

state there is, on an average, one automobile for every six persons.) Farmers, who, a few years ago, seldom went further than their nearest town now go many miles in their automobiles. When they reach a town new to them they want to see whatever is of interest. If all automobilists and other travelers knew a list such as the above could be found in the post-office they would first go there for information.

There is another important reason why such lists should be on exhibition in post-offices. It is very desirable that some person or persons in every community should know what has been written about their region. If those government and state publications pertaining to a region were listed and on sale at the post-offices, the postmasters and their assistants would know about them and through them this knowledge, which at present is confined to comparatively few, would be disseminated.

All this could be accomplished if congress should pass the following laws:

1. A law ordering the exhibition of a list of the publications pertaining to the region in which the post-office is situated, of somewhat the same character as that for Williamstown, Massachusetts.

2. A law ordering the scientific bureaus to send to each first, second, and third class post-office all of the government publications of local interest, and directing the postmasters to offer them for sale.

3. A law ordering that state publications be offered for sale by the postmasters if the state legislatures so direct.

It is hoped that all scientists and others interested will write to their congressmen urging the enactment of such a law as that outlined above so that our excellent government and state publications may become better known and so that our post-offices may become centers of greater usefulness.

HERDMAN F. CLELAND

#### SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

##### THE INSTITUTE OF HUMAN PALEONTOLOGY

ON December 23, 1920, the Institute of Human Paleontology in Paris was formally de-

clared open by Prince Albert of Monaco, its founder. The account in *Nature* states that the institute is situated in the Boulevard Saint Marcel. The building, which was nearing completion when war broke out, contains a large amphitheater for lectures and meetings, a spacious library, and a number of rooms fitted up as laboratories, for examining and photographing the material furnished by excavation. Collections of specimens from the sites which have already been explored, as well as reproductions of the paintings and drawings found on the walls of the French and Spanish paleolithic caves, are exhibited in the building. An endowment of two million francs is attached to the Prince of Monaco's foundation, and an additional sum has been promised should it be rendered necessary by any further increase in the cost of living. The institute is under the direction of M. Marcelin Boule, assisted by a council consisting of MM. Salomon Reinach, Dislère, Verneau and Louis Mayer.

Among those who were present at the opening ceremony were the President of the French Republic, M. Millerand, H.I.H. Prince Roland Bonaparte, M. Honnorat, then Minister of Public Instruction, the Belgian and Italian Ambassadors, the Argentine and Persian Ministers, M. Lacroix, secretary of the Academy of Sciences, the president of the Academy of Medicine, and representatives of the College of Medicine, the Collège de France, the Pasteur Institute, and the various scientific societies. An inaugural address was delivered by the Prince of Monaco, who defined the broad aims of human paleontology. At the conclusion of the prince's address brief speeches were made by M. Honnorat, minister of public instruction, M. Perrier, and M. Le Corbeiller, president of the Municipal Council, the last named speaking on behalf of the city of Paris. Lastly, M. E. Cartailhac, the veteran archeologist, expressed his joy at the creation of the institute, which, he said, had been his dearest wish throughout his career as an archeologist.

##### A NEW CANADIAN AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL

THE problems of technical agriculture in the adjoining provinces of Canada are essen-

tially the same as those of the northern states of this country. Anyone who has taken the trouble to familiarize himself with the situation can not fail to be impressed with the similarity of aims and ideals in agricultural investigation and education in Canada and the United States. The workers in technical agriculture are responsible for much of the recent progress and prosperity of Canada. This is perhaps most appreciated in this country by those of us who are engaged in similar lines of work in the northern states and who, through correspondence and frequent conferences upon mutual problems with our colleagues in adjacent provinces, are best informed as to the results they have accomplished and the progress that they are making. Therefore the writer feels that a new agricultural journal, the official organ of the Canadian Society of Technical Agriculturists, will be welcomed and will find many readers on this side of the international boundary.

The first issue of *Scientific Agriculture and La Revue Agronomique Canadienne* bears the date of January 1, 1921. It is published monthly by the Industrial and Educational Publishing Company, Ltd., Gardenvale, P. Q. The title page states that it is: "A magazine devoted to the general advancement of agriculture in Canada. Published in the interests of agricultural science and research." The aims of the journal are set forth in more detail in the following quotation from the initial editorial.

As the official organ of the Canadian Society of Technical Agriculturists, our columns will naturally give publicity to the work which that organization is doing. The articles published will, as far as possible, treat with the educational, scientific and more progressive phases of agricultural effort. Certain pages will perhaps appear to be of primary interest to members of the C. S. T. A., but the general reader will find much information in those pages that is of equal interest to him.

We particularly desire to cooperate with the present existing agricultural press, and to assist them in any way possible. We do not intend to be competitive, nor to trespass severely upon the ground which they are already covering. We feel, however, that there is a place for a magazine which

can represent technical agriculture in this country and we feel certain that no existing publication will dispute that claim, or hesitate to welcome this venture.

As the name of the publication suggests, articles will be printed both in English and French.

WARNER J. MORSE

MAINE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION,  
ORONO, MAINE

#### SCIENTIFIC LECTURES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

THE following program of Sunday lectures is being given at the Zoological Museum of the University of Minnesota:

- January 2. "The winter bird-life of Minnesota." By D. Lange, principal of the St. Paul Mechanic Arts High School.
- January 9. "The geology of the Minnesota iron ores." By W. H. Emmons, professor of geology, University of Minnesota.
- January 16. "The work of the state game and fish commissioner." By Carlos Avery, game and fish commissioner of Minnesota.
- January 23. "The story of the wheat rust." By E. C. Stakman, professor of plant pathology, University of Minnesota.
- January 30. "Animal pets and their relation to health." By W. A. Riley, professor of entomology, University of Minnesota.
- February 6. "Some Minnesota butterflies and moths and the mystery of their double lives." By Royal N. Chapman, assistant professor of animal biology, University of Minnesota.
- February 13. "The work of the chief state forester." By Wm. T. Cox, chief forester of Minnesota.
- February 20. "The mysteries of pond life." By C. P. Sigerfoos, professor of zoology, University of Minnesota.
- February 27. "The Indians of Minnesota: past and present." By A. E. Jenks, professor of anthropology, University of Minnesota.
- March 6. "Itasca state park and its wild life." By Thos. S. Roberts, director of the zoological museum, University of Minnesota.
- March 13. "Living lanterns of fireflies and other animals." By E. J. Lund, associate professor of animal biology, University of Minnesota.
- March 20. "Our spring flowers." By N. L. Huff, assistant professor of botany, University of Minnesota.