

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

VIENNA AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PSYCHOLOGY

At the thirteenth annual business meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association held at Madison, Wisconsin, on April 22, 1938, the following set of resolutions was adopted:

WHEREAS, The Twelfth International Congress of Psychology, to be held in 1941, has been awarded to Vienna because of the honored place Austrian psychologists have occupied and now occupy in the history of psychology, and

WHEREAS, This decision was reached on July 31, 1937, when Austria was an independent nation, and

WHEREAS, Austria was forcibly annexed to Germany on March 11, 1938, and was consequently declared to be a province of Germany, and

WHEREAS, Germany is now governed by a Nazi dictatorship, which has subordinated the integrity of science and of scientists to a political creed, which has caused the dismissal of many scientists and scholars from their positions, which has caused the emigration of many of the nation's outstanding scientists and scholars to other countries, and which has so injured German psychology that it no longer holds the eminent position it once did, and

WHEREAS, The same forces have already confiscated the passport and available funds of Sigmund Freud, have caused the dismissal, arrest, or suicide of many other Viennese scientists, and are thus in the process of reducing Vienna and the rest of Austria to the same anti-intellectual, anti-scientific status that is now Germany's official position, and

WHEREAS, The attendance of the world's psychologists at an International Congress in Vienna could be interpreted at best as a lack of opposition to, and at worst as an endorsement of Nazi treatment of science and of scientists, therefore, be it

Resolved: 1. That the Midwestern Psychological Association goes on record as opposing the holding of the Twelfth International Congress of Psychology in the city of Vienna;

2. That it requests the executive committee of the International Committee to select a meeting place for the Twelfth International Congress in a country which permits the unhampered development of psychology and of other sciences;

3. That it requests the executive committee of the International Committee to add to its membership the name of Professor Karl Bühler as an associate, because Professor Bühler was elected president of the Vienna Congress, and because this same thing was done for Professor Emilio Mira, of Barcelona, when the Eleventh Congress was changed from Madrid to Paris.

J. P. GUILFORD,
Secretary-Treasurer

ORGANIZATION OF AN INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

DR. MAURICE HOLLAND, New York City, director of the Division of Engineering and Industrial Research

of the National Research Council, is acting as executive officer of a newly established Industrial Research Institute, an organization of research executives, affiliated principally with middle-sized and small industrial corporations, which was formed following a series of preliminary meetings held at the Engineers' Club, New York.

The institute was established following a survey as to the need for it after men, known for research activities in their respective fields of industry, had expressed a desire for such an organization in which they could discuss laboratory organization and administration and other problems common to directors of scientific research.

Robert B. Colgate, vice-president of the Colgate-Palmolive-Peet Co., Jersey City, N. J., has been named chairman of the executive committee of the institute, and H. W. Graham, general metallurgist, Jones and Laughlin Steel Corp., Pittsburgh, Pa., is vice-chairman. Other members of the executive committee are: O. A. Pickett, research director, Hercules Powder Co., Wilmington, Del.; Donald Bradner, director of research and development, Champion Paper and Fiber Co., Hamilton, Ohio; H. Earl Hoover, vice-president, The Hoover Co., Chicago; J. M. Wells, vice-president, American Optical Co., Southbridge, Mass.; G. E. Hopkins, technical director, Bigelow Sanford Carpet Co., Thompsonville, Conn., and Oliver Kamm, scientific director, Parke, Davis and Company, Detroit, Mich.

The executive committee will serve as a committee of the National Research Council during its formative and developmental stages. The Division of Engineering and Industrial Research of the council has made its facilities and technical resources available during the organization period. The present headquarters are at the offices of the division at 29 West 39th Street, New York. The institute will not duplicate the services of any existing organization and wherever it appears that any task can be better done by other organizations, it will be turned over to them.

Representatives of forty industrial corporations attended the first preliminary meeting in March when results of a survey of five hundred research laboratories to determine the extent of their needs were reported. The survey covered many fields of industry and major industrial areas of the country. It included problems of research laboratory organization and administration, the selection and handling of personnel, control and construction of budgets, relation of laboratories to other departments, coordination of research with market studies, sales promotion, etc. Improvement of the general efficiency of laboratory operation and increasing the return on the research investment were matters of specific interest.