

Apr. 30. 1909 + 4

Dear President Johnson,

Professor Wallace
is most anxious to see you
and secure your interest
in his scheme. He has an
introduction to you from Franklin
MacVeagh. He asked me to
tell you that he will accommodate
himself to your convenience, and
will come out to see you at
any time — if possible within
the next 4 or 5 days — that
you may designate.

It is really a delightful,
and interesting man. He has

the perfrigidum ingenium
scotorum, which all Scots
do not possess.

as I know his lairs in
chiags, I'll be glad to
communicate your reply
to him.

Yours sincerely
Alex. Smith

R

Relating to the Establishment of a great International Research Institute, to direct the power of modern science to the world problems as to how the resources of this planet can be best utilized for the benefit of mankind; the Institute to be non-political and managed by the leading men in Science of all countries of the world through a permanent executive Secretary and two assistant Secretaries with Offices in London and Washington, D. C.

Memorandum by Professor Robert Wallace

University of Edinburgh, June 5th 1908.

I paid a visit to America in April 1908 with the object of discussing this matter with the people most likely to be interested in it. The scheme has been growing in my mind since February 1905, when the necessity of something of the kind first occurred to me. On I am hopeful that it will secure appreciation as a practical means of meeting the difficulties of the future which were so forcibly pointed out at the recent conference on the "Conservation of Natural Resources" in Washington. On my arrival in Washington I could not help feeling impressed with the fact that such a scheme was in complete sympathy with the general trend of the views expressed by the readers of papers at the Conference.

I had a private interview with President Roosevelt on the subject and he arranged that I should provide Secretary James Wilson, his Minister of Agriculture, with details and he (the President) would give it his fullest consideration. The British Ambassador, Mr. Bryce, was also most sympathetic. The scheme was not only favorably but

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enthusiastically received by the expert Authorities to whom I explained it, viz:-

- (1) Secretary James Wilson, Minister of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
- (2) Asst. Secy. Wm. M. Hays, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
- (3) Chief Forester, Gifford Pinchot, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
- (4) Dr. W. L. Moore, Chief of the Weather Bureau, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
- (5) President Robert S. Woodward, Carnegie Institution of Washington
- (6) Dr. H. F. Moore, in charge of the Division of Science Enquiry, Fisheries Department, Washington, D. C.
- (7) Director H. C. Bumpus of the American Museum of Natural History, New York, and President of the 4th International Fisheries Congress (1908).

In New York I also explained the scheme and its objects to Mr. J. H. Choate, the late U. S. Ambassador to England. He asked to be kept in touch with what was being done in connection with this matter, promised to help in every way within his power, and urged (as Asst. Secy. Hays had done) the necessity of including all countries.

In this country the corresponding authorities most interested in the scheme are:

- (1) Dr. John Struthers, Secretary Scotch Education Department, Dover House, London.
- (2) Principal A. P. Laurie, Heriot Watt College, Edinburgh.
- (3) Dr. Wm. Semerville, Sibthorpe Professor of Rural Economy of the University of Oxford.
- (4) Professor T. H. Middleton, Assistant Secretary Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, London.
- (5) Director A. D. Hall, Rothamsted Laboratories, Harpenden, Herts.
- (6) Dr. John A. Voelcker, Chemist to the Royal Agricultural Society of England, 22 Tudor Street, London, E. C.
- (7) Dr. MacCormick, Secretary of the Carnegie Trust, Edinburgh, Scotland

(Signed) ROBERT WALLACE,

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MEMORANDUM dealing with a Scheme for the Establishment of an International Institute of Research, a sequel to the 'Conference on the Conservation of Natural Resources,' held at the White House, May 13-15, 1908, although springing from an independent conception originating in a study of the same world interests. By ROBERT WALLACE, Professor of Agriculture and Rural Economy in Edinburgh University.

1. The fundamental object of the proposed organisation is primarily to develop the resources of the Commonwealths of Greater Britain and America, but ultimately to extend to all countries and benefit all sections of the human race by the conservation of the world's natural resources.

2. The fundamental means to be employed to be that of physical research in the widest sense, in contradistinction to library research, such as will mainly engage the attention of the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome.

3. The subjects to be taken up to be unrestricted as to classification, but to involve objects of international interest and importance: subjects which could not—on account of their magnitude, and, it might be in some cases, on account of the geographical distribution of the material to be investigated—be, in certain of their phases, so fully and comprehensively treated by one nation as by the combined efforts of two or more working together.

4. Although enlisting the sympathy and moral support of the respective governmental authorities, the work to be exclusively scientific and practical, free from all political questions and considerations, and to be conducted by highly trained experts, working under the general direction of a Board of Controllers, composed of the most prominent scientific men of the combined countries, to be chosen periodically.

5. The work not to interfere with that being done by the respective Government Departments of the included countries and their colonies and dependencies, and by institutions established for specific purposes, such as The Carnegie Institution of Washington; The International Fisheries Congress; The International Meteorological Committee; The International Association of Forest Experiment Stations; The International Congress for the Repression of Frauds in Foods

and Drugs, and other similar bodies. But powers to be assumed to act in concert with or through any of these or other bodies when it is deemed advantageous to do so.

6. The following intentionally restricted list of subjects will indicate a few of the directions in which research of an international kind could be instituted when, in the opinion of the controlling body of international representatives, the time is ripe for taking them up:—

- (a) Sea fisheries generally, but especially in relation to the study of pelagic species ranging widely over the ocean, which can only be undertaken by an international body having free access to every necessary centre of investigation dominated by the associated countries.
- (b) Atmospheric researches on a more comprehensive basis than that of existing Weather Bureaux—in the interests of commerce and of agriculture, including the great branches of the live stock industry.
- (c) Researches bearing upon international quarantine of human beings and of the lower animals, and directed against plant diseases and insect pests, inclusive of their parasitic enemies.
- (d) International food and drugs distribution.
- (e) The means of preventing the enormous waste in the utilisation of forest products.
- (f) The future possible sources of motive power to do the world's work when the present sources of power become exhausted or too expensive, namely, conservation of sun energy, and the utilisation of wind, wave, and tide power.

7. The widest possible basis has been suggested for the functions of this International Institute of Research, because it is intended to be a permanent institution crowning and co-ordinating the work of other institutions by providing means to carry scientific research to a higher level and into a sphere of greater usefulness; consequently enlisting the practical sympathy and support of all classes of citizens.

8. The first controlling body should consist of ten distinguished scientists, which may be subsequently added to—one half nominated by representative authorities of each of the two initiating countries—each member, after preliminary adjustments, to hold office for five years. The

Chairman or President should be an additional member nominated each year by the country in which the meeting is held, and be one of the highest authorities on International Law.

9. The head office should have a central home in London and in Washington, under the direction of a permanent executive secretary and an assistant secretary.

10. The work, according to its nature, to be carried on wherever the Institute shall determine, and in the manner which it shall appoint.

11. Suggestions as to subjects to be taken up to be invited from all publicly constituted scientific and other bodies, accompanied by a detailed statement of the objects in view, with all other necessary information.†

12. Besides Central and Local Meetings of Committees, there should be at least one annual peripatetic meeting at which all the members of the supreme body should be present, held at some convenient place to be selected, at least once a year in advance, in the associated countries.

ROBERT WALLACE.

June 1, 1908.

† Regulations limiting proposals to purely international objects, and necessitating their full consideration and support by groups of public bodies, or societies devoted to common objects, before being submitted; would be necessary to keep the number of propositions within workable bounds.

Chairman of the Board, should be an individual member, not a
 corporation, and should be in the position in which the meeting of the
 Board can be held at the highest level of the organization.

9. The Board should have a permanent home in London
 and in Washington, and the location of a permanent home
 should be determined by the Board.

10. The work of the Board should be carried out in the manner
 which the Institute shall determine, and in the manner
 which it shall appoint.

11. Suggestions as to subjects to be taken up should
 be invited from all public bodies, scientific and other
 bodies, accompanied by a detailed statement of the objects
 in view, with all other necessary information.

12. Besides General and Local Meetings of Committees,
 there should be at least one annual meeting of the
 whole of the members of the Institute, which should be held
 at some convenient place to be selected, at least once
 a year in advance, in the associated countries.

13. Every member of the Institute should be entitled to
 attend the meetings of the Institute, and to be heard
 thereon.

14. The Institute should be organized in such a manner
 that it may be able to carry out its objects.

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May 3, 1909

My dear Mr. Smith:-

Your favor of the 30th of April with enclosure is at hand. I shall be pleased to see Mr. Wallace sometime this week. I am not sure just what time might be available, but if you will call up my office you can make an appointment at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

H.P.G.

Mr. Alexander Smith,
The University of Chicago.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
MR. ALEXANDER SMITH

40-8-1
DEAR MR. SMITH:

convenience.

As you will see by the office you can make an arrangement of your

work. I am not sure that what time it will be convenient for you

to be here. I would be pleased to see Mr. Wallace sometime this

week. I have of the 20th of April with enclosure

of your Mr. Smith:-

Yours truly,
W. D. 1000