any length. *Ars Medici,* the official monthly bulletin of the American Medical Association of Vienna, contains reviews and abstracts of the latest publications in foreign medical literature, special departments being devoted to German and Austrian medical research; a special section deals with the scientific and social activities in Vienna. Inquiries may be addressed to the secretary of the American Medical Association of Vienna at its headquarters, Alserstrasse 9, Vienna VIII.

THE London *Times* reports that at a general meeting of the British Society for the Preservation of the Fauna of the Empire, held on August 3 at the offices of the Zoological Society of London, with Mr. Speden Lewis presiding, the report of the executive committee was presented. It stated that since the last general meeting efforts had been begun to investigate conditions in Labrador, to ascertain whether one or more areas could be set aside as sanctuaries. The question of dispatching a mission of inquiry to West Africa had been proceeded with. The most suitable time for the dispatch of the mission would be about the end of November. For reasons of economy the Game Department of Nyasaland had been abolished. This was disappointing, for its constitution was in a great measure due to the representations of the society, and owing to the excellent warden appointed it had been a great success. Representations were being made in the proper quarter. They were also being made about the Indian rhinoceros, as information had been received that poaching in Assam had been intensified of late, and there was little doubt that unless it could be checked the vanishing point would soon be reached.

A RECENT survey by the Pennsylvania Forest Research Institute shows that the American chestnut, which seemed marked for destruction by a fungus blight which killed nearly every adult tree in the Eastern States some years ago, is recovering from the devastating attack of disease. New shoots from the roots of the trees that were killed by the fungus have been growing rapidly with every evidence of health and strength and the Pennsylvania Institute reports that a fairly good sized crop of chestnuts may be gathered this year from the young trees. The blight from which chestnut trees in the eastern United States have been suffering began in 1904, when it was first discovered in a park in Brooklyn. It rapidly spread until all the states from Maine to West Virginia were affected in varying degrees. In parts of the country practically all the native chestnut trees were destroyed.

AT the recent international jubilee meeting in London of the Society of Chemical Industry a plan was arranged for the cooperation between manufacturers of Great Britain, France and Germany. French and German scientists and industrialists visited the exhibition of British Chemical Plant, and it has been provisionally agreed that future exhibitions of this nature in the three countries shall be organized and advertised in close collaboration. Each country will take its turn triennially. France will hold her next exhibition in 1932, Germany will follow with "Achema" in 1933, and the exhibition will again be held in Great Britain in 1934. The representative organization in each country dealing with the manufacture of chemical plant will be responsible for organizing parties to visit the exhibitions held in the other countries.

DISCUSSION

THE SUMMER MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE IN 1933

THE Chicago Centennial is an international exposition under national auspices; but it is more than this; it is an intellectual occasion. Even if the exposition were devoted exclusively to economic and commercial exhibits it would be full of interest to all students of social science; for, after all, economics is really only the objective side of the great science of *how men live together*. The fact is, however, that the pure sciences have been given a fundamental position in the plan of the exposition, the principal theme of the undertaking being the dependence of industry upon the basic sciences.

Shortly after the American Association for the Advancement of Science decided to hold a summer meeting at Chicago in 1933, the trustees of the exposition decided to cooperate by providing for the invitation of a considerable number of men of science from foreign countries as guests of the meeting. Accordingly the Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science was asked to suggest the names and proper distribution of these guests. At the Cleveland meeting, 1930, the following committee was charged with this duty: J. McK. Cattell (chairman), W. B. Cannon, H. Crew, B. E. Livingston, R. A. Millikan, T. H. Morgan, F. R. Moulton, W. A. Noyes. Meeting at the Cosmos Club in Washington, D. C., on April 27 and 28, the committee allotted a definite number of guests averaging about five to each of the fifteen sections of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Suggestions as to individual scholars, men of marked

achievement, leaders of thought, were next sought from the various divisions of the National Research Council, as well as from the secretaries of the different sections of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of certain societies of specialists. The response to these requests has been generous and, for the most part, prompt.

It is hoped that guests accepting the invitation will appear on the program of the association's meeting and will also be available for one or more public lectures in various scientific centers. For a number of years past the program of the American Association for the Advancement of Science has been a highly important one, even when limited entirely to the productive scholarship of America. The foregoing plan is intended to enrich the regular program and is felt to be in full harmony with the international character of the exposition.

No attempt will be made to give, in a single week, a cross-section of human knowledge: but it is believed that a bird's-eye view of the main lines of present-day research will be presented and will render the 1933 meeting a memorable scientific occasion. The aim is to establish personal contact between an intelligent audience and the leaders in science. The Century of Progress is the name under which this exposition is incorporated; but there is here no implication that it is a backward looking institution. The whole purpose is, indeed, to point the way to another coming Century of Progress, to demonstrate the unity and importance of science. Every effort will be made to eliminate from this meeting the turmoil and bustle of a world's fair by the selection of appropriate meeting places. But if, in these efforts, the local management is not in every way successful there will be compensations, illuminations of mind and matter, and foregatherings, which will leave the balance on the right side.

By action of the council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at its recent meeting in Los Angeles, the exact date of the Chicago meeting was fixed as the last full week in June, 1933.

JOHN STEPHEN SEWELL
DIRECTOR OF EXHIBITS,
CHICAGO CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION

THE MARINE LABORATORY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

I HAVE just received from Professor W. J. Dakin, of the department of zoology, University of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, a letter in which he informs me that, notwithstanding the great financial stringency in Australia he has succeeded in procuring funds for the establishment of a small temporary marine laboratory and the acquisition of an auxiliary yacht of 13 tons. Both the laboratory and the yacht belong to the department of zoology of the University of Sydney. A program of investigations without aid from the state is being carried out, although serious financial difficulties beset the University of Sydney. At present particular attention is being devoted to the plankton and certain hydrographic conditions to a distance of about five miles off shore east of Sydney. Already plankton catches have been taken regularly for eighteen months. Professor Dakin himself has been conducting experiments on the osmotic pressure of the blood of certain marine organisms apart from investigations that he has already made on "The osmotic concentration of the blood of *Callorhynchus millii* and *Epiceratodus* (*Neoceratodus*) *forsteri*, and the significance of the physico-chemical condition of the blood in regard to the systematic position of the Holocephali and the Dipnoi."[1]

Professor Dakin writes that his laboratory is very badly off for literature and that he is unable to raise more money to face the adverse exchange rates. He has asked help in obtaining literature, especially on the physical and chemical methods of oceanography and on plankton. It has occurred to me that by publishing this note in SCIENCE assistance for Professor Dakin's struggling laboratory might be procured. He says: "We are doing our utmost with private funds and often risking life too by working from inefficient boats on a most unruly because unprotected sea." Will those who are willing to send literature please address it as follows: Professor W. J. Dakin, Department of Zoology, University of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. Any help that may be extended will be very greatly appreciated.

T. WAYLAND VAUGHAN
SCRIPPS INSTITUTION OF OCEANOGRAPHY

DEVELOPING NEW VARIETIES OF HOPS

LAST fall work was initiated to develop new varieties of hops. Because of an attack of downy mildew, *Pseudoperonospora humuli* (Miy. et tak.) Wils., it was desired to obtain new varieties which were not only resistant to this disease, but also superior in yield and quality. The variety Fuggles has been reported as resistant to this disease. This variety, however, under most Oregon conditions, is considered low in yielding ability and of a quality that is desired only by a certain trade.

Naturally fertilized seeds of this crop were collected in the growers' yards. Preliminary trials showed that the seed was dormant and would not grow under ordinary germinating conditions. The seed, therefore, was chilled for about ten days at freezing temperatures and then scarified by rubbing on coarse emery

[1] Zool. Soc. London, *Proc.*, pt. 1, pp. 11–16, April 14, 1931.