

THE EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL CONGRESS

A LETTER recently received from Professor von Graff contains some information concerning the eighth International Zoological Congress, which will be held in Graz, Austria, in August, 1910, under his presidency. The exact dates are not yet determined, but the meetings will follow those of the Anatomical Congress to be held the same month in Brussels.

Graz is a city of about 130,000 inhabitants, beautifully situated at an elevation of 1,500 feet in the foot-hills of the Styrian Alps, and will be best approached by those coming from the west by the picturesque mountain road from Innsbruck. It has narrow, crooked streets in the older parts of the city and fine, new University buildings for the third educational institution of the empire. The city is overlooked by a fine park and it is proposed to have the evening meals served in one of the beautiful resorts in the neighborhood.

The present plans are to have the sessions occupy the week, from Monday to Friday, the general sessions coming in the morning, those of the sections in the afternoon. The number and character of the sections can not be stated at present, as they depend on the number of papers presented. On Saturday the plan is to make an excursion to Leoben, a beautifully situated village in the Styrian Erzberg, spending the night there.

On Sunday the train is taken over the new alpine railroad to Trieste. Monday forenoon is given to a visit to the Zoological Station at Trieste, founded by the late Professor Claus and famous for the character and amount of its work. Then a visit is made to the picturesque villa of Miramar, associated with the name of the unfortunate Maximilian, of Mexico. Rovigno with its zoological station is reached in the afternoon, and in the evening of Monday the steamer is taken for the four days trip down the beautiful and comparatively little known Dalmatian coast, with its mountainous background, its picturesque costumes and its magnificent remains of the later Roman empire. Stops will probably be made at Sebenico, Spalato, Ragusa and Cat-

taro, and from the latter place a ride of only a few hours takes one over the border and into the strange city of Cetinge, in Herzegovina. Friday brings the party back to Trieste, but arrangements may possibly be made, allowing those who wish, to stop over longer in Dalmatia. Those who return with the party will reach Vienna on Saturday, and the Congress will finally disband on Sunday.

Those who are interested should write to Professor L. von Graff, Graz, Stiermark, Austria, asking that the circulars, when issued, be sent them. Already several Americans have signified their intention to attend.

PROPOSED LINCOLN SCHOOLS OF SCIENCE

THE Minnesota Academy of Science has passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS: This meeting of the Minnesota Academy of Science takes place near the date of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, and

WHEREAS: It is suitable and incumbent on the American people, in gratitude for the great service and sacrifice rendered by him to the fundamental elements of American civilization, to perpetuate his name and to honor it by inscribing it in conspicuous places where the youth may frequently be reminded of the excellence of his character, and

WHEREAS: The American Congress has by a commission appointed for this purpose, after long and extended consideration, recommended the construction of a great thoroughfare from Washington City to the battlefield of Gettysburg, and

WHEREAS: Still there seems to be room and opportunity to commemorate the name of Lincoln in a line of science in which he was a prominent actor, and

WHEREAS: It was by his signing and approving of the act of Congress of 1861 establishing the state schools known as Colleges of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, to the maintenance of which this nation is committed, and which have since been called "National Schools of Science," of the United States, that the science of agriculture and mechanics have been benefited and firmly established in the educational curricula of the country, therefore,

Resolved, That it is the opinion of the members of the Minnesota Academy of Science that the name of Lincoln ought to be applied by Congress to these schools, and that all the literature and all the researches from such schools that may hereafter be published ought to be labeled and

everywhere known as products of the "Lincoln Schools of Science."

It is the opinion of this academy that by so designating these schools, while an immaterial and uncostly honor would be conferred on the greatest American citizen, such honor would be likely to be more influential and more durable in the perpetuation of his memory than the expenditure of large sums of money in material monuments of any kind.

FIRST AWARD OF THE LANGLEY MEDAL

THE first award of the gold medal recently established by the Smithsonian Institution in memory of the late Secretary Samuel Pierpont Langley and his contributions to the science of aerodromics is made to Wilbur and Orville Wright. The board of regents of the institution has adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Langley medal be awarded to Wilbur and Orville Wright for advancing the science of aerodromics in its application to aviation, by their successful investigations and demonstrations of the practicability of mechanical flight by man."

Following the establishment of the Langley medal, Secretary Walcott appointed the following-named gentlemen of known competence in the subject of aerodromics as a committee on award, announcement of which is hereby made: Mr. Octave Chanute, of Chicago, Chairman; Dr. Alexander Graham Bell; Major George O. Squier, U. S. A.; Mr. John A. Brashear, of Allegheny, Pa., and Mr. James Means, formerly editor of *The Aeronautical Annual*, Boston. The Langley Medal was founded "to be awarded for specially meritorious investigations in connection with the science of aerodromics and its application to aviation." The original design to be used for this medal was made by Mon. J. C. Chaplain, of Paris, a member of the French Academy. The medal bears on its obverse a female figure, seated on the globe, carrying a torch in her left hand and in her right a scroll emblematic of knowledge and the words "Per Orbem." The reverse is adapted from the seal of the institution as designed by Augustus St. Gaudens, the special inscription being inserted in the cen-

ter instead of the map of the world. It is about three inches in diameter.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Astronomical Society of the Pacific awarded its Bruce gold medal for the year 1909 to Dr. G. W. Hill for distinguished services to astronomy.

THE eminent mathematician, M. Henri Poincaré, was officially received on January 28 into the French Academy, taking the seat vacant by the death of the poet Sully Prudhomme. M. Frédéric Masson, the historian of Napoleon, made the address of welcome.

LORD RAYLEIGH, who left England with Lady Rayleigh for a six months' tour around the world, has been seriously ill in South Africa, but is now better. He has given up his plan of going to Australia, and will probably finish the winter in Egypt.

THE celebration of Haeckel's seventy-fifth birthday was held in Jena on February 16. As a gift from the American Museum of Natural History to the Phyletic Museum Professor Osborn has sent a series of the large reproductions of Charles R. Knight's restorations of the extinct vertebrates of North America.

DR. S. WEIR MITCHELL celebrated his eightieth birthday on February 15.

PROFESSOR RAMON Y CAJAL, the anatomist, has been created a senator of Spain.

M. LOUIS MANGIN has been elected a member of the Paris Academy of Sciences, in the section of botany, to succeed M. Van Tieghem, who has been elected permanent secretary.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM Z. RIPLEY, of Harvard University, has been elected an honorary fellow of the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, in recognition of his researches in the field of European and American demography.

PORTRAITS of Professor George J. Brush and of Professor William H. Brewer have been hung in the recently fitted-up faculty room of the Sheffield Scientific School, Yale University. Professor Brush and Professor