

THE PAN-PACIFIC FOOD CONSERVATION CONFERENCE

THE Food Conservation Conference held at Honolulu July 31 to August 14, 1924, under the auspices of the Pan-Pacific Union, was an event of more than ordinary interest to every country bordering on the Pacific.

There were more than 140 delegates present, representing practically every country of the Pan-Pacific Union. Countries that were particularly well represented were New Zealand, Australia, the Netherlands, East Indies, Siam, China, Japan, the Philippines and the United States. Several of the delegates were men well known internationally; among these may be mentioned the Honorable George M. Thomson and the Honorable Mark Cohen, of New Zealand; Sir Joseph Carruthers, ex-premier of New South Wales; Dr. Hippolyte Damiens, administrator in chief of Indo-China; Dr. Rodrigo Rodrigues, governor of Macao; Dr. Hugh M. Smith, advisor in fisheries to the King of Siam; Dr. Koliang Yih, Chinese consul general at San Francisco; Dr. Ken Harada, secretary League of Nations; Dr. K. Kishinouye, professor of fisheries, Imperial University of Tokyo; Dr. Rokuichiro Matsujima, first president of the International Bar Association; Sanford B. Dole, first president of the Republic of Hawaii, and Dr. David Starr Jordan, international authority on fisheries.

Among the delegates and others in attendance from America may be mentioned the following: Dr. E. W. Allen, chief, Office of Experiment Station, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Carl L. Alsberg, director Food Research Institute, Carnegie Corporation, Stanford University, California; John Pierce Anderson, Red Wing, Minnesota; Miss Louise A. Anderson, Red Wing, Minnesota; M. De Arango, chemical engineer, 67 Wall Street, New York; Dr. E. W. Brandes, pathologist in charge sugar plant investigations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.; Dr. F. A. Bushe, representing University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado; Dr. Mary Page Campbell, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco; Harry Chandler, representing Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce; Dr. Royal Norton Chapman, associate professor of animal biology and entomology, University of Minnesota; Dr. T. D. A. Cockerell, professor of zoology and entomology, University of Colorado; Hon. John C. Cope, Portland, Oregon; M. Viscount G. de la Jarrie, director of Bureau of French Colonial Information, New York; Miss Alice Eastwood, curator of botany, California Academy of Sciences; Dr. Henry A. Erikson, chairman, department of physics, University of Minnesota; Dr. Barton Warren Evermann, delegate representing the California Academy of Sciences, the Pacific Division of the American Association for the

Advancement of Science and the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce; Dr. Fred Denton Fromme, professor of plant pathology and bacteriology, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, Virginia; Dr. T. C. Frye, professor of botany, University of Washington; Dr. Ross Aiken Gortner, chief, division of biochemistry, University of Minnesota, representing the university and the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station; Dr. Lawrence E. Griffin, professor of biology, Reed College, representing Chamber of Commerce, Portland, Oregon; Dr. J. Arthur Harris, head department of botany, University of Minnesota; Dr. William B. Herms, head division of entomology and parasitology, University of California; Dr. L. O. Howard, chief, Bureau of Entomology, U. S. Department of Agriculture; Dr. Claude S. Hudson, consulting chemist, Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C.; B. J. Hulse, Chamber of Commerce, Los Angeles, California; Dr. J. B. Johnston, dean, College of Science, University of Minnesota; Dr. David Starr Jordan, representing Stanford University; Eric Jordan, Stanford University; Dr. Charles L. Marlatt, chairman Federal Horticultural Board, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Francisco Maguel, Mexico City, representing the Republic of Mexico; Dr. E. D. Merrill, dean, College of Agriculture, University of California, representing Philippine government; Dr. Shirley P. Miller, department of anatomy, University of Minnesota; Dr. Frederick C. Newcombe, emeritus professor of botany, University of Michigan; Dr. Herbert Osborn, research professor of zoology, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio; Hon. W. H. H. Piatt, Kansas City, representing American Bar Association; Dr. James B. Pollock, associate professor of botany, University of Michigan; Roy R. Reppert, entomologist, Extension Service, Texas; Dr. Hiram Newton Savage, civil engineer, Berkeley, California; Dr. William A. Setchell, professor of botany, University of California; Professor Josephine E. Tilden, professor of botany, University of Minnesota, and head of the University of Minnesota Pacific Expedition; Dr. Koliang Yih, Chinese consul general, San Francisco, and Ralph N. Van Zwaluwenburg, United Sugar Company, Los Machis, Sinaloa, Mexico.

Dr. L. O. Howard, chief of the Bureau of Entomology, Washington, D. C., was permanent chairman of the conference; Dr. Charles L. Marlatt, chairman of the section on plant quarantine, plant entomology and plant pathology; Dr. Hamilton P. Agee, director of the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Experiment Station, chairman of the section on sugar industry; Dr. L. A. Henke, professor of agriculture, University of Hawaii, chairman section on animal husbandry; Dr. P. J. S. Cramer, director experiment station, department of agriculture, Netherlands East Indies, chairman section on crop production and improvement;

Dr. Carl L. Alsberg, director Food Research Institute, Stanford University, chairman section on food transportation and distribution; Dr. R. Masujima, member of the Japan Bar Association, chairman section on international law and agreement, and Dr. Barton Warren Evermann, chairman of the section on fisheries, marine biology and oceanography.

Honorable Wallace R. Farrington, governor of Hawaii and president of the Pan-Pacific Union, speaking from the throne in Iolani Palace, welcomed the delegates, and Dr. Howard made the response.

All the general sessions were held in the Throne Room, Iolani Palace, in the forenoons, while the afternoons were given over to section meetings.

The conference was divided into several sections, among which some of the more important were those on sugar industry; fisheries, marine biology and oceanography; plant quarantine; plant entomology and plant pathology; animal husbandry; food-crop production and improvement; forestry in relation to agriculture; food transportation and distribution; and international law and agreements.

The problems considered by the conference were the big problems of food production, proper utilization and conservation, and they were considered in a broad way; the international viewpoint was constantly to the fore and the problems were discussed in their international relations. Basic principles relating to soil management, crop production, animal husbandry, the fisheries, care of crop products, transportation and distribution, insect-pest control, quarantine, etc., were presented and discussed in their world application, rather than those of merely local interest.

It is not difficult to see that a conference of nearly 150 representative men, experts in their various lines, gathered together from so many different countries, discussing before formal meetings and in informal meetings daily for a period of two weeks, these big food problems, could not fail to contribute greatly to our knowledge of these problems and to an understanding of the methods for their solution.

The meetings were intensely interesting from the very beginning to the last. Every delegate regarded the conference as one dealing with problems of world importance and demanding the most serious thought and treatment. That much good will come from the conference is certain.

The most important conclusions and agreements reached by the conference are set forth in a series of 33 resolutions adopted. Only a few may be mentioned: One calling for an international treaty for the protection and conservation of the fishery resources of the Pacific, particularly fur seals, sea otters, whales and other marine mammals; another for the protection of marine turtles; another to prevent pollution of the sea and coastal waters by oil tankers and other vessels, and a fourth recommending

the formation of an international commission for the study of the physics, chemistry and biology of the North Pacific.

Other resolutions were adopted urging cooperative study of the insect pests of sugar cane, the problems of soil management and crop production, adoption of uniform and proper quarantine regulations and the appointment of an international crop protection board.

An account of the Food Conservation Conference would not be complete without mention of Alexander Hume Ford, the organizer and director of the Pan-Pacific Union. A few years ago Mr. Ford went from the States to Honolulu, as a newspaper man and writer. Soon after arriving at the "Cross-roads of the Pacific" he began to grasp the momentous importance of the problems of the Pacific. He conceived the idea that those problems could be solved only through an understanding of their scientific and commercial relations to *all* the countries bordering on the Pacific, and mutual understanding of the people of those countries. Mutual understandings among nations, as among individuals, are difficult if not impossible unless they know each other. Mr. Ford believed that, if the countries bordering on the Pacific could come to know each other, their international disputes and misunderstandings would largely disappear. So he organized all those countries into the Pan-Pacific Union, which at once began to hold conferences or congresses of various kinds. Any group of men who wish to get together to discuss important problems relating to the Pacific area, by making their wishes known to the Pan-Pacific Union, can have a conference called, and the Union will help by inviting delegates as requested, by arranging the details of the meeting, raising money to defray expenses and in any other proper way.

Several such conferences have already been held, including a scientific conference, an educational conference, a newspaper conference, a commercial conference and a food conservation conference.

The Pan-Pacific Union is probably the greatest force in the world to-day in promoting mutual understanding and good will among the countries of the Pacific area.

And Alexander Hume Ford has been the promoter, the moving spirit, the money-getter, the live wire, the man of vision, in all these conferences.

BARTON WARREN EVERMANN
CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

THE FAILURE OF THE PRINCIPLE OF PRIORITY TO SECURE UNIFORMITY AND STABILITY IN BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE

THE priority of publication principle was adopted with the idea that it would furnish a simple and satisfactory basis for determining which of the various