Northern Ireland. The Dominions and India are sending thirty delegates, and representatives of the Colonies and Protectorates will attend from Barbados, British Guiana, Ceylon, Cyprus, Gold Coast, Kenya, Leeward Islands, Malaya, Mauritius, Nigeria, Nyasaland, Palestine, Sierra Leone, Tanganyika, Trinidad, Grenada and Windward Isles, Uganda, Zanzibar and Sudan.

Lord Bledisloe, the parliamentary secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture, is the chairman of the organizing committee, and the members of the conference, in addition to various representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Colonial Office and the Board of Education, include the High Commissioners for the Dominions, representatives of the Empire Marketing Board, the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, the Medical Research Council, the Bureaus of Entomology and Mycology, the Overseas Settlement Department, the University Grants Committee, the Department of Overseas Trade and the Forestry Commission.

The importance and value of such a conference was first urged by the Agricultural Research Council several years ago, and since then the matter has been discussed by the Imperial Conference and the Colonial Office Conference. Recently Lord Lovat's Committee on Agricultural and Research Administration in the non-self-governing Colonies put forward recommendations for closer cooperation on these matters. The conference will be held in the Grand Committee Room of the Houses of Parliament, and will be opened on October 4 by the Minister of Agriculture. In the evening the delegates will be the guests of the government at a dinner in the Royal Gallery, House of Lords. Till October 7 the full conference will discuss the agenda of administrative questions, and the organizing committee anticipate that this will lead to the appointment of commissions to examine in detail and prepare reports and recommendations on the question of the extension of the system of imperial bureaus from entomology and mycology to other departments of agricultural science. It is probable that recommendations will be put forward for the setting up of empire bureaus in veterinary science and for investigating soil problems and plant breeding, and also for a bureau on agricultural economics. The desire of the Australian Government to set up a research institute at Queensland on subtropical agriculture will also come before the conference. Specialist commissions are to be set up to bring together the delegates interested in a special subject of research and to assist in the formulation of schemes of combined research work. The full sessions of the conference will be resumed on October 24 and continue for four days. During the intervening period part of a program of visits to research centers will be carried out.

The University of London will hold a reception at the Imperial Institute, and the delegates during their stay in London will have the opportunity of viewing at the Science Museum a special exhibition illustrating the history of agricultural implements and of inspecting at the British Museum manuscripts and books dealing with agricultural science. Arrangements are being made at both museums for lectures on such subjects and special pamphlets will also be provided for the use of the delegates. On October 14 the Vice-chancellor of Cambridge University will give a luncheon to the delegates, and after inspecting the various departments of scientific research the party will leave for Edinburgh on October 18. The headquarters of the conference will remain in Edinburgh until October 22. Afterwards delegates will have the opportunity of visiting Aberdeen to inspect the work of the Rowett Institute in relation to animal nutrition and visiting Belfast, where they will be entertained by the Government of Northern Ireland and shown the plant breeding, poultry and animal diseases research stations.

The reports of the various commissions appointed will be considered by the full conference in London between October 24 and 27. On October 29, the party will visit the Rothamsted Experimental Station, on October 31 the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, on November 1 the East Malling Research Station, and on November 2 Oxford University, including the Institutes of Agricultural Economics Research, Agricultural Engineering and Imperial Forestry.

THE BIOCHEMICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL, LONDON

THE Middlesex Hospital, already distinguished by the Bland-Sutton Pathological Institute, has now, according to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association, the further distinction of an institute of biochemistry, thanks to the gift of $200,000 by Mr. S. A. Courtauld. At the opening ceremony, Mr. A. E. Webb-Johnson, honorary treasurer of the medical school, recalled that it was only a few years since Mr. Courtauld gave $100,000 to endow the chair of anatomy, "one of the fundamental medical sciences." The foundations of scientific work in the Middlesex Hospital Medical School were laid by Sir John Bland-Sutton before the war, by his gift of the pathologic institute bearing his name. "Dictionaries printed before the year 1900 contain no such word as biochemistry, but the name is now familiar, and though new the science is old," said Sir John Bland-Sutton, in an address on "Biochemistry in Relation to Medicine," a science concerned with the application of the princi-

ples of chemistry and physiology to the investigation and interpretation of the phenomena of life. He referred to the fact that the kingdoms of nature had been arranged in three classes: mineral, plants and animals. The microscope revealed myriads of minute living things concerning which biologists were puzzled to decide whether they were plants or animals. Such discoveries bridged the gap between the two, and it was now the ambition of biochemists to discover the connecting link between stones and plants, in order to find out how life arose from inorganic matter. He had always maintained that laboratories for investigating disease should be in close association with hospitals. The future of medicine does not lie in prescribing drugs, he declared. The day may come when, some of us believe, the biochemical laboratory may displace the dispensary. Lavoisier, the founder of biochemistry, had his head lopped off in 1794, continued Sir John, by the "apostles of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity," on the excuse that the republic had no need for scientists. Mr. Courtauld had no fear that such a fate awaited him. The wisdom shown in building the laboratory indicated his appreciation of the great part science played in practical medicine. "We may be hopeful," he concluded, "that a discovery will one day be made within the walls of this laboratory which will make the world gape with astonishment." The institute will be a five-floor building, the four upper ones having laboratories for the study of the various branches of biochemistry, all equipped with the latest appliances.

THE JOURNAL OF PALEONTOLOGY

NUMBERS one and two of a new quarterly known as the *Journal of Paleontology* appeared in July and August, respectively. Numbers three and four are expected to appear in October and December. In future years the numbers will appear at three-month intervals.

The *Journal of Paleontology* is the official publication of the Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists.

The Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists is an organization whose object, as stated in Article II of its constitution, is "to promote the science of stratigraphy through research in paleontology and sedimentary petrography, especially as they relate to petroleum geology," and whose membership is composed of members or associate members of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists engaged in such work.

The Journal of Paleontology will be devoted to research in paleontology and sedimentary petrography. The paleontological papers will include those pertaining to faunal distribution, stratigraphic index species, descriptions of individual faunas, relation of zones to habitats, etc. Sedimentary petrographical papers will pertain to mineral zones, stratigraphic distribution, provinces of sedimentation, etc. Papers will also be included which pertain to technique bearing on researches in paleontology and sedimentary petrography. In fact, those papers will be included which will in any manner be helpful to those engaged in stratigraphic studies carried on either in the laboratory or in the field.

The Journal of Paleontology is a quarterly publication, and will be of approximately 96 pages and 15–20 plates. It is 6¾ x 9½ inches in size.

Dr. Joseph A. Cushman is editor. He is one of America's most active micro-paleontologists. He has been engaged in research for many years, and is now one of the world's foremost authorities on the foraminifera. He will have associated with him an editorial board to assist in matters not in his particular field.

MARCUS A. HANNA,
Secretary-Treasurer.
SOCIETY OF ECONOMIC PALEONTOLOGISTS AND MINERALOGISTS,
HOUSTON, TEXAS

THE RAWSON-MACMILLAN ARCTIC EXPEDITION OF FIELD MUSEUM

WILLIAM DUNCAN STRONG, anthropologist of the expedition and a member of the staff at Field Museum of Natural History, in a report made public by the director of the museum, tells how the explorers have come upon the ruins of the house, the mining pits and the improvised shipyard of Sir Martin Frobisher, who, between 1576 and 1578, led three expeditions, two for gold, into the forbidding regions of Labrador and Baffin Land. Digging in the ruins, Dr. Strong has unearthed fragments of brick, plaster, coal and porcelain, products which he states undoubtedly were brought over from England, and are indisputable proof that the ruins are of European, and not native Eskimo, habitations.

The story of Frobisher, recalled by the museum expedition's findings, is one of the most romantic in the history of quests for riches in far parts of the earth. Frobisher, with the financial assistance of a few friends, sailed from England in July, 1576, in search of a northwest passage to Cathay and India. He had two tiny vessels, *The Gabriel* and *The Michael*, and thirty-five men. Arriving in Labrador, they proceeded up the coast to what is now Frobisher Bay in Baffin Land. Five of the men were captured by natives and never seen again. Failing to find the passage they sought, the expedition returned to England, bringing some specimens of what the sailors called