

000 school lives each year and through this contact gain the confidence and eventually the warm friendship of the rulers of the city and state; second, knowing that the intelligent class includes not only money-getters but men and women of imagination and vision, we have sent out expeditions—on sea and land, on the rivers, plains, mountains and deserts of every continent, to the Arctic and the Antarctic—under young and dauntless explorers who have the art not only of discovery but of writing interestingly about their discoveries, thus making it possible for us to popularize the expeditions in our many books, magazine articles and newspapers and arouse a once listless and indifferent public to the deep fascination of science.

These are our secrets, now used by many of our sister institutions in America, and we hand them all over to you, without reserve.

However, do not imagine for one moment that we lose our perspective; we spend far more money on scientific research and publication than we do on the popularization of knowledge, and we take far more pride and satisfaction in scientific cooperation and interchange of new and sound ideas than we do in

any of the more obvious and visible exhibits and displays in which art and science are combined.

In closing, let me say that the American Museum is indebted beyond measure to the cordial and friendly cooperation not only of the scientists but of the governments that are represented in this congress. Among our friends and allies are enrolled all the South American countries, all the governments of the great continent of Africa, most of the countries and institutions of Asia, all the institutions of Europe, of Great Britain, Canada and Australia. From the old institutions of Europe we received our baptism and inspiration, and we can never repay our indebtedness to them.

Of all the American institutions, that which has stood foremost in cordial relation with the American Museum is the United States Geological Survey, with which we have been cooperating for the past thirty-five years and which published without stint our great monograph on the titanotheres. Of the many positions I have the honor to hold in this country there is none I cherish more highly than the title conferred upon me in the year 1924, namely, Senior Geologist of the United States Geological Survey.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

IMPERIAL BRITISH STANDARD MEASURES

Nature states that the statutory decennial comparisons of the Imperial standards of length and mass with their parliamentary copies became due in 1932. On the last occasion, in 1922, they were carried out at the British Standards Department of the Board of Trade under the supervision of Mr. J. E. Sears, Jr., the superintendent of the Metrology Department of the Laboratory, who was at that time acting also as deputy warden of the standards. By a subsequent agreement between the Board of Trade and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, it was arranged that the National Physical Laboratory should in future undertake the whole of these comparisons on behalf of the board. The present series of comparisons is accordingly being carried out at the laboratory. The primary object of the comparisons is the verification of the parliamentary copies of the Imperial Standard Pound and Yard, any one of which could be used to replace the corresponding imperial standard should it suffer loss or destruction. There are for each standard five parliamentary copies; one is immured in Westminster Palace, and one each of the others is in the custody of the Royal Society, the Mint, Greenwich Observatory and the Standards Department.

In addition to this work, a redetermination of the relationship between the pound and the kilogram will

shortly be made, following the scheme which was adopted for the first time in 1922 to 1923. The International Bureau of Weights and Measures, Sèvres, has been invited to undertake a share of the comparisons in this part of the program. Finally, the principal reference standard pounds at the National Physical Laboratory, together with an auxiliary standard pound belonging to the Board of Trade, will be verified by comparison with one or more of the parliamentary copies of the pound; a corresponding verification of kilogram standards from the laboratory and the Board of Trade will also be made. The weighings are being made on a new balance which has recently been constructed at the laboratory for precision weighings of the highest accuracy. This balance is contained in an inner vault, and all its controls are operated from outside, so that the observer does not enter the vault during any one series of weighings. The indications of the balance are recorded optically on a scale placed some seven meters away.

FEDERAL FUNDS FOR MEDICAL CARE

RULES governing the expenditure of federal funds for medical, nursing and dental care of sick and destitute unemployed persons who are "on relief" have been announced by Harry L. Hopkins, federal emergency relief administrator.

The regulations seek to improve conditions of