vital statistics and epidemiology; (4) biochemistry and nutrition; (5) malariology and rural hygiene; and (6) maternity and child welfare and school hygiene.

Each section will be staffed by a professor, an assistant professor, and laboratory or other assistants. As the chief object of the institute is to bridge over the gulf between the results achieved by pure research and their practical application to the community, its function will be primarily instruction. The subjects for the D. P. H., Part I, will continue to be taught at the Tropical School, but the specialized subjects in public health will be taken by the staff of the institute. The examination for the D.P.H. is conducted by the University of Calcutta, with which the new institute will be affiliated in due course. It is also intended to provide short post-graduate instruction in special subjects for public health workers desiring to pursue advanced study, and it is probable that the university will institute a higher degree or doctorate in public health science, which will require a year's training at the institute in some specialized branch. Special courses in child welfare and public-health nursing may be arranged for women graduates and nurses, respectively. The institute will be coordinated with the various aspects of practical hygiene and public health all over India.

FIELD EXPEDITIONS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

ACCORDING to a press release from the Smithsonian Institution field expeditions during 1930 touched upon every continent and many islands of the sea, besides visiting 23 states of the United States, according to its annual illustrated pamphlet, "Explorations and Field-work of the Smithsonian Institution in 1930," just issued. The subjects of investigation by these expeditions were as varied as the localities visited; they included the radiation of the sun, microfossils—those minute organisms of great value in determining oil zones in the earth's crust, the ancient Eskimo culture of Alaska, Indian music, the animals and plants of the interior of China, the birds of Spain, fossil horses in Idaho, silver minerals in Canada, the plants of South Africa and many other subjects. From all these expeditions, large collections have come in to the U. S. National Museum for study and in some instances for exhibition to the public.

Dr. Aleš Hrdlička devoted the summer months of 1930 to a study of the ancient and modern Eskimo population along the Kuskokwim River, the second largest in Alaska. This area has never before been visited by a physical anthropologist, and Dr. Hrdlička's work led to valuable conclusions.

In continuation of his "fossil horse round-up" in Idaho, Dr. J. W. Gidley spent the field season in working the fossil bone deposit near Hagerman, Idaho. The deposit was probably at the time it was formed a watering place for the wild animals of the region, for it contains the bones of hundreds of animals, mostly belonging to an extinct species of horse. This deposit is considered one of the important paleontological discoveries of recent years, for it contains abundant remains of the rare extinct horse, *Plesippus,* an animal intermediate between the present-day horse and the three-toed horse of more ancient time. Sufficient material was collected to restore three or four complete skeletons.

Lieutenant Henry C. Kellers, U.S.N., was detailed to act as Smithsonian representative on the U. S. Naval Observatory Eclipse Expedition to Niuafou Island of the Tonga Archipelago, in the South Seas. This island is commonly known as "Tin-can Island," for so rocky and precipitous is the shore that mail can only be delivered from the mail steamer by enclosing it in a sealed can and throwing the can overboard, where it is picked up by native swimmers and towed to shore. Dr. Kellers, with the aid of the natives, succeeded in collecting many of the unusual life forms of the island, over 7,000 specimens being sent back to the National Museum.

Twenty-nine separate expeditions of 1930 are described in the Smithsonian's publication. All are described in the words of the field-workers themselves and all are illustrated by photographs taken in the field.

MEETING OF THE NATIONAL ADVISORY HEALTH COUNCIL

THE field and laboratory investigations being conducted by the U. S. Public Health Service were surveyed, according to the New York *Herald-Tribune,* on April 10, and generally approved by the National Advisory Health Council, a body consisting of internationally known authorities in various fields of scientific endeavor related to the work of the Public Health Service established recently under an act passed a year ago. It organized in executive session on April 9 and had its first meeting with members of the government staff.

Carrying out its function of talking over the research problems of government investigators and advising them, the members of the council heard members of the field force of the health service and of the staff of its national institute of health. The council replaces on an extended scale the old advisory board, which performed similar functions for the hygienic laboratory before it was made the nucleus of the national institute.

Its members include Drs. William H. Welch, of the Johns Hopkins University; Haven Emerson, of Columbia; C. E. A. Winslow, of Yale; M. P. Ravenel,