

himself to be carried away by the influence of others who may have examined the same property. His clients, therefore, knew that when he prepared a report it was an honest one, and uninfluenced by expectations on one side, or performances on the other. Although he was connected with many scientific and technical institutions, he was never addicted to the writing of papers. Indeed the only

one on record is a joint one by Dr. Cullen and himself, which deals with a purely technical aspect of mining, but which is still of reference value.

He did not take an active part in discussions on technical subjects, but whenever he did intervene he was always listened to with great respect, because his audience recognised that his experience covered a very wide field.

## News and Views

### Dr. Griffith Evans's Centenary

DR. GRIFFITH EVANS celebrated his hundredth birthday by an at home at Bangor on Wednesday, August 7 (see NATURE of August 3, p. 173). He had on the previous evening been visited by two veterinary colleagues, Capt. W. H. Savage and Sir Frederick Hobday. Although, through the bad luck of two very severe accidents involving fracture of each thigh, Dr. Evans is bedridden, his mental faculties are wonderfully alert. In accordance with his own request the presentation from his Alma Mater, the Royal Veterinary College, was the first of the series of the ceremonies which had been arranged to do him honour. Sir Frederick Hobday, in presenting the congratulatory scroll, said: "As a great pioneer we are proud of what you have done for veterinary science and we wish you continued good health to see still further, for many years to come, the progress in comparative medicine—which was initiated by the discovery you made of the parasites in the blood—when investigating (whilst a veterinary officer in the British Army) the disease known as 'surra' in horses and camels". The presentation scroll is framed in a piece of the wood of the old College. In acknowledging the presentation, Dr. Evans referred to his early years at the Royal Veterinary College and recalled characteristics of his teachers, Profs. Spooner, Simmons and Morton. After this address, a telegram sent on behalf of Their Majesties the King and Queen was handed to Dr. Evans; it read as follows:—"The King and Queen are much interested to hear to-day you are celebrating your hundredth birthday, and desire me to convey to you their hearty congratulations. Their Majesties are aware of your distinguished services to veterinary science and send you their best wishes on this great anniversary." Telegrams of congratulation were also received by Dr. Evans from H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, Mr. Lloyd George, the Council of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, and the citizens of Bangor, among others.

### Unknown Papua

A SURVEY expedition to northern Papua under Mr. J. G. Hides, assistant resident magistrate, and Mr. James O'Malley, patrol officer, returned to Port Moresby on July 20 after an absence of eight months,

in which at the cost of great hardship much previously unexplored country was crossed, and unknown groups of natives encountered. The area explored lies between the sixth and seventh parallels of south latitude and the 142 and 114 meridians of east longitude. The party started in December last, travelling up the Fly and Strickland Rivers and then along the Carrington River, an unexplored tributary of the Strickland, until navigation became impossible. Boats were then abandoned, and the expedition struck across country overland for the Purari River, which was reached after an arduous four months in which the party was reduced to the verge of starvation, owing in part to the attitude of the natives who, though at times graciously friendly, at other times refused them food and generally displayed an attitude of contemptuous and thinly veiled hostility.

ACCORDING to an account of the expedition which appeared in the Melbourne *Argus* of July 23, after leaving the Carrington, the party in twenty days passed through a desolate limestone barrier and penetrated a vast fertile valley, 20–30 miles broad, under cultivation by a large population of short, brown-skinned, mop-haired people of an "Asiatic type", calling themselves Tari Furora. Both men and women till the ground, using wooden spades. They refused gifts of steel. No communal villages were observed, and the people seem to live in individual families. The same people were found on a high grass tableland traversed in April and May, where an estimate of their numbers is given as 100,000. As the party travelled east and south-east the type gradually changed and men were observed wearing bear's tusks as nose ornaments. A preliminary report on the expedition's work has been presented to the Lieutenant Governor, Sir Hubert Murray. An official account was published in Australia on August 13, and an account appears in *The Times* of August 14.

### Further Discoveries at Colchester

EXCAVATION, resumed on the Romano-British site at Colchester early in July, continued to produce evidence, mainly in the form of pottery, of the importance of the pre-Roman city as a centre of foreign trade and native British industry. Early in