

erosion. Water erosion, of course, is much more widespread and destructive because it is a continuous process in many parts of the country. More than 50 million acres of land in the United States has been destroyed for crop production by erosion. Another 125,000,000 acres of land new in crops has lost all or most of its topsoil. About 100,000,000 acres is rapidly approaching that condition. At least three fourths of the farm land of the United States used for clean-tilled crops is subject in varying degrees to erosion, the damage from which to farm lands, roads, reservoirs, irrigation ditches and valley lands is estimated at more than \$400,000,000 a year. Studies in Oklahoma show that cultivated fields lost 84 per cent. more rainfall and 667 times more soil than similar fields that were under a grass sod.

The Bureau of Agricultural Engineering has studied control of erosion by artificial structures such as terraces, tile drains, check dams and soil-saving dams. The field research of the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils and Agricultural Engineering has been conducted at field stations at Bethany, Mo.; Guthrie, Okla.; Hays, Kans.; LaCrosse, Wis.; Clarinda, Iowa; Pullman, Wash.; Statesville, N. C.; Temple, Tex.; Tyler, Tex., and Zanesville, Ohio. The Bureau of Plant Industry, in addition to introducing and selecting plants best suited for use in soil erosion control work, recently established large-scale soil erosion nurseries on which will be grown various plants for use in control projects. These nurseries have been financed with emergency funds.

Research primarily discovers how erosion may be controlled most effectively and economically. These results are translated into action by farmers themselves and by the Soil Erosion Service which is demonstrating effective methods of land conservation in forty erosion control projects in 32 states. Ranging in size from 50,000 to 16,000,000 acres each, these projects cover representative watersheds in the major agricultural sections where erosion has become a critical problem.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

THE sixty-fourth annual meeting of the American Public Health Association will be held in Milwaukee, from October 7 to 10. The society has a membership of 4,500 professional public health workers whose annual sessions review developments in health protection and promotion and outline plans and policies for future advances.

Several related organizations have announced that they will meet simultaneously with the association at Milwaukee. They are: American Association of School Physicians, International Association of Dairy

and Milk Inspectors, Conference of State Sanitary Engineers, International Society of Medical Officers of Health, Association of Dairy, Food and Drug Officials, Conference of Wisconsin Health Officers, Conference of State Laboratory Directors and Association of Women in Public Health.

The fourth Health Education Institute sponsored and conducted by the association will be held on October 4, 5 and 6, prior to the opening of the several conventions. The subject will be "Health Education in Small Cities and Rural Communities."

A Health Exhibit including in its scope commercial, scientific and educational displays will be conducted as usual at Milwaukee.

Plans for the preliminary program include special sessions on The Rôle of a Health Department in a Program of Social Security, Mental Hygiene, Professional Education, Veterinary Public Health, Diphtheria Immunization, and a session on the history and achievements of the Committee on Administrative Practice, celebrating its fifteenth anniversary.

The association is divided into ten sections—Health Officers, Laboratory, Vital Statistics, Public Health Engineering, Industrial Hygiene, Food and Nutrition, Child Hygiene, Public Health Education, Public Health Nursing, Epidemiology. Subjects to be discussed include pneumonia, trench mouth, syphilis, measles, outdoor bathing places, scarlet fever, milk sanitation, water sanitation, foods, health education, and many other topics representing the responsibilities of health authorities.

The chairman of the Local Committee on Arrangements is Dr. John P. Koehler, Health Officer of Milwaukee. Information in regard to the congress can be obtained from the American Public Health Association at 50 West 50th Street, New York City.

THE LOS ANGELES MEETING OF THE PACIFIC DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

A PRELIMINARY announcement of the forthcoming meeting of the Pacific Division, to be held at the University of California at Los Angeles during the week of June 24, 1935, will be distributed to members early in April.

Two of the principal addresses to be presented during the meeting will be given by Professor Bailey Willis, president of the Pacific Division, and Fred. E. Wright, of the Geophysical Laboratory, Washington, D. C. The subject of Professor Willis's address will be "The Living Globe," while that by Mr. Wright will be on "The Surface of the Moon."

The meetings will open formally on the morning of Tuesday, June 25, with a general symposium on "The