SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OF SCIENCE MUSEUMS

IT is reported in *Museum News* that the International Institute of Intellectual Cooperation of the League of Nations has issued a report of the conference held at Geneva this summer on collaboration between science museums. Andrey Avinoff, director of the Carnegie Museum, was president of the conference and represented the American Association of Museums. After four sessions on July 14 and 15, the conference adopted resolutions recommending the following:

The establishment at the International Institute of Intellectual Cooperation of an information and documentation center to deal with matters concerning science museums.

The collection of information of certain kinds: catalogues of films and negatives; technical information on museum building construction, ventilation, lighting, heating and preservation of specimens; types of labels and explanatory diagrams; a list of model exhibits in museums; catalogues of duplicates available for exchange and of material for study by specialists; lists of models and casts that might be made in quantity for cession or loan to other museums; publications; a list of specialists in the different branches of science.

Promotion of exchange of curators or travel by curators, with a loan fund for this purpose. Development of concerted organization of scientific expeditions.

Extension of the collaboration among museums for loans, exchanges, traveling exhibits, etc.

Investigation of educational methods used by museums, and publication of the results.

Publication of a directory of science museums and of a periodical bulletin.

The committee consisted of Andrey Avinoff; Sir John Flett, director of the Geological Survey and Museum, London; Paul Lemoine, director of the Musée National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, and Wilhelm Unverzagt, director of the Staatlichen Museums für Vor-und-Frühgeschichte, Berlin. The meetings were attended by M. Bonnet, director of the International Institute of Intellectual Cooperation, and his colleagues Messrs. Establier and Belime.

THE NORTH INDIA EXPEDITION OF YALE UNIVERSITY

THE Yale North India Expedition, now in Srinagar, Kashmir, has mapped in detail an area of more than 4,600 square miles of hitherto unexplored country lying in the Himalayan Range above an altitude of 14,500 feet, according to the report of its director, Professor Hellmut de Terra. Fossils were found of both lower and higher forms of animal life which will throw new light on the geological history of Central Asia and the development of the fauna of North India while the mountains in this region were being formed. The expedition left the United States for India early in the spring. Due to the cooperation of the governments of India and Kashmir, no serious losses or obstacles have been encountered.

The new map of the previously unknown area in the Himalayas will be of value in understanding the geography of this region. The expedition was aided in making the map by Khan Sahib Afraz Gul, one of India's best mountain topographers, who joined the survey through the courtesy of the Surveyor General of India, and the generosity of the American Geographical Society.

Professor G. E. Hutchinson, biologist, and Mr. G. E. Lewis, paleontologist, made a detailed study of both present and past animal and plant life. The elevated lakes were examined both chemically and biologically, and will be compared to the existing conditions of western Central Asia. Information gathered concerning the environment of the terrestrial invertebrates will throw light on factors determining the distribution of animal life in high regions, and on trends of development as compared to that of animal life in the adjoining lowlands.

The report states that the contrast of the fauna to that of the rest of India is most striking. A paleontological collection from Ladakh, made by Mr. Lewis, will arrive at the Peabody Museum of Yale University later in the season. Mr. Lewis succeeded in obtaining in the Siwalik Hills of Northern India a collection of vertebrate specimens dating from the tertiary period. They are in a very good state of preservation.

Professor de Terra writes: "During this time the members of the expedition traveled 1,300 miles across the barren mountain ranges north of the Himalaya which are known as the Eastern Karakorum. This meant moving a large scientific apparatus as well as provisions on ponies and yaks across passes over 18,500 feet, often still covered with snow. As the greatest portion of the area traversed lies beyond the upper limit of human habitation, the highest permanent settlement being situated at 14,500 feet above sea level, food depots had to be established at various stages along the route." Geological data obtained tend, it is said, to prove that Himalaya and Karakorum, the world's highest mountain ranges, possess a geological structure similar to that which characterizes the Alps in Europe.

During the last months of the expedition the members will follow separate fields of research. Dr. de