

## International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences.

We have the honour to invite you to attend the first session of the International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences, to be held in London, under Royal Patronage, from July 30th to August 4th, 1934.

This Congress is designed to include all those departments of research which contribute to the scientific study of man, in their application to races, peoples and modes of life.

*History and Organization.*—The establishment of the new Congress results from more than twenty years of preparation. In 1912, after the London Session of the International Congress of Americanists, the Royal Anthropological Institute invited a small committee, on which eight countries were represented, to organize a more general assembly, which should discuss questions of anthropology and ethnology in the years when the Americanist Congress met in Europe. The proposal was communicated to the International Congress of Anthropology and Prehistoric Archæology, which met in 1912 at Geneva, and was favourably received. In 1916 that Congress was to have met at Madrid and the Americanist Congress in Europe, and a "Congress of Anthropological Sciences" was therefore planned for that year; but these meetings were prevented by the War. In 1931, however, a new International Congress of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences was founded by a conference at Berne; it held its first session in London in 1932, and has been invited to meet at Oslo in 1936.

To provide similar facilities for the whole range of anthropological and ethnological sciences, the Royal Anthropological Institute, with the concurrence of the survivors of the committee of 1912, and after prolonged enquiries, convened a conference at Basel on April 20th–22nd, 1933, at which it was unanimously agreed by the representatives of nine nations, with the written encouragement of distinguished colleagues in all parts of the world, to establish an INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ANTHROPOLOGICAL AND ETHNOLOGICAL SCIENCES, similarly constituted and to accept a British invitation to hold the first session in London in 1934. Subsequent sessions are to be at intervals of four years. The new Congress should thus always meet at two years' interval between Prehistoric Congresses, and always in those years when the Americanist Congress meets in Europe; for example, at Seville in 1934.

The Congress is governed by a Permanent Council, consisting of not more than four members from each country, assisted by one or two "national secretaries." The first members were nominated at the conference at Basel; vacancies will be filled by the Congress, on the nomination of the Council. The London session is arranged by a British Organizing Committee, the officers of which are named below.

*Date and Place of the London Session.*—Meetings will be held at University College, London, W.C.1, and at the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum close by. The opening session will be on Monday, July 30th, 1934, and will be followed by an official Reception.