

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### CONGRESS FOR PREHISTORIC RESEARCH IN THE FAR EAST

ARRANGEMENTS have been completed for a meeting at Manila of the second Congress for Prehistoric Research in the Far East—officially known as the “Deuxième Congrès des Préhistoriens d’Extreme Orient”—which will be held under the joint auspices of the University of the Philippines and the Bureau of Science, from February 6 to 12.

Governor-General Murphy recently invited the governments of Japan, China, French Indo-China, Siam, Netherlands Indies, Hongkong, the Federated Malay States and British Borneo to send official delegates to the congress. It is understood that the following institutions will also be represented by one or two delegates each:

The Oyama Institute of Prehistory, Tokio; the Universities of Tokyo, Sendai and Kyoto, Japan, and the University of Taihoku, Formosa.

The Geological Survey and the National Research Institute, of China, both at Peking.

The University of Hongkong.

Ecole Française d’Extreme Orient, and the Geological Survey of French Indo-China, both at Hanoi.

The Royal Siamese Institute of Literature, Arts and Archeology, Bangkok.

The Batavia Society of Arts and Sciences, and the Bureau of Anthropology for the Netherlands Indies, Java.

The Bishop Museum of Honolulu, and

The Federated Malay States museums at Taiping and Singapore.

This congress was originally scheduled to be held at Bangkok in January, 1935. Disturbed political conditions in Siam, however, and recent changes in the government there, caused the executive committee of the congress to transfer it to Manila, and to postpone the date until February.

The Philippines will be represented by three delegates at the congress—one from the university, one from the Bureau of Science and one representing American students of Far-Eastern prehistory.

Leading archeologists and students of the ancient history of the Far East, as well as a number of geologists and explorers, have already signified their intention of attending.

Some of the principal features of the tentative program are:

1. Reviews of recent prehistoric and protohistoric research in China, Japan, Formosa, Hongkong and vicinity, French Indo-China, Siam, the Malay Peninsula and the Netherlands Indies, the Philippines and the Pacific Islands; by one delegate from each of these regions. (For the delegates and associate members only.)

2. Three or more open meetings, at which papers of

general interest, relating to recent discoveries in the Far East, will be read.

3. A series of round-table conferences, at which special topics will be taken up by small groups of interested delegates and associate members.

The proceedings of the second congress, and the more important papers read, will be later published—probably in a volume to be issued by the university or the Bureau of Science some time before the end of 1935.

It may further be stated that the congress was an outgrowth of the Pacific Science Congress, and was originally organized in connection with the Java meeting of that congress in 1929–30. The first independent meeting was organized by the Government of French Indo-China, Hanoi, 1932.

H. OTLEY BEYER,

*Chairman, Philippine Committee*

### THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF SOIL SCIENCE

THE third International Congress of Soil Science will be held at Oxford, England, from July 30 to August 7, this year under the presidency of Sir John Russell. The two previous congresses of the series were held in Washington in 1927 and in Leningrad and Moscow in 1930, and were notable for the exceptionally international character of the personnel and the discussions. The congress will meet as a whole in six plenary sessions, at which a general survey of recent advances in every branch of soil science will be made, and it will also work in sections or “Commissions” dealing specifically with soil physics (I), chemistry (II), biology (III), fertility (IV), classification (V) and technology (VI). Three sub-commissions will discuss problems relating to alkali, forest and peat soils, respectively. A 16-day excursion round Great Britain leaving Oxford immediately after the congress, and terminating in Cambridge on August 23 is being arranged for the benefit of members wishing to obtain first-hand knowledge of British agriculture and soils.

Every member of the congress will receive a copy of the official transactions, including the full text of papers read at the plenary sessions, and detailed reports of the discussions at the commission sessions. The cost of the *Transactions* will be included in the Congress fee (£2), payment of which will also entitle members to attend all meetings, receptions, etc., held in connection with the congress. Accommodation during the congress in an Oxford College may be reserved through the organizing committee, or privately in hotels or boarding houses.

Intimation of attendance at the congress should be