

Since last September this committee has been actively engaged in the preliminary work of the organization of the union, with the financial and moral aid and support of the National Research Council and the Social Science Research Council, acting in cooperation. A provisional draft of the statutes of the union is now in process of revision. The general plan of organization proposed is closely similar to that of other existing International Unions in the pure and applied sciences, with such differences only as are necessitated by the manifold and wide-ranging character of population problems. The basis of the union will lie in national committees in the various adhering countries, these underlying national organizations being composed of scientific men interested and active in research regarding various aspects of population. Such national committees have already been formed for Great Britain, France, Italy and the United States, and are in process of organization at the present time in a number of other countries. In the case of the United States committees on population have been appointed by the National Research Council and the Social Science Research Council, respectively, which bodies, acting conjointly, will be the official adherents to the union for this country.

The provisional committee will meet in Paris on July 2, 1928, for the purpose of finally completing the preliminary organization of the union, the first General Assembly of which will take place in Paris on July 4-6, 1928. According to the plan of organization provided for in the statutes, membership in the general assembly of the union will be restricted to delegates officially elected by the national committee of the adhering countries. In addition to the members a limited number of persons may be invited by the general assembly itself to attend its sessions.

The objects of the International Union will be purely scientific. Propaganda of any sort, for any purposes whatsoever, will have no place in its activities.

The purpose of the union will be to develop scientific studies pertaining to the problems of population, and particularly:

- (a) To initiate and organize researches which depend upon international cooperation, and to provide for their scientific discussion and publication.
- (b) To facilitate the establishment of common standards for the collection, tabulation and analysis of data regarding human populations, including economic, sociologic, demographic, agricultural and biologic data.
- (c) To serve as a clearing house for the interchange and dissemination of information about population, especially for the purpose of facilitating research.
- (d) To cooperate to the fullest extent with other scientific bodies having similar objects.

RAYMOND PEARL,

Chairman of the Provisional Committee

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES IN 1928

THE Institute of International Education of New York has issued a list of international conferences to be held during the present year. These include the following in the fields of science:

- April 9-11, Fifth International Congress of Refrigeration, Rome.
- May 26-29, Sixth International Congress of Doctors, Naturalists and Engineers, Prague.
- June 3-9, One Hundredth Anniversary of Institution of Civil Engineers, London.
- June 21-24, International Congress of Geologists, Copenhagen.
- June 26-July 14, World's Dairy Congress, London. The program includes papers on all phases of milk industry.
- July 5, Meeting of the International Astronomical Union, Leyden, representing twenty-three countries.
- July 14-23, International Geographical Congress. Meets in London and Cambridge. In addition to the general meetings there will be meetings of six sections.
- July 23-27, International Congress of Radiology, Stockholm.
- July 23-28, Thirty-second session of the Congress of Alienists and Neurologists of the French-speaking world, Antwerp.
- July,* International Convention on Cancer Research, London. Persons and organizations conducting research on cancer are invited to attend.
- Summer,* International Health Congress, Havre and Paris. To consider the extermination of rats.
- September 3-10, International Congress of Mathematicians, Bologna.
- September 4-October 6, World's Power (Fuel) Congress, London. The technical program will be divided as follows: Composition and Classification of Fuels; Preparation of Fuels; Storage, Handling and Transmission of Fuels, and Utilization of Fuels.
- September 10-14, International Psychotechnical Congress, Utrecht.
- September 25-27, International Union against Tuberculosis, Rome.
- September 28, International Congress on Iron and Steel, Bilbao.
- September,* International Congress of Doctors, Budapest.
- October 7-28, International Conference on Aerial Navigation, Berlin.
- October,* International Technical Congress, Tokyo.
- October,* International Congress of Microbiology, Paris.
- November 19-24, Second International Conference on Bituminous Coal, Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh.

November,* Second International Conference for the Protection of Plants, Rome.

November,* Ninth general meeting of the International Agricultural Institute, Rome.

December 15-22, International Congress of Tropical Medicine, Cairo.

FORESTRY ADVANCES IN THE UNITED STATES

THE official *Record* of the U. S. Department of Agriculture lists the more important advances in forest conservation which have been made in various states. Last year three states—Florida, South Carolina and Delaware—passed laws for the establishment of state forestry departments and the appointment of state foresters. Similar legislation was again proposed in Arkansas but failed. California created a department of natural resources under the general supervision of a director, with a division of forestry administered by the state forester and guided as to policies by a state board of forestry, the new department taking over all the powers and duties of the former state forester. Rhode Island made an important change in its forestry organization by putting it under the department of agriculture. North Carolina increased the membership of its state board of conservation and development. Louisiana provided for an additional member of its forestry board. Ohio passed legislation authorizing the board of control of the Ohio experiment station to acquire tracts suitable for research and demonstration in practical forestry. Maine provided for the establishment of town forests, and Wisconsin made similar provision for county forests. In Washington the State has been given authority to accept from counties tax lands suitable for State forests. Michigan provided for the retention of such lands by the state, and Minnesota set aside as state forests all state lands within the boundaries of the Minnesota National Forest. Pennsylvania appropriated \$450,000 toward the acquisition of about 7,200 acres of private land in order to preserve some of the original forests of the state, and for other forests and tracts subject to the contribution of not less than \$200,000 of private funds for the same purposes. Maryland authorized the formation of auxiliary state forests through agreement with private land-owners.

DR. B. L. HARTWELL AND THE RHODE ISLAND AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

THE New England section of the American Society of Agronomy has passed the following resolutions concerning Dr. B. L. Hartwell:

* The information in the possession of the Institute does not give the exact date.

WHEREAS, Dr. B. L. Hartwell, during his many years of service at the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station, has made many notable contributions to agricultural science, winning for himself and the Rhode Island station a national and international reputation; and

WHEREAS, The success of the investigations at the Rhode Island station in Dr. Hartwell's special field is largely the result of carefully planned and fostered cooperation of the station agronomists, chemists and plant physiologists; and

WHEREAS, The Rhode Island station experiments and researches respecting soil acidity, availability of phosphates, toxicity of aluminum, effect of one crop on another, crop response to fertilizer elements, manure substitutes for vegetable gardens, etc., have yielded results of incalculable value to agronomical science and practice; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hartwell has taken an active part in the proceedings of the New England section of the American Society of Agronomy, working always for the best interest of New England agriculture through the promotion of agronomical science; has been known for his integrity, staunchness and untiring zeal; has been one whose counsel has been often sought and always esteemed by his fellow agronomists; and

WHEREAS, The New England agronomists feel that on account of Dr. Hartwell's long contact and detailed familiarity with the Rhode Island field experiments, into which he has put the best part of his life, his dismissal will cause agronomic science and New England agriculture to suffer a great loss and thereby affect the welfare of the people of New England; and

WHEREAS, The New England agronomists view with alarm any changes that would jeopardize the work, and with disfavor the summary dismissal of a scientist of Dr. Hartwell's record, character and ability, without a careful consideration of all the elements involved in the case; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the New England Section of the American Society of Agronomy earnestly requests a thorough investigation of the whole affair by some unprejudiced agency of Rhode Island, that the facts ascertained be made public, and that the board of managers of the experiment station keep an open mind for a reconsideration of its action in the light of the facts. Be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to Providence papers, the board of managers of the Rhode Island State College and to all other organizations or persons interested.

By A. B. BEAUMONT,
Chmn. New Eng. Sec. A. S. A.
FORD S. PRINCE,
Sec'y New Eng. Sec. A. S. A.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. WILLIAM H. WRIGHT, astronomer of the Lick Observatory, has been awarded the Henry Draper medal of the National Academy of Sciences.