

modifying the political and economic systems of the world to enable its inhabitants to enjoy the fruits of scientific endeavor."

THE POLAR YEAR

A DISPATCH from the United Press, dated from Paris on October 2, reports that the first news has been received from the French "Polar Year" scientific mission of fifteen men stationed at Paul Doumer, Rosenvinges, on Scoresby Sound, Greenland.

The expedition will remain at the station until the ice breaks up in August, when Dr. Charcot expects to lead an expedition of two ships which will bring the party out. The government has agreed to leave the camp standing after that as a base for further missions.

The mission reported that an unusually severe winter began in September, two weeks ahead of time. Gales are blowing over Greenland and the temperature is below zero both day and night. In the camp, hastily built after landing on July 27, the men are living as comfortably as possible. They listen in, during their leisure time, to American and European radio broadcasts.

The station was completely installed by August 10 and methodic scientific observations were started on September 1. These observations include precise measurements of magnetic and electric fields, the conductivity and ionization of the atmosphere, aerological soundings, the study of atmospheric and oceanic phenomena, hydrographic and atmospheric currents and biology and geology in general.

The observations are expected to result in a great advance in knowledge of the source of North Atlantic storms, and are being made preliminary to the establishment of a string of meteorological stations which will ultimately furnish transatlantic airmen with precise information and storm warnings.

The mission reported that the sound was open to ships for less than thirteen days this year, and that soon after the polar exploration ship of Dr. Charcot and the French naval ice-crusher *Pollux* left, having landed the mission's 300 tons of equipment, the sound froze over again.

The expedition is under the command of Naval Lieutenant Habert and includes three officers, eight sailors, a doctor and two representatives of the Ministry of Public Instruction.

EUROPEAN TRIP OF ENTOMOLOGISTS

A FIFTEEN weeks' trip of unusual interest ended on September 26, when the S. S. *Minnetonka* docked at New York. Planned primarily for American entomologists wishing to attend the Fifth International Congress of Entomology in Paris during July, it af-

forded exceptional opportunities for scientific collecting and for sightseeing, both before and after the congress. The itinerary was planned by a joint committee of the Entomological Society of America and the American Association of Economic Entomologists, of which Dr. O. A. Johannsen, of Cornell University, was chairman, and by Dr. J. Chester Bradley, of the same institution, who acted as personal conductor of Group A. Those starting early in June were able to visit northern Germany, Denmark, Sweden and Norway before the arrival in France of Group B, led by Dr. P. W. Claassen, of Ithaca, New York. Together the groups proceeded through the Netherlands and Belgium, reaching Paris in time for the meetings of the Centennial of the French Entomological Society, and remaining through the session of the congress which immediately followed. After leaving Paris an auto trip was made through the Pyrenees mountains and across southern France to the foot of Mont Blanc, and still later Group A traveled through Italy, the Tyrol and Germany. Of especial interest to members of the party were the Agricultural Experiment Station and Museum of Folk History at Lyngby; the botanical gardens at Lund and Uppsala; the summer home of Linnaeus at Hammarby; Lake Torne-trask, near Abisko, where considerable collecting was done; the land of the midnight sun, including a cruise along the Norwegian coast from Narvik to the North Cape; the zoological gardens at Copenhagen, Hamburg, Dresden and Berlin; the islands of Volendam and Marken in the Zuider Zee; the prehistoric cave of Niaux in the foothills of the Pyrenees, where engravings and paintings of bison, wild boar and goats were seen; the medieval walled towns of Foix, Carcassone and Avignon; the home of Jean Henri Fabre at Serignan; the source of the Rhone River at Gletsch; the journey by train and teleferique to the summit of the Zugspitze at Eibsee; the ruins of the ancient Greek temples at Paestum and the ascent of Vesuvius to the rim of its newest crater. Before sailing from Southampton members of the party visited the Rothamsted Experimental Station at Harpenden, the Zoological Museum at Tring and Oxford University.

ENTOMOLOGICAL WORK OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT RIVERSIDE AND LOS ANGELES

THE first meeting of the year of the Southern California Entomological Club was held at Riverside on September 16. Following the reading of papers an inspection was made of the new entomology building (briefly described in SCIENCE, Vol. 76, p. 290) and the new insectary which was completed last year.

This insectary is unique in that it consists of twenty