

THE PAN-AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY

ACCORDING to a report in *The Christian Science Monitor*, the election of officers and the selection of Rio de Janeiro as the seat for the second general assembly of the Pan-American Institute of Geography and History formed the principal closing chapter of the institute at the adjourning session of the first general assembly of the institute.

With Mexico as the home seat of the institute, Dr. William Bowie, representative of the National Geographic Society and one of the American representatives at the local meetings, and Jose Toribio Medina, of Chile, were selected as honorary presidents. Salvador Massip, of Cuba, was selected as active president.

Members of the executive committee elected were Scipion Llona, of Peru; Dr. James Alexander Robertson, research professor of American history at the John B. Stetson University, and Rafael Helidoro Valle, of El Salvador. Pedro C. Sanchez, of Mexico, under whose chairmanship the Mexico City meetings have been held, was elected director-general, to be assisted in directing the work of the institute by Octavio Bustamante, also of Mexico, as vice-director general.

Other officers were selected from representatives of most of the Latin-American countries participating in the work of international advancement of natural science the institute aims to promote. The next meeting will be in three years at the Brazilian capital.

One of the last motions presented and passed unanimously was a vote of appreciation expressed to Mexico for the assistance rendered and the courtesies extended the delegates. A motion was adopted that a study be made of the possibility that Spain be allowed to participate in the future work of the institute, even though it is of Pan-American character.

Immediately following the adjournment, the delegates were received by President Emilio Portes Gil, who expressed his appreciation at the selection of Mexico as the permanent seat of the institute which will work for a better understanding between the peoples of the Western Hemisphere. It is understood to be the opinion of the United States delegation that a wise move has been made in the selection of a city other than Washington as headquarters for the institute in order that good-will and friendship may be promoted directly among the Latin-American countries and between them and the United States.

THE IRON ALLOYS COMMITTEE OF THE ENGINEERING FOUNDATION

DR. GEORGE B. WATERHOUSE, professor of metallurgy in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology,

will head the iron alloys committee of the Engineering Foundation, according to an announcement made by H. Hobart Porter, chairman of the foundation, at a dinner at the University Club, New York, on September 25.

With the cooperation of industries, engineering societies, universities and the U. S. government, the committee will inaugurate a program of cooperative research called vital to the progress of the American iron and steel industry, whose future, it was stated, will be greatly affected by its ability to maintain a strong position in alloy irons and alloy steels. The research, the initial stage of which will require five years and which will cost \$150,000, will, it is planned, be developed as an international enterprise, coordinating researches in ferrous metallurgy, the most important of which, according to engineers, are going on in America, England and Germany.

Other members of the committee, who will at once begin a critical review of all available literature in English and other languages, resulting in a series of monographs and manuals, were named as follows: Dr. George K. Burgess, director of the U. S. Bureau of Standards; Louis Jordan, of the bureau, alternate; Scott Turner, director of the U. S. Bureau of Mines; Dr. Charles H. Hertzy, Jr., alternate; R. E. Kennedy, technical secretary of the American Foundrymen's Association; Dr. H. W. Gillett, director of the Battelle Memorial Institute; Dr. Bradley Stoughton, director of the department of metallurgical engineering of Lehigh University; Jerome Strauss, chief research engineer of the Vanadium Corporation of America; T. H. Wickenden, metallurgical engineer of the International Nickel Company, and Dr. John A. Mathews, vice-president of the Crucible Steel Company of America.

The Iron Alloys Committee, said Mr. Porter, who is president of the American Water Works and Electric Company, will work in cooperation with the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, the American Iron and Steel Institute, the Society of Automotive Engineers, the American Society for Steel Treating, the American Society for Testing Materials, the U. S. Bureau of Standards, the U. S. Bureau of Mines, numerous corporations in the metallurgical industries and several universities. There are encouraging indications, he added, that foreign cooperation also may be arranged.

PRINCETON DOCTORATES OF SCIENCE

ON the occasion of the dedication of the new chemical laboratory at Princeton University, on September