

given by the minister of public instruction, without being slavishly bound to the textbooks that are used in their schools; and second, the problems for the "Abiturientenexamen" (our finishing examination at secondary schools) are not prescribed by a central board or by the ministry, but are set by the teachers themselves, subject only to the approval of the authorities.

The reform in mathematical teaching is only one step in the reorganization of secondary education. This reorganization aims at making the youth of our country sympathetic with labor as well as appreciative of the best that is in modern culture. From this point of view the teaching of mathematics and science assumes a position equivalent to that in history and languages. It has been felt to be an important problem to reorganize the teaching of mathematics and science, and you are doubtless aware that the "Unterrichtskommission" of the German Association for the Advancement of Science, now enlarged to the "Deutscher Ausschuss für den mathematischen und naturwissenschaftlichen Unterricht," has prepared special outlines for the teaching of mathematics and physics as well as for that of biology. In presenting the German reports of the International Commission on the teaching of mathematics, I beg to be allowed to place here upon the table the publications of the Unterrichtskommission³ and of the Deutscher Ausschuss⁴ as far as they have been published until now.

A. GUTZMER

UNIVERSITY OF HALLE

*THE NINETEENTH INTERNATIONAL
CONGRESS OF AMERICANISTS, 1914*

In the fall of 1911 a number of delegates to the past congresses of the Americanists met in Washington, under the auspices of the

³ A. Gutzmer, "Die Tätigkeit der Unterrichtskommission der Gesellschaft Deutscher Naturforscher und Aerzte," Leipzig, 1908, B. G. Teubner.

⁴ "Schriften des Deutschen Ausschusses für den mathematischen und naturwissenschaftlichen Unterricht," Leipzig, Heft 1-14, B. G. Teubner.

Smithsonian Institution and the Anthropological Society of Washington, for the purpose of taking preliminary steps toward extending an invitation to the congress at its London meeting, to hold its nineteenth session in 1914 at Washington. A temporary organizing committee was selected, consisting of Professor W. H. Holmes, chairman; Mr. F. W. Hodge; and Dr. A. Hrdlička, secretary. This committee entered into communication with the principal local institutions and organizations which are interested in the work of the Americanists, and by May 1, 1912, a formal invitation to the congress was agreed upon by the Smithsonian Institution, the Anthropological Society of Washington, the George Washington, Georgetown and Catholic universities, and the Washington Society of the Archeological Institute of America. A list of names of persons to form the permanent organizing committee was agreed upon and Dr. Hrdlička was instructed to present the joint invitation with the list just mentioned to the council of the London meeting of the Americanists, which was done, and both were accepted without objection. In addition an official invitation from the Bolivian government was accepted for a second session, to be held at La Paz following that in Washington.

On October 11, 1912, the permanent committee for the Washington session met in the U. S. National Museum for organization. Its membership is as follows: Messrs. Franklin Adams, Frank Baker, Chas. H. Butler, Mitchell Carroll, Charles W. Currier, A. J. Donlon, J. Walter Fewkes, Alice C. Fletcher, Gilbert H. Grosvenor, F. W. Hodge, H. L. Hodgkins, William H. Holmes, Walter Hough, Aleš Hrdlička, Gaillard Hunt, J. F. Jameson, George M. Kober, D. S. Lamb, Chas. H. McCarthy, James Mooney, J. Dudley Morgan, Clarence F. Norment, Thomas J. Shahan, H. J. Shandelle, George R. Stetson, Chas. H. Stockton, J. R. Swanton, Harry Van Dyke, Charles D. Walcott and M. I. Weller.

The elections of officers resulted, in the main, as follows:

For Patron of the Congress: The President of the United States.

President, Organizing Committee: W. H. Holmes, head curator, department of anthropology, U. S. National Museum.

Secretary: A. Hrdlička, curator, division physical anthropology, U. S. National Museum.

Auxiliary Resident Secretaries: Dr. Chas. W. Currier, Mr. F. Neumann.

Treasurer: C. F. Norment, president, The National Bank of Washington.

Head of General (honorary) Committee: Mr. Charles D. Walcott, secretary, Smithsonian Institution.

Head of Committee on Finance: Dr. George M. Kober, dean, Medical Department, Georgetown University.

Head of Committee on Arrangements and Entertainment: Professor Mitchell Carroll, general secretary, Archeological Institute of America.

Head of Committee on Printing and Publication: Mr. F. W. Hodge, ethnologist in charge of the Bureau of American Ethnology.

The sessions of the congress will be held, due to the courtesy of the authorities of the Smithsonian Institution, in the new building of the National Museum. The exact date for the meeting will be decided upon later, in accordance with the wishes of the majority of the delegates to the congress, but the month will, in all probability, be September. Active preparations for the session, which promises to be one of the most important ever held by the Americanists, will be begun without delay.

A. HRDLIČKA,
*Secretary Committee
of Organization*

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

PRESIDENT TAFT has recommended to the congress that Colonel Goethals be appointed major general in the army as a recognition of his executive work in the construction of the Panama canal.

DR. REID HUNT, U. S. Public Health Service, has been appointed a member of the board created by the Bureau of Mines to study the hygiene and dangers in mines.

At its last meeting the Rumford Committee of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences made the following appropriations: to G. W. Ritchey, of Pasadena, \$500 for the con-

struction of a reflecting telescope employing mirrors with new forms of curves; to Professor Edward L. Nichols, of Cornell University, \$250 for the construction of a new form of electromagnet, to be used in an investigation by Mr. W. P. Roop, on the effect of temperature on the magnetic susceptibility of gases.

PROFESSOR L. A. CLINTON, who for the past ten years has been director of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station at Storrs, has resigned and accepted a position with the Office of Farm Management of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Professor Clinton's work with the department will be to have charge of the farm management investigations for the North Atlantic states.

PROFESSOR EDWARD M. FREEMAN, chief of the division of plant pathology and assistant dean and secretary of the faculty of the college of agriculture of the University of Minnesota, has declined the offer of the position of chief pathologist of the Kew Botanical Gardens. The position carries a salary of \$4,700.

DR. G. R. KRAUS, professor of botany at Würzburg, has retired from active service.

MR. FRANK MEYER, agricultural explorer for the United States Department of Agriculture, will sail for China where he will conduct botanical exploration in the interior for the next three or four years.

MR. CHAS. WILSON and Mr. Arthur Henn, seniors in Indiana University, will sail on December 21 for Buenaventura, Colombia. They will explore Pacific slope streams and the Atrato river in continuation of the work of Professor C. H. Eigenmann on these streams between January and March of the present year.

THE fifth of the present course of Harvey Society lectures was given at the New York Academy of Medicine on December 14, by Professor F. B. Mallory, Harvard University, on "Infectious Lesions of the Blood Vessels."

PROFESSOR C.-E. A. WINSLOW, of the department of public health of the American Museum of Natural History and of the College of the City of New York, opened the first semi-