

following: Mr. W. P. K. Findlay (Imperial College of Science and Technology), Mr. P. L. Hsu (University College), Mr. Louis Hunter (Queen Mary College), Mr. R. A. Kekwick (University College), Mr. A. R. Martin (Imperial College of Science and Technology) and Mr. J. R. Nicholls. The degree of D.Sc. (Engineering) has been conferred on Mr. W. K. Wilson.

Dr. Timothy Richards Lewis (1841-1886)

DR. TIMOTHY RICHARDS LEWIS, a pioneer in tropical medicine and medical parasitology, was born on October 31, 1841, at Llanboidy, Carmarthenshire. He received his medical education at University College, London, and qualified at Aberdeen in 1867. He entered the Army Service at Netley in 1868 and successively held the office of assistant surgeon, surgeon and surgeon-major. After working for three months with Max von Pettenkofer at Munich, he went with his friend D. D. Cunningham to Calcutta in 1869, and for the next ten years collaborated with him in the study of cholera and other Indian diseases. In 1870 he gave the first authentic account of amœba found in man, and in the same year described *Filaria sanguinis hominis*. In 1878 he described the non-pathogenic form of trypanosoma found in rats. In 1883 he was made assistant professor of morbid anatomy at Netley, and in 1885 he was appointed honorary secretary of a committee convened by the Secretary of State for India with Sir William Jenner as president to investigate Koch's discovery of the cholera bacillus. He was recommended by Council for the fellowship of the Royal Society, but died on May 7, 1886, before this honour was conferred upon him. At the time of his death he was carrying out an extensive series of cultures and inoculations of bacilli in the human alimentary canal.

Jean Victor Audoin (1797-1841)

JEAN VICTOR AUDOIN, an eminent French entomologist, was born in Paris on April 27, 1797, the son of a lawyer. His early interest in natural history prevented him from following his father's profession, for which he was first intended, and he took up medicine, qualifying in 1826 with a thesis on the natural history and the chemical, pharmaceutical and medical aspects of cantharides. He had already in 1823 founded with J. B. A. Dumas, the chemist, and A. Brongniart, the geologist, the *Annales des Sciences Naturelles*. In 1824 he became assistant to H. Latreille, professor of entomology and director of the Natural History Museum in Paris. In 1832 he was one of the founders of the Société Entomologique de France, and in the following year succeeded Latreille. In 1837 he was elected to the Paris Academy of Sciences in the Section of Agriculture. His best-known investigations were carried out with Milne-Edwards on the anatomy and physiology of Crustacea, and on the parasites of the vine and silk-worm. He died on November 9, 1841. At a meeting of the Academy of Sciences on August 13, 1844, D. Gruby gave the name of *Microsporium* (afterwards changed to *Microsporon*) *Audouini* to the fungus causing

ringworm of the scalp, a term still in current use, in recognition of Audoin's having directed attention to parasites which destroy the living tissues of animals.

Comets

Comet van Gent (1941 d). The elements of an orbit of this comet, and an ephemeris, assuming parabolic motion, have appeared in NATURE (148, 139, 370, 530; 1941). Davidson and Sumner have computed a new orbit, using the observations of Mr. W. T. Hay at Hendon, and have found that it is slightly hyperbolic. Another orbit will be computed, using later observations of Hay, and as these extend over a period of a month, August 29-October 3, it will be possible to give a definite pronouncement on the nature of the orbit.

Comet du Toit-Neujmin. This comet was discovered by du Toit at Bloemfontein on July 18 and also independently by Neujmin at Simeis. Its magnitude at the time of discovery was 10. The aphelion of the orbit lies close to the orbit of Jupiter and the last close approach to the planet probably occurred in 1824, when the planet may have annexed it as one of its family. The elements of the orbit, computed by H. R. H. Grosch, are given below, and also an ephemeris.

<i>T</i>	1941, July 21, 18766 U.T.	Ephemeris 1941.0	
ω	69° 10' 33.3"	α	δ
Ω	229 37 07.2	Nov. 6	22h. 40.5m. -4° 34'
<i>i</i>	3 14 49.4	14	0 52.3 3 55
<i>a</i>	3.095176	22	23 03.9 3 10
<i>e</i>	0.5789569	30	0 15.6 2 20
<i>P</i>	5.4456 years.		

The geocentric and heliocentric distances on November 30 are 1.89 and 2.3, respectively. As it is receding from the earth and sun, it is becoming fainter.

Periodic Comet Schwassmann-Wachmann (2), 1921 I. This comet has been discovered by Dr. H. M. Jeffers at Lick Observatory, its magnitude at the time of discovery, September 20, being 17. In "The Handbook of the British Astronomical Association, 1941", there is an ephemeris based upon the orbit computed by Mr. W. P. Henderson and Dr. H. Whichello, planetary perturbations being taken into consideration. The comet was discovered almost exactly in the predicted place, a discrepancy of only 18" in the right ascension occurring.

New Asteroid. Harvard College Observatory Card No. 606 has announced that an object, probably a new asteroid, has appeared on the 40-in. reflector plates used at the U.S. Naval Observatory. An orbit will be computed later.

Announcements

THE Lord President of the Council has appointed Sir Franklin Sibly, vice-chancellor of the University of Reading, to be a member of the Advisory Council to the Committee of the Privy Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. The Right Hon. Viscount Falmouth has retired from the Council on completion of his term of office.

ERRATUM.—In NATURE of October 25, p. 479, the Lawrence referred to was not, of course, T. E. Lawrence (of Arabia), but D. H. Lawrence.