

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.