

takes delight in seeing the results of scientific investigations admirably presented. A comparison of this report with those published in America is in no way favorable to the latter. Naturally the question arises: if the Italian government can afford to get out its hydro-meteorological data in the excellent and attractive form above described, why cannot other countries, particularly the United States and Canada, undertake publication of similar data in an equally complete and attractive manner? Not only could an enormous amount of labor and expense be saved in the application of the data, but the danger of serious errors through inadequacy of published data could be greatly reduced.

One cannot help but admire the efficient and complete manner in which those responsible for the publications of *Annali Idrologici* have met in a practical way the needs of

those for whom the data are really compiled. Evidently bureaucratic prerequisites and convenience have played no part whatever in their considerations.

It is not the writer's desire to offer criticism further than to point the way to better results in other countries, particularly the United States and Canada. It would seem, however, that the need for revision of methods of publication of hydraulic and meteorologic data is so urgent, and the possibilities of accomplishment so great, that the matter is one which might appropriately be taken up by the Sections of Hydrology and Meteorology of the International Geophysical Union or some other adequate organization, with a view to bringing about better and more complete publication of such data. Should this be done the Italian reports may well serve as a model.—*R. E. H.*

CENTENARY OF FRANCESCO DENZA (1834-1934)

A centenary which should not pass unnoticed by meteorologists is that of Francesco Denza, born June 7, 1834. At the age of sixteen he joined the Barnabite Order, and for years was one of the faculty of their college at Moncalieri, where he established and directed the observatory, and founded the *Bolletino Mensile di Meteorologia*. He attained an international reputation, and through his influence more than two hundred meteorological stations were established throughout Italy. In 1866 he was invited to take charge of the meteorological service, then centered in Florence, but declined the offer. In cooperation with the Alpine clubs he organized the *Corrispondenza Meteorologica Italiana*. Thus he gathered regular series of observations from a large number

of stations in the Alps and the Apennines. These were published in the Bulletin of the Italian Meteorological Society, of which he was a founder, and president for several years.

Father Denza was equally influential in the domain of terrestrial magnetism, seismology, and astronomy. Pope Leo XIII named him director of the Vatican Observatory, and there he took special interest in stellar photography, the observatory being one of those engaged in the preparation of the great map of the heavens projected at Paris in 1887. He was also a keen student of meteoric phenomena. He died in Rome, December 14, 1894. A pupil of the well-known Father Angelo Secchi, S.J., he was an outstanding figure in nineteenth century Italian science.—*Charles C. Conroy.*