of Natural History. Permission for the expedition to land in Greenland has been granted.

Harrison Williams is financing the trip, which will be directed by George Palmer Putnam, treasurer of the publishing house of George P. Putnam's Sons. H. C. Raven, zoologist of the American Museum, will be their representative.

Others in the party will be Knud Rasmussen, Danish explorer and authority on Eskimo habits and customs; Robert E. Peary, 18-year-old son of the discoverer of the Pole, who will go in the capacity of engineer; David Binney Putnam, 12-year-old son of the director, who accompanied Professor William Beebe on his expedition to the Sargasso Sea; Edward Manley, amateur radio operator of Marietta College, Ohio, and Carl Dunrud, who will try roping walrus. There will also be an ichthyologist, a taxidermist, an artist, a motion picture photographer, surgeon and the usual ship's crew.

The *Morrissey*, built in Canada of oak, is the usual Newfoundland schooner type. Diesel engines will be installed in her and her entire hull will be covered with two-inch greenheart sheathing as protection against ice floes. Everything is expected to be in readiness so that the expedition can leave by June 10.

A special effort will be made by members of the party to gather specimens of the narwhal. No specimen of this animal exists in any American museum at this time, it is said. They also expect to get Greenland sharks, walrus, seal and various Arctic bird groups.

The advisory committee of the expedition, in addition to Mr. Williams, includes Cleveland E. Dodge, Fitzhugh Green, Colonel E. Lester Jones, Junius S. Morgan, Henry Fairfield Osborn, Jr., George H. Sherwood and Frederic C. Walcott.

AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION

THE basis of a general international organization for industrial standardization was laid at the Third International Conference on Standardization, by unanimous agreement upon the draft of a constitution for the new international body. At this conference the national standardizing bodies in eighteen countries were officially represented, Hungary and Australia alone being without delegates.

The proposed constitution of the new organization, which is to be called the "International Stand-

ards Association," states the aims and objects of the association as follows:

To lay the groundwork for international agreement upon standards by providing simple systematic means of interchanging information on the standardization work and activities in the different countries.

To develop general guiding principles for the assistance of the national standardizing bodies.

To promote uniformity among the standards of the various national bodies.

It is the intention of the International Standards Association that its work shall include the approval of international standards and the administrative machinery herein set up is so designed that it may be readily extended or modified to include the approval of such international standards when sufficient experience has been acquired.

The members of the International Standards Association are to be the central national standardizing bodies existing in the different countries, one for each country, accepting this constitution. The chief executive body is to be the "plenary assembly," composed of delegates of all the national bodies, with the final authority resting with the latter. Provision is also made for an "administrative council," with control of finances and administrative matters, but with advisory powers in important questions.

The conference recommended that the seat of the new organization be in London, final decision to be made by the first Plenary Assembly.

The conference appointed a committee of seven to formally submit the proposed constitution to the twenty national standardizing bodies, and to arrange for a Plenary Conference for final ratification and organization. The countries represented on the committee are: Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Great Britain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States.

During the sessions of the conference, informal negotiations were opened with the International Electrotechnical Commission (an international body now functioning in the specialized field of electrical engineering) in regard to a unified organization, and the committee of seven will undertake to secure joint action in the final organization which it is expected will be consummated when the Plenary Assembly is held.

CHEMICAL WARFARE SERVICE CONSULTANTS

THE following chemists were recently appointed consultants to the United States Chemical Warfare Service:

John J. Abel, Johns Hopkins University.
Roger Adams, University of Illinois.
Gellert Alleman, Swarthmore College.