

conferences are now held, and the acceptance of this machinery as the normal, ordinary medium for solving international problems; (9) The uniformly high plane of discussion and debate in international conferences; (10) The dual language arrangement seems to make for greater precision and conciseness of expression because of the necessity of translation. Members of conferences debate but do not indulge in mere oratory; (11) There are indications of a drift in the direction of the Council becoming stronger at the expense of the Assembly. However, one was certainly impressed by the fact that the views of the small states carry great weight. They can make their voice heard, even in the Council; and (12) The cordial attitude of the League states toward the United States. This was particularly evident in the meetings of the signatories of the Protocol. They appeared in a receptive, but not a dependent, mood.

Whatever variations there may be in the impressions that the members of the party received from the institutions and organizations visited, all were agreed on the worthwhileness of the venture. The objectives aimed at were attained, and instruction and productive research in the field of international relations will inevitably be stimulated.

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**The Los Angeles Institute of Public Affairs.** The first annual sessions of the Los Angeles Institute of Public Affairs were held at the Southern Branch of the University of California from July 6 to 10, 1926. The Institute was designed both as an integral part of the regular summer session of the Southern Branch and as a series of meetings to which the general public was invited. A committee of members of the political science department, under the chairmanship of Professor Charles G. Haines, was in charge. The program of the Institute included round table conferences every morning and afternoon and lectures every evening. Certain phases of the following general subjects were treated: traffic and transit, city planning, the administration of metropolitan areas, Chinese problems, and criminal justice.

The session on traffic and transit was presided over by Dr. Miller McClintock, director of the Albert Russel Erskine Bureau of Traffic Research and author of the city traffic ordinance at present in operation in the city of Los Angeles. Among the topics discussed at this session were city traffic problems—with particular reference to the motor

vehicle traffic conditions in Los Angeles—and the proposed uniform traffic ordinances for southern California.

At the sessions on city planning it was predicted, among other things, that within ten years modern cities will have planning commissions empowered to pass on the appearance and safety of every building erected within city limits. The need for strict zoning of residence, business, and industrial areas was stressed. The organization and activity of community art juries were described, and the artistic and aesthetic results achieved by certain community art juries now in existence in various parts of the United States were noted. The "menace of great cities," in terms of the curtailment of the amenities of life and of the conditions which make for physical and moral community health, safety, and civic beauty, was pointed out by Professor Leonard S. Smith, of the University of Wisconsin, and the English garden city was brought forward by him as a suggested remedy.

Mr. C. A. Dykstra, director of the bureau of personnel of the Los Angeles city department of water and power, and chairman of the sessions on the administration of metropolitan areas, suggested that a new type of political unit in cities is in the making—one which may come to be known as the "region." The activities of the regional planning commission, the development of unified highway systems, recreational centers, the functional study of local problems for the purpose of relieving the whole community of duplicating and conflicting agencies, the centralization of assessing and revenue collecting functions, "satellite cities," and the mechanistic elements involved in the re-organization of metropolitan areas were among the subjects dealt with at these sessions.

The sessions on Chinese problems were under the general supervision of Professor Malbone W. Graham. The particular subjects considered included Chinese law, the problem of extraterritoriality, political and constitutional development, Asiatic culture, and the international relations of China. Dr. Frank E. Hinckley, of the University of California, traced the progress of law in China, and Dr. Graham described the course of diplomatic relations between China and Soviet Russia between 1917 and 1926. A large part of the material was presented by Professor Harold S. Quigley, of the University of Minnesota. In his evening lecture on "Chinese Politics and Foreign Powers" one of the significant conclusions drawn was the following: "The suggestion has been made that China should not wait upon the powers but should abrogate her treaties by unilateral action. No friend of China would

endorse such a suggestion. The excitement attendant upon such arbitrary action would be likely to produce outrages and thus to justify intervention, if that result did not follow automatically. . . . The pedestrian route of gradual evolution, encouraged and aided by the treaty powers, is the wiser course in view of China's domestic problems and of her position in the world."

The discussions at both of the round table conferences devoted to criminal justice were led by Professor Roscoe Pound, dean of the Harvard Law School, who also delivered two evening lectures on the subject. The contribution of Dean Pound attracted a great deal of attention throughout the state and particularly among the members of the Los Angeles Bar Association. One reason for the interest of the public in this section was the fact that a California state commission, headed by a local attorney, Major Walter K. Tuller, has been working for some time on plans for the revision of the code of criminal procedure now in force in the courts of California. At the round table conferences certain recommendations contemplated by this commission were presented and discussed.

Dean Pound insisted upon the necessity of bringing scientific study and research to bear upon the problems of criminal justice. He asserted that the weakness of the administration of criminal justice, to which attention is being directed on all sides, may be attributed in large part to difficulties arising from the change from a pioneer, rural, agricultural society to an urban, industrial society. In the effort to meet these difficulties too much emphasis is placed on legislative tinkering with the machinery for administering justice and with the procedure devised for courts and judges. Any program of reform must distinguish: (1) certain inherent difficulties in the administration of criminal justice; (2) certain difficulties which are peculiarly American, growing out of social, political, and legal institutions in this country; and (3) local difficulties of a particular time and place.

In his addresses at meetings of the members of the Los Angeles Bar Association, Dean Pound stressed the importance of the contribution of lawyers toward securing better judicial machinery and developing more simplified and effective methods of procedure. The most impressive meeting in connection with the Institute was the Friday evening dinner given by the Bar Association in honor of Dean Pound. On this occasion Dean Pound spoke on "The Law of the Land," and gave an account of the permanent and enduring elements in the evolution of American law.

The contributions made by the lecturers and the keen interest in the sessions shown both by university students and the general public have given substantial encouragement for the continuance of the Institute. Plans are already being made for a similar meeting next summer.

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**An Experiment in the Stimulation of Voting.** In the fall of 1924 an attempt was made in selected districts in the city of Chicago to measure the effect of a non-partisan mail canvass to get out the vote. This experiment was a continuation of the study of non-voting begun in Chicago in connection with the mayoralty election of 1923. The basis of the non-voting study was the collection of six thousand personal interviews. The reasons for not voting given by the persons interviewed were classified and tabulated so as to bring out the relation between typical reasons and the situations resulting in non-voting. A survey of persons who failed to vote in the presidential election of 1924 showed that the distribution of causes of non-voting in the previous study was fairly accurate. The experiment in the stimulation of voting was an attempt to test the causes of non-voting in an objective fashion.

In order to set up this experiment it was necessary to keep constant, within reasonable limits, all the factors that enter into the electoral process except the particular stimuli which were to be tested. The factors known to have some relation to non-voting are: sex, the dramatic quality of the election, the convenience of the voting system, mobility, foreign birth, and the nature of the local party organization. The method of random sampling was used to control these factors during the testing of the particular stimuli used in the experiment.

A thorough canvass was made of six thousand adult citizens living in twelve selected districts in the city. Special efforts were made to list all the eligible voters living in these areas. The second step in the experiment was the division of the citizens in each of the districts canvassed into two groups, one of which was to be stimulated while the other was not. The assumption was made that if a larger proportion of the stimulated citizens registered and voted than of the non-stimulated citizens, the particular stimuli used had had some effect. Since the stimulated and non-stimulated citizens were selected from the same precincts, there was no reason to suppose that the strength of the local party organizations would vary much as between the two groups. Furthermore, the percentage distributions of the stimulated and non-