

*Theban Tomb Paintings Project.* Under the general direction of Dr. Gardiner, Mrs. N. DeG. Davis has long been engaged in copying the paintings on the walls of the tombs in the cemetery at Thebes. These will also be published by the institute.

*Prehistoric Survey.* This expedition is studying the prehistoric background of early civilization in Egypt and Asia Minor, and has carried on investigations of the geology of the Nile Valley. The field director is Dr. K. S. Sandford.

#### THE SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF GENETICS

DURING the past few weeks there has been agitation on the part of certain individuals in favor of postponing the Sixth International Congress of Genetics. The council of that organization has been in prolonged and careful consultation on this matter and has decided that the congress should not be postponed.

In coming to this decision the council has been particularly influenced by several important factors. Among these may be listed the fact that in spite of adverse economic conditions a number of prominent foreign geneticists have already indicated their intention of attending the congress; a large number of lectureships which are available in American universities will undoubtedly provide honoraria for further foreign attendance; obligations already undertaken and commitments made to members and others interested; the distinct uncertainty of any marked improvement in the economic situation within any possible period of postponement; the already keen interest in the congress expressed by the great majority of American geneticists, and the inadvisability of postponing any international congress for reasons other than general war conditions.

Now that the matter of postponement has been carefully considered and finally settled, it should be the welcome duty of all American geneticists and interested biologists to make even more than ordinary effort to cooperate in organizing and carrying through a successful congress. As stated above, there is no doubt but that this result will be accomplished. The object in making this statement is simply to settle the question in the minds of all interested.

C. C. LITTLE,  
*Secretary General*

#### RESEARCH EXHIBITS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION AT NEW ORLEANS

THE American Association for the Advancement of Science is again offering the facilities of its annual meeting for holding exhibits in science. The City of New Orleans has generously provided the exhibit space in its large Auditorium for non-commercial exhibits, on condition that these exhibits shall be open to the public. This exhibit space is provided with direct and alternating current, water and gas,

and should therefore facilitate the setting up of active demonstrations both in pure and applied science. It is recognized that the progress in science is contingent upon the advance in material quite as much as the advance in the efficiency of warfare. Moreover, the growing economic support of science is contingent upon a broad public appreciation of its value. The continued improvement in the quality of the army of workers is none the less dependent upon the general popular appraisal. The council of the association believes that this public appreciation can be wisely augmented by objective presentations of the current works of scientific men and that willingness to exhibit may be taken as a democratic gesture on their part. These exhibits have the hearty support of the press service of this association, of which Austin H. Clark is chairman, as well as of Science Service, Howard Blakeslee, science editor of the Associated Press, and the other science editors. Experience has taught these men the advantages of the objective approach to sympathetic understanding of the public at large.

The exhibition of science at New Orleans, from December 28 to January 2, is an assured success in spite of the economic conditions and the resultant lateness in getting the organization for exhibition into operation. Among the exhibitors who already have their work prepared are the Bureau of Standards, the Bureau of Mines, the scientific bureaus of the Department of Agriculture, the Coast and Geodetic Survey, the U. S. Public Health Service, the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, the U. S. Geological Survey, the Carnegie Institution of Washington, the Science Department of the "Century of Progress," Tulane University Museum and the Tulane Department of Geology, the American Institute of New York, the American Museum of Natural History, the School Nature League, the Rice Institute, Forest Products Laboratory, New York Botanical Garden, Southern Forest Experiment Station, Stanford University, George Washington University, the Entomological Society of America, the American Association of Economic Entomologists, the Society of Petroleum Geophysicists, the American Association of Physics Teachers, Professor Burton E. Livingston, of the Johns Hopkins University, Professor Fred Allison, of Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Dr. Sam F. Trelease, of Columbia University, and Dr. John W. Shive, of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station.

The Association is providing tables and wall space and supervision of the exhibits. Those desiring to exhibit should communicate immediately with Dr. F. C. Brown, chairman of the committee, at the office of the permanent secretary, Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C.