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## THE PROGRESS OF SCIENCE

### THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF EUGENICS

In this journal special attention has always been given to problems of evolution, heredity and eugenics. As older readers of the *THE POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY* will remember, it gave the first American publication to the work of Spencer, and, to a certain extent of Darwin, Huxley and the other leaders in the development of the doctrine of evolution. It was indeed under the elder Youmans a journal primarily devoted to the cause of evolution at a time when the word stood for heresy not only with the general public, but also among most men of science.

During the past twenty years under its present editorial control, *THE SCIENTIFIC MONTHLY* has continued to devote a considerable part of its space to work bearing on heredity and eugenics. Francis Galton printed here articles laying the foundation of eugenics, and the leading American students of genetics—Brooks, Wilson, Morgan, Conklin, Davenport, Jennings, Pearl and many others have communicated the results of their work to the wider scientific and educated public through this journal. In like manner, many articles by leaders in the subject have been printed on human heredity in so far as it is open to experimental or statistical study, and in other subjects on which a science of eugenics must rest—population, birth and death rates, immigration, racial differences, human behavior, etc.

We are consequently pleased to be able to record the holding in New York City of the second International Congress of Eugenics and to print in the present issue of the *MONTHLY* several of the more important addresses by foreign representatives. Shakespeare left no descendants, and

Ben Jonson remarked that nature, having made her masterpiece, broke the mold. The four sons of Charles Darwin have followed scientific careers, a fine example of family heredity and tradition. It is a special privilege to welcome to the United States and to print the address in advocacy of eugenics of Major Leonard Darwin, based so largely on the works of his father, Charles Darwin, and of his cousin, Francis Galton. We hope to be able to publish in subsequent issues a general account of the congress by Dr. C. C. Little, the secretary, and several of the papers containing the results of more special scientific research. The program was strong in genetics, in which America now, probably is leading. But all the divisions maintained good standards, the more doubtful theories and premature applications of ignorance, to which newer sciences such as eugenics and psychology are subject, having been in general avoided.

### THE MEETING OF CHEMISTS IN NEW YORK CITY

The sixty-second meeting of the American Chemical Society, held like the Congress of Eugenics in New York during September, may lead to the hope that the city will give as much concern to becoming the center of the scientific as of the financial world. It was partly an Anglo-American meeting, for the Society of Chemical Industry having met in Canada, a number of the English and Canadian members took part in the New York meeting.

When the visiting guests crossed the border into the United States at Niagara Falls, President Harding welcomed them with the following telegram:

It is a pleasure to extend greetings