

very important part of the undertaking. Exhibits by individuals and research laboratories are being arranged, by invitation. The committee welcomes concrete suggestions as to exhibits that might be requested. No fees are to be paid on account of these invited exhibits, the expenses of the exhibition being covered by the fees from the commercial exhibits. Individuals having newly developed apparatus or methods, etc., suitable for the Philadelphia exhibition should make inquiry from the permanent secretary's office immediately; in some cases these exhibits may be placed in the main exhibition hall. If necessary, a separate room is to be arranged for an overflow.

A number of the societies associated with the association will hold small, technical exhibitions in connection with their sessions at Philadelphia, and exhibits by individuals may, in many cases, be accommodated there. The societies have been requested not to enter commercial exhibits in their society exhibitions unless the exhibitors have taken space in the great, general exhibition for all science. The local committee at Philadelphia is arranging rooms for society exhibitions as well as for sessions.

Arrangements for exhibits by commercial firms are to be made with the manager of the Philadelphia exhibition, Major H. S. Kimberly, who is to be addressed at the association office, in the Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C. Some spaces are still available.

The registration offices for the Philadelphia meeting, in charge of the executive assistant, Mr. Sam Woodley, will be located in the central portion of the large exhibition hall (Weightman Hall, Spruce and 33rd Streets). The offices will be open from 9 to 6 daily, throughout convocation week. The visible directory of those in attendance will be arranged as usual. The news offices, for releases to the daily press, in charge of the director of news, Mr. Austin H. Clark, of the National Museum, will be located in the same building, on the floor below the general exhibition.

There will be one or more evening entertainments given by the commercial exhibitors, especially a Christmas-tree affair on Tuesday evening, December 28, and a New-Year's-Eve gathering on Friday evening, December 31. The general exhibition will be a social center for the meeting. Tea will be served every afternoon.

BURTON E. LIVINGSTON,
Permanent Secretary

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN RUSSIA

PROFESSOR R. RUGGLES GATES, who has returned to London after a visit to Russia, gives, in a letter to

Nature, some interesting information as to the position of scientific work and institutions there. In the course of his letter he says that much valuable work is being done in the various plant-breeding stations which he visited. These included Tammisto, near Helsingfors, Finland, as well as Khibiny in Russian Lapland, north of the Arctic Circle, which is devoted chiefly to the production of northern vegetables and oats for fodder; Peterhof and Desto Selo, near Leningrad, where extensive genetical, biometric, cytological and physiological investigations are being carried on, especially with cereals, under the direction of Professors Philiptschenko, Vavilov and Levitsky, and Drs. Pissarev and Karpetschenko; Petrovsky-Razoumovsky, where extensive experiments, particularly with oat-breeding, are being made by Dr. Schegalov, and Saratov, where the greatest interest attaches to a series of unique wheat-rye hybrids of Professor Meister and where Dr. Plachek is improving the varieties of sunflowers, which are extensively grown as a crop in Southern Russia.

In Moscow, the Institute of Experimental Biology is one of several laboratories under the direction of Professor Koltzoff, in which a great range of genetical and cytological as well as other experimental work in animal biology is being done. The genetical section is in charge of Professor Tschetverikoff. Much eugenical work is also being done in Moscow and in Leningrad, especially in the collection of pedigrees, and a Russian *Journal of Eugenics* is edited by Professors Koltzoff, Liublinsky and Philiptschenko. The Timiriazev Institute in Moscow, under the direction of Professor Navashin, is chiefly devoted to research in plant cytology and genetics. Professor Gates also visited the Botanical Gardens in Leningrad, Tiflis and Batoum, the chief interest of the Tiflis garden being its large collection of Caucasus plants. A study was made of the tundra vegetation in the far north and the steppe region in Southern Russia and the Caucasus. While in Moscow Professor Gates was present at the opening of a small museum of Metchnikoff relics in the Institute of Experimental Pathology. Madame Metchnikoff came from Paris for the occasion.

PAUL KAMMERER'S LETTER TO THE MOSCOW ACADEMY

THE following letter was sent to the officials of the Moscow Academy of Science by Dr. Paul Kammerer, professor of biology in Moscow University, a few days before his death.

Vienna, September 22, 1926.

To the Presidium of the Communist Academy, Moscow.
Respected Comrades and Colleagues:

Presumably you all know about the attack upon me