

are numerous remains in camps, etc., of Roman times. The Report contains an account of excavations on the Wansdyke where it approaches Savernake Forest, and Mr. A. C. Brentall contributes a description of Martinsell, an old camp or cattle enclosure, three to four miles away, on the top of a chalk hill which falls precipitously to some of the richest agricultural ground of Wilts. Flint implements are common everywhere, as shown in an article by J. G. D. Clark, comparing 2000 specimens collected within two years at Marlborough and Seaford.

The permanent value of the whole series of reports lies, however, mainly in their descriptions of the natural history of one of the richest areas of the British Isles. The foundations of these were laid by such men as Preston and Hart-Smith in botany, Warde Fowler and Im Thurn (of British Guiana fame) in ornithology, and, above all, by Edward Meyrick in entomology, the latter not only a genius in his scientific work, but also in his task as a schoolmaster of developing the individuality of his pupils. Of the same type would appear to be Mr. A. G. Lowndes, who has written an illustrated article on that peculiar shrimp-like freshwater Cheirocephalus, a relic of the primary period; he also contributes notes on other freshwater forms that he and his class are studying, while there are references to vacation parties taken to the Isle of Purbeck and to the laboratory of the Marine Biological Association at Plymouth.

Of other work we might refer to meteorological observations carried on for sixty years, to the flowering dates of plants and to the dates of capture of insects, regular features of the report. In these a boy, A. G. P. Michelmore, seems to be prominent, and he, too, is largely responsible for revised lists of several groups of insects within a ten-mile radius of Marlborough; really the record of 663 species of that very difficult group, the Diptera or flies, is extraordinary for a school natural history society.

In this age of systematised school games—organised exercise would be a better term—we particularly welcome a report such as this, showing individuality, sacrifice and keenness in both masters and boys. Nothing gives a greater zest and interest to one's later life than the art of observation of all one's surroundings, both large and small, taught perhaps best in natural history. We are, indeed, happy to see that in this great school there must be opportunities for healthful and profitable recreation apart from the compulsion of "games."

### University and Educational Intelligence.

CAMBRIDGE.—Mr. F. B. Smith has been reappointed reader in estate management for five years as from October 1.

The Raymond Horton Smith prize for 1924-25 has been divided between Dr. J. H. Burn, of Emmanuel College, whose thesis was written on the effects of denervation of a limb, and Dr. G. A. Harrison, of Gonville and Caius College, who dealt with insulin and diabetes mellitus.

The University Commissioners have published a list of amendments to their recently proposed statutes. The department of forestry is to be grouped with agriculture in a joint faculty. The Financial Board is to have power at its discretion to require that a departmental imprest account shall be administered by some one other than the head of the department. This might prove to be a valuable controlling factor in the case of any department the finances of which did not at any time appear to be administered in the best interests of the University. A special exception to the statute which requires professors to retire at the

age of sixty-five years is to be made in the case of Sir Humphry Rolleston, Bart., who accepted office at a time when the commissioners had intimated that they proposed to institute a retiring age of seventy years.

The Special Board of Agriculture and Forestry has presented a report of progress for the year 1924-25. The considerable number of students who obtained Imperial and commercial appointments is of great interest. Accounts are appended detailing the expenditure on research of about 38,000*l.* from the Development Fund of the Ministry of Agriculture.

LIVERPOOL.—Some relatives and friends of the late Sir William A. Herdman have founded a memorial scholarship at the University. This is open to graduates of British universities who are prepared to carry on research in marine zoology at Liverpool and at any British marine biological station. The scholarship has a present value of about 50*l.* per annum. Applications should be made to the Registrar before the first day of the summer term.

WE learn from the Paris correspondent of the *Times* that degrees of doctor *honoris causa* have been conferred at the Sorbonne upon the following, among others: Sir Ernest Rutherford, Cambridge; Mr. Noguchi, Rockefeller Institute, New York; Prof. I. P. Pavlov, Leningrad; M. Charles de la Vallée Poussin, Louvain; and Prof. Ettore Pais, Rome.

THE Committee of Award of the Commonwealth Fund announces that it is now prepared to receive applications for the fellowships to be awarded in 1926. The fellowships will normally be tenable at an approved American university for two years and are open to persons of British birth domiciled in England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland who are graduates of recognised universities and are unmarried and not more than thirty years of age. Women as well as men may apply. Provision amounting to approximately 600*l.* per annum will be made for the total expenditure involved during the tenure of a fellowship. Applications must be forwarded through the authorities of the university or college of which the candidate is or was a member. The form of application can be obtained from the Secretary to the Committee, Mr. R. H. Simpson, 50 Russell Square, London, W.C.1. Applications must reach the Secretary by February 20 next.

THE effect of continuation classes on mill personnel was discussed at a luncheon meeting of the Lancashire Section of the Textile Institute on October 9. Mr. John Crompton, of Messrs. Burgess, Ledward and Co., Ltd., read a paper on this subject, which is published in the October number of the Institute's journal. Mr. Crompton makes out a strong case for the general adoption of the system of continuation classes, concurrent with workshop practice, for which the "Fisher Act" provides. The data on which he bases his arguments are derived chiefly from the experience of his own and other firms in employing boys and girls attending the continuation classes held in the Worsley Technical School, Walkden. He explains in detail how he has met the difficulty arising from machines being vacated by one set of operatives and requiring to be tended by others. He points out that at Rugby, the only town in England where day continuation schools are compulsory for all employees under the age of sixteen years, there is no juvenile unemployment, 90 per cent. of the employers pay wages for school attendance, 75 per cent. of the young persons attend voluntarily evening school activities in addition to the compulsory day classes, and these classes are proving the best method of establishing contact and oversight of a considerable

proportion of the population after the school-leaving age. "The managers of several works declare that the day continuation school is the best form of welfare effort, and that the humanising influence of real education is the only true welfare work."

THE annual meeting of the Geographical Association will be held on January 7-9 at the London School of Economics, under the presidency of Mr. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore, who will take as the subject of his presidential address "The Economic Geography of the British Empire." The very full programme includes lectures by Prof. J. L. Myres, on "Wayside Geography," by Sir John Russell, on "Cotton and the Nile," by Sir Halford Mackinder, on "The Teaching of Geography," and by Prof. P. M. Roxby, on "The Concept of Natural Regions in the Teaching of Geography, with special illustrations from China." University teachers of geography will hold a discussion on the compatibility of the training of the geographer with the acquisition of a university degree in geography, to be opened by Mrs. Ormsby, on the first day of the meeting, while on the last day there will be the following four concurrent discussions, the opener's name in each case being given in brackets: The place of geography in a two period a week geography course (Mr. C. G. Beasley), detail in geography lessons (Mr. C. Daryll Forde), geography in relation to other school subjects (Major A. G. Church), and geography for the younger children in primary schools (Miss R. M. Fleming). The afternoon of January 9 will be given over to excursions; arrangements have been made for (1) a walk across Hampstead Heath and a visit to the geography rooms of the William Ellis and Henrietta Barnett Schools, (2) a visit to the Science Museum, South Kensington, and (3) beating the bounds of the City of London under the guidance of Mrs. Ormsby. A publishers' exhibition of books of maps has also been arranged.

FROM the International Federation of University Women we have received a copy of the report of the Council meeting held at Brussels in July last. The list of constituent national federations comprises 23 countries, those with the largest membership being the United States of America (22,000), Great Britain (2000), Canada (1500), Australia (600), Ireland (350), South Africa (326), France (290), Switzerland (260), and New Zealand (250). Germany is not included. An application for affiliation has been received from Ukrainian university women, some of whom are in the Soviet Republic of the Ukraine and some in Poland. The most valuable of all the Federation's efforts for promoting intercourse are, says the president (Dean Gildersleeve of Barnard College, Columbia University), plans for fellowships and club-houses. For fellowships a campaign has been started for a "Million Dollar Fund." Awards have recently been made to Dr. Ethel McLennan of Australia, who is undertaking research work at Rothamsted, and to Dr. Elsa Mahler of Switzerland, who is continuing at Rome, Florence, and Arezzo, her work on Megarian bowls. For 1927 the Australian Federation offers two fellowships of 500*l.* each, one to be awarded to a non-British member of the International Federation and the other to a British member (excluding residents in Australia or New Zealand). There are international club-houses at which special privileges are offered to all travelling members of the Federation from other countries at Baltimore, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Brussels, Montreal, Paris, Lyons, and London. The biennial conference of the Federation will be held in 1926 at Amsterdam and will include discussions of academic research, application of research to social problems, adult education, etc.

## Early Science at Oxford.

**December 7, 1683.** Glass is found to be electricall only in ye cold, not by ye fire.

Dr. Plot gave an account of severall sorts of seeds, roots, leaves &c. brought from ye East Indies, and presented to ye Royal Society by Captain Knox. It having been affirmed, that probably seawater may be sweetened by being distilled from salt of Tartar, it was ordered to be tried how far ye distillation of brine from salt of Tartar might go towards ye sweetening of ye brine. It was orderd to be tried, whether Iron-ore melted, and cast into an ingot, lying north, and south, will acquire a verticity? As also whether water will bubble, after that a fire has, for some considerable time, been made over it, in like manner as it does when it boils by reason of a fire under it.

A letter was read from Dr. Antony Nuck, Anatomy Reader at the Hague, to Mr. Benbrig; wherein he promises to communicate to the Society, what Curiosities fall under his observation.

**1686.** An observation of ye Reverend Mr. Peck, Minister of Mayfield in Sussex, concerning a Gentleman who had been long in the East Indies, and about a mounth after that he took ship from thence, was taken with a fainting *feaver*, and various indisposition, had a vein opened; the *bloud* was squeezed out, and did accumulate like drops of melted wax: this gave releif, but about 3 weeks or a month after, his distemper returned; he was bled again; and thus his distemper and his bleeding continued for some years. In ye intervals he was well. He was cured by chewing Rhubarb.

**December 8, 1685.** Dr. Plot presented a piece of Ebony from St. Christopher's; it is yellow after ye saw, and blackish after ye plane, and is ye heaviest wood, we have yet seen.

There being some discourse concerning ye antiquity of weighing things in air and water, Dr. Bernard was pleased to informe ye Society, that that method is mention'd in ye Misna.

Dr. Plot also shew'd ye Society some little stones found by Mr. Lloyd on a bank by ye wayside south of Islip Church; they are ye same with those described by Dr. Lister, only these had no side indented.

The Circulation of ye blood appearing most evident to sense in some partes of ye *Lacerta Aquatica* viewed through a microscope (which we must in justice own to have receiv'd first from ye minutes of ye Dublin Society) the tryall of this experiment before this Society was recommended to Mr. Hoy.

**December 9, 1684.** A Paper was presented, by Mr. Desmastes, making mention of ye Triall of some Experiments found in Kunckel, vizt: That spirits of wine and syrup of violets make a green;

That Spirit of wine, and Milk, in equal parts, curdle; and

That a few drops of Water and Spirit of wine, heat perceptibly.

A sheet of paper was presented ye Society, made of ye Asbestos-Stone by Mr. Lloyd, Register to the Chymicall courses of ye Laboratory of Oxford. The paper was made thus.

Mr. Lloyd received a parcell of this stone from the Isle of Anglesey, part of which he pounded (crude as it was) and carrying it to a paper-mill, had it mixt with water in their troughs for that purpose; then taken up, like their other matter for paper, it ran together. But ye lint being heavy, and quickly subsiding they were forc't to stirr it often, and be very quick in their operation. It was thought it might be made much finer and whiter, if it could be made stronger and tough, so as to be fit for any use.