

this theory today. No continent has settled to a watery grave carrying chapters of human history down with it. That is to say, no major change in the world's geography of this sort has happened in man's lifetime.

So far as Easter Island itself is concerned, the sea very near the island

drops off sheer 12,000 feet. It has been aptly pointed out that if this terrain were lifted, the whole island would be well above the snow line, and that would mean that sculpture factories flourished in a chilly, rarefied atmosphere, far from suitable for such work.

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GEOGRAPHY

Maps of the World Displayed For World Geographers

International Congress at Warsaw Had Largest Exhibit of Maps; Aerial Photography Also Studied

By DR. ISAIAH BOWMAN, President, International Geographical Congress at Warsaw; Director, American Geographical Society and Chairman, National Research Council.

THE largest and most diversified map exhibition of its kind in the world was the outstanding feature of the International Geographical Congress at Warsaw from which the American delegates have recently returned.

The map is the symbol of the geographical profession. In the Congress the cartographic papers, discussions and exhibits were naturally most important.

An entire building was devoted to the exhibition, to which 50 institutions from 25 nations contributed maps.

Practically all official cartographic services of the world sent exhibits. About a dozen American universities and research organizations, as well as government bureaus, contributed material for the exhibit. The first exhibit to be inspected by President Moscicki, head of the Polish Republic, when he opened the exhibition, was that of the United States Geological Survey.

There were exhibited archaeological

maps made on the one to one-millionth base maps, and the steady progress of this enterprise was encouraging. It consists of putting upon this internationally recognized base map the location of various types of archaeological remains. One map shows Roman Britain, and from it the reader sees at once where the known remaining sites—walls, forts, baths, etc.—may now be found.

There was also a special meeting devoted to an historical account of the development and progress of the one to one-millionth international map of the world. At this meeting it was reported that the compilation of the 102 sheets of Hispanic America now in preparation by the American Geographical Society of New York would be completed by the end of 1934, and that the fair drawing would be completed by the end of 1935.

The Congress paid considerable attention to aerial photography as an aid to mapping. One of the principal publications of the Congress was a report of a Commission on Photogrammetry dealing with progress in this field. This was one of the seven Commissions that

have been working during the past three years and which contributed valuable reports to the Congress. A new Commission was appointed at the Warsaw meeting—one on Climatic Variations. It is hoped to give this matter special attention in the next four years during which the Commission is to prepare material for the next Congress.

Honored By President

The Congress was honored at the opening by the presence of President Moscicki, the head of the Republic. Present also were some of the members of the Cabinet and representatives of foreign embassies. The attendance was approximately 1,000. The meeting was held in the Court of the Polytechnic Institute. There were 44 nations represented by about 300 foreign delegates. The total membership of the Congress was about 870.

President Moscicki also received the delegates on the terrace of the Palais Royale, overlooking the Vistula. The members of the Congress were also received by the Prime Minister of Poland and by the Mayor of Warsaw. At the final banquet the Congress was honored by the presence of M. Beck, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and also by the Minister of Culture and Public Education.

Made Excursions

Before and after the Congress excursions were conducted by experienced geographers to various parts of Poland. They were of particular interest to the foreign delegates because of the fact that Poland has so recently been reconstituted. A part of it was formerly under the sovereignty of Austria-Hungary, another part was held by Germany, and the greater part was included in so-called "Congress Poland," a province of former Russia. To put these three parts together into a working political organization, to integrate their economic life, including their transportation systems, and to organize the political machinery and cultural institutions effectively was the first task of the leaders of Poland, and it was of interest to the members of the Congress to see the diversity of the country and the steps taken to make out of that diversity a harmonious whole. The technical or professional aspects of the excursions were also of broad interest because of the fact that few geographers from other countries had visited some of the less accessible parts of Poland and all were eager to see a land situated so far toward the East.

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