

for the conference is taking shape, and already a number of distinguished speakers have consented to participate, if circumstances permit, in the various group-discussions. The program should be ready for issue in the early part of next month. Considerations of finance and the restriction of paper supplies will prohibit its distribution on the usual extensive scale, and any interested persons who do not receive it by the middle of May are requested to ask for it to be sent from the office of the association at Burlington House, London, W.1.

Admission to the conference will be by tickets, the number of which will be restricted to some seven hundred by the available accommodation. The tickets will be free, but members of the association will be urged to maintain their subscriptions, and others will be invited either to become members or to contribute by donation to the funds of the association. Arrangements for the lodging of visitors in the university halls of residence are in hand. The council of the university will hold an informal evening conversazione for members of the association and guests.

THE AMERICAN STANDARDS ASSOCIATION AND THE U. S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT

FOLLOWING a meeting of the Board of Directors held on May 7 in New York, P. G. Agnew, secretary of the American Standards Association, announced that the U. S. Treasury Department had become a member of the association as the result of official action taken at the meeting.

In proposing affiliation, Herbert E. Gaston, assistant secretary of the treasury, had pointed out that "The work of certain bureaus of this department is such that they have considerable interest in the subject of standardization." The Coast Guard, which operates under the Treasury Department, has a stake in many standardization matters. This interest was materially increased last July when the Bureau of Lighthouses, which had previously operated under the Department of Commerce, long active in American Standards Association affairs, was transferred to its jurisdiction.

The work of the Federal Specifications Executive Committee, which operates under the Procurement Division of the Treasury, is of great importance. This committee coordinates the purchase specifications for items of non-military nature commonly bought by two or more government departments, and seeks to bring these specifications into harmony with the best commercial practices. It also develops new specifications. Its recommendations, with certain exceptions, are mandatory on all departments and independent establishments of the Federal Government.

Membership in the American Standards Association gives the Treasury Department a voice in all decisions

on American Standards Association standardization activities. The department has already announced that Captain H. E. Collins, director of procurement of the Procurement Division, and Rear Admiral H. F. Johnson, engineer-in-chief of the U. S. Coast Guard, will serve as its representatives on the council of the association. Captain R. R. Tinkham, also of the Coast Guard, and N. F. Harriman, of the Procurement Division, will serve as their alternates.

At the same meeting the board welcomed two new members: G. J. Ray, vice-president of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, and Wm. F. Groene, vice-president of the R. K. Le Blond Machine Tool Company of Cincinnati. Mr. Ray was nominated in January by the Association of American Railroads and Mr. Groene by the National Machine Tool Builders' Association. Both of these organizations have for many years been active in the work of the American Standards Association.

THE NATIONAL FARM YOUTH FOUNDATION

HENRY FORD, who has long advocated that American youth return to the soil, has now announced his active cooperation in establishing the National Farm Youth Foundation, which will provide scholarships for twenty thousand young men from the farms. Mr. Ford said:

Young men of the farm have not realized their opportunities on the home soil. As a result, many of them have left the farm. Young men of the city have not appreciated the career a farm offers. As a result, farming has been neglected.

The family system of farming has suffered and we want to see it rebuilt. As a matter of fact, the foundation seeks to help the young man of the farm to realize his aspirations for happiness and prosperity.

I am told that eighty per cent. of the graduates of agricultural colleges seek their careers in cities instead of returning to the farm. The remaining twenty per cent. are not enough to give the farm the trained leadership it needs for agricultural progress.

Better farming methods to-day will mean better farms to-morrow and rural youth will be more inclined to stay close to the soil.

The opportunity to study scientific farming and receive practical training through scholarships is created by the foundation, which is sponsored by the Ferguson-Sherman Manufacturing Corporation, of Dearborn, Mich., with the active cooperation of Henry Ford and his son Edsel.

In addition to the study courses and training in the field, students under these scholarships will compete for 58 jobs, half of which carry contracts for one year of work at the factory of the sponsoring company at a salary of \$150 a month; the remainder are jobs with