

The Government will take over all life insurance, 40 per cent.

The Government will own and operate radio broadcasting in 20 years, 50 per cent.

The United States will never become a collective state, 66 per cent.

The United States will never have a Fascist dictator, 90 per cent.

A European war is coming, 80 per cent. Nearly all say within 8 years. Germany will be the aggressor, say 60 per cent., Italy, 30 per cent., Japan, 7 per cent.

A combination of nations including England, France, and Russia, will win

the war, 98 per cent.

The Spanish war will be won by the Loyalists, 50 per cent.

Another depression is on the way, 95 per cent. Most date it between 1941 and 1950.

Nazi government will last more than 20 years, say only 17 per cent.

U. S. S. R. will last more than 20 years, say 75 per cent. Soviet will endure indefinitely, 60 per cent.

People's wishes are involved in their predictions when the matters are of intimate personal interest, Dr. Cantril observed.

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not be dependent on racial, political or theological qualifications, Dr. F. R. Moulton, permanent secretary of the American Association, has urged. He contemplates the "formulation of a set of fundamental scientific principles of an ethical nature on which unanimous agreement of the delegates can be reached" and "the formulation of the maximum number of inviolable methods of international intercourse and cooperation among scientists on which the delegates can unanimously agree."

If such a common ground were established, Dr. Moulton suggests that it can be gradually enlarged until it will form a substantial basis for the general progress of civilization.

Science News Letter, April 23, 1938

GENERAL SCIENCE

World Organization for Science Being Planned

PLANS are being laid by the American and British Associations for the Advancement of Science for the organization of international cooperation among scientists on a wider scale than exists at present.

The secretaries of the two national organizations are exchanging notes on methods of cooperation and a conference, either of British and American representatives alone, or a larger meeting of scientific leaders from all countries interested, is tentatively scheduled for this summer.

Arising from the increasing realization in both nations that scientists are responsible in large measure for the effects of science on society, the present moves for formal cooperation originate from a resolution passed by the coun-

cil of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at its meeting last December. The stage for this action had been set by the emphasis upon "science and society" provided by the 1936 and 1937 meetings of the British Association.

The British viewpoint is that the proposed world organization essentially would be composed of national and scientific groups that uphold the democratic ideals and mechanisms of scientific freedom. The British scientific journal, "Nature," of which Sir Richard Gregory, Bart., is editor, has led in emphasizing the need of resisting the encroachments that totalitarian governments have made upon scientific methods and liberties of thought.

The invitation to cooperation should

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bed in a California desert, and a mine in New Mexico where men worked beneath an overlying blanket of water, have made America's potash industry possible, was described at a special symposium of the American Chemical Society.

Prior to the World War, Germany with its great potash deposits at Strassfurt, monopolized the world's potash trade. These Strassfurt deposits, formed in prehistoric times by the evaporation of sea water which then covered the spot, have an origin comparable with the dry, desert-bounded Searles Lake at Trona, California.

By drilling wells into the dry lake a strong brine is encountered which contains over 35 per cent. dissolved chemicals, said W. A. Gale, chemist of the American Potash and Chemical Corporation at Trona.

The brine is rich in the salts of potassium and sodium and the separation of the various fractions by evaporation is one of the triumphs of American chemistry. The prior work in Germany was of little use in developing the present processes. The physical difficulty of founding a town of 1,800 workers in a desert region was no small feat in itself.

The Searles Lake deposits at Trona furnished 40 per cent. of America's potash needs last year, said R. W. Mumford of the same company, another speaker on the program.

As auxiliary products the salt brine produces 40 per cent. of the world's consumption of borax and boric acid, together with substantial amounts of soda ash and salt cake.

In the California brine wells the potassium chloride is obtained only after

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