

Sir Cooper Perry were among those created doctors of medicine.

At the final meeting it was decided that the next congress should be held in Holland in 1931, and it was unanimously resolved:

(1) That in view of the importance of anthropometric and morphological studies, not only to the classification of human races, but also to the ethnological aptitude of individuals, faculties and schools of medicine in tropical countries should specially study this question:

(2) That in view of the fact that leprosy is a disease menacing humanity, the governments of all nations represented in the congress should be invited to cooperate in systematic fashion to combat leprosy on the lines of discovering persons suffering from the disease, of organizing intensive ambulation treatment for early cases not discharging any organisms, of isolating comfortably lepers in an infectious stage, and of periodically inspecting their relatives.

The scientific side of the congress is said to have been most successful. Apart from communications on such subjects as Egyptian splenomegaly, the prophylaxis of bilharziosis, of dysentery, of malaria and of trachoma, several cinema films dealing with tropical diseases were shown, some of great scientific value, particularly one dealing with the action of cells in the destruction of bacteria and another with the life history of bilharzia.

THE ENGINEERS MEMORIAL AT LOUVAIN

At a dinner of fifty covers at the University Club, New York, January 7, Prince Albert de Ligne, ambassador of Belgium to the United States, bestowed upon Chairman Edward Dean Adams, of the Committee on War Memorial of the American Engineers, the insignia of Commander of the Order of the Crown of Belgium, conferred by King Albert, as a mark of appreciation for the memorial carillon and clock placed by sixteen national American Engineering Societies in the tower of the new Louvain Library. This is the highest distinction conferred upon civilians of other countries by the government of Belgium. The Belgian Consul-General at New York, J. T. Johnston Mali, was among the guests. President R. V. Wright, of the United Engineering Societies, presided. The company included officers of the national engineering societies and other distinguished members of the engineering profession.

Mr. William H. Onken, member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and one of its delegates to the Louvain dedication last July, senior editor of *The Electrical World*, in the principal address after dinner, expressed the international significance of the American memorial, and its effect upon the

citizens of Louvain. He also spoke of the notable contributions to human progress made by the Belgians and their fine personal qualities.

The ambassador expressed the deep appreciation of the King and the people of Belgium for the goodwill displayed by the engineering societies of the United States in placing in Louvain the memorial to the engineers of the United States who had given their lives in the Great War, and particularly for the leadership and generosity of Chairman Adams.

Chairman Adams accepted the distinction as an assurance of the friendliness between the two countries, and proposed that the tower of the Louvain Library housing the memorial carillon and clock be named "Liberty Tower."

Mr. Henry W. Farnam, Jr., and Colonel Arthur S. Dwight showed motion pictures of the dedication of the Louvain Library last fourth of July, which they had taken during the ceremonies. A short report was presented by the Committee on War Memorial.

STORM DAMAGE TO THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS IN THE WEST INDIES AND FLORIDA

THE tropical storm which swept the West Indies and Florida from September 10 to 17 caused, as we learn from *The Experiment Station Record*, much damage to both the Porto Rico and Virgin Islands Experiment Stations. No lives were lost, and none of the station employees or their families were injured, but the damage to crops, experimental orchards, buildings and fences was very severe.

The storm struck the island of St. Croix during the night and early morning of September 12 and was accompanied with heavy rain that continued for three days. There was general damage all over the island, but fortunately comparatively few lives were lost. At the station a number of buildings, mostly residences of the employees, were partly unroofed, but little damage was done to the office and laboratory building. The plant house, poultry house, implement shed and fumigating house were destroyed completely, as was a large galvanized iron shed used as a catchment area for the water system. The damage done to the buildings and fences is estimated at about \$5,000.

In Porto Rico the hurricane swept the island on September 14, doing enormous damage to buildings, crops and trees. There was a large loss of life, more than 1,000 fatalities being reported. The damage to the island is estimated at from \$60,000,000 to \$100,000,000. The citrus and coffee crops, both of which were very promising, were almost totally lost and the plantings so severely damaged that four or five years will elapse before conditions are again normal.

At the station, which is located at Mayaguez, a por-

tion of the island where the storm was somewhat less severe than in other parts, the damage to the property was still very great. A number of the buildings were unroofed, and some of the laborers' houses were so badly wrecked that they will have to be rebuilt. The office and laboratory building was not damaged to any considerable extent. The heavy rain accompanying and following the storm caused considerable injury to the contents of the unroofed buildings. Several of the smaller station buildings were utterly demolished, and the loss to the station property is estimated at \$10,000. The experimental crops and orchards of tropical fruits, forestry plantings, etc., were destroyed to a large extent, necessitating beginning them anew.

At both stations temporary repairs have been effected, and work is proceeding, although it will be some time before some projects can be resumed.

The principal damage to the station property in Florida was at the Everglades Experiment Station, situated near Belle Glade. Here, likewise, there was no loss of life, but the damage to buildings and equipment is estimated at nearly \$35,000, irrespective of breaks in the levees. On September 16 and 17 the station lands were flooded by water from Lake Okechobee to a maximum depth of about 43 inches, destroying all field plats, a citrus planting, all meteorological instruments, many supplies, etc. Many of the buildings were unroofed, twisted and moved from their foundations, and several were demolished completely. Among these was the greenhouse, aside from the service room which is practically intact. There was also extensive damage to books and laboratory equipment. Although the flood waters receded very slowly, salvage work was taken up promptly, and it is expected that the operation of the station will be continued.

THE PROGRAM OF RESEARCH OF THE CORN-BORER CONFERENCE

A COMPLETE program of research for controlling the European corn borer was presented and adopted at the third annual conference of corn-borer interests in Washington, D. C., on January 2. More than seventy representatives from the corn-borer infested states and the corn belt, including entomologists, administrative officials and others interested in the problem, attended the meeting.

Dr. A. F. Woods, director of scientific work, U. S. Department of Agriculture, as chairman of the conference, opened the day's session by a brief address in which he urged a free discussion of the many angles of the problem and explained the purpose of the conference was to provide for a complete co-ordination of the various research projects throughout the affected States and Canada.

The program as adopted for 1929 includes definite research work by six bureaus of the U. S. Department of Agriculture—Entomology, Plant Industry, Chemistry and Soils, Public Roads, Animal Industry and Agricultural Economics. Seven states—Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania and New York—also will carry on research and educational work in the numerous phases of the borer problem.

Among the thousands of major and minor lines of investigation all of which have an important bearing on the final solution of the problem will be studies by these federal bureaus and states on feeding and otherwise using cornstalks, breeding experiments to produce strains that may prove tolerant to the borer, studies of fertility treatments to hasten development of the corn plant so as to miss the maximum moth flight, and studies on the possibility of displacing the corn plant with other crops of equal value.

Investigations with insecticides, repellants and attractants will be conducted. The important projects now under way to introduce and establish parasites of the borer from foreign countries will be continued. Studies of the life habits of the pest will be carried on to furnish information necessary for a practical program in combating spread and control of the borer.

Effort will be continued to determine the value of fall and spring plowing in different types of soil, with different widths and types of plow bottoms, on different dates, and at various depths.

In fact, no line of investigation that promises to furnish useful information on the borer problem has been omitted from the 1929 program. A new committee representing the American Society of Animal Production reported at the conference and pointed out that 80 per cent. of the corn produced is fed to livestock. Therefore, the committee stated, any menace to the corn crop is of vital interest to the animal husbandman. In this connection the 1929 program includes studies on the use of other feeds and pastures in greater quantities to meet a possible shortage of corn.

PROGRAM OF THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

DR. FRANCIS X. DERECUM, president of the American Philosophical Society, has appointed a committee of forty-two members whose objectives are an "intellectual stock-taking" in order to plan a program of development for the society. In his letter to members Dr. Dereum writes:

The American Philosophical Society, having crossed the threshold of its third century, enters upon the New Year