been one of the most striking evidences of the triumph of the truth as presented by Darwin.

In New York a joint committee of the New York Academy of Sciences, the American Museum of Natural History, and Columbia University arranged a joint celebration for February 12. In the morning the students of Columbia University assembled to hear an address by Prof. H. F. Osborn on the "Life and Work of Darwin," appropriately introduced by the president of the university, Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler. This address was the first of a course of special lectures, extending over nine weeks, entitled "Charles Darwin and his Influence on Science." The topics cover terrestrial evolution, palæontology, zoology, anthropology, psychology, botany, modern philosophy, cosmic evolution, and human institutions. Besides members of the Columbia faculty the speakers included Prof. W. B. Scott, of Princeton, Dr. D. T. McDougal, of the Botanical Research Station, and Dr. G. E. Hale, of the Solar Observatory of the Carnegie Institution.

In the afternoon a large audience assembled in the Synoptic Hall of the American Museum of Natural History, under the auspices of the New York Academy of Sciences. Mr. Charles F. Cox, president of the New York Academy of Sciences, opened the meeting with a sketch of Darwin's life, and closed with the presentation to the American Museum of a bronze portrait bust of Darwin. This bust was executed by the sculptor William Cooper, and is of heroic size, mounted on a polished pedestal of the granite of which the museum is built, with an inscription tablet in bronze. It will stand permanently at the entrance of the Synoptic Hall. In accepting the bust on behalf of the trustees of the American Museum, President Osborn spoke of its three-fold significance—first as a work of art which will be welcomed everywhere as a singularly impressive likeness of Darwin, second as permanently associating the name of the great naturalist with one of the newer exhibition halls which is to be especially devoted to the exposition of the general principles of biology as seen in the structure and embryonic development, the adaptations of colour and form, the marvellous diversity, yet unity, of the animal world, to the true interpretation of which Charles Darwin devoted his life. President Osborn closed by announcing that, in order further to cement the name and spirit of Darwin with the museum, the trustees had unanimously voted to name this hall Darwin Hall, and had prepared and placed at the entrance on the centennial day two bronze tablets as a permanent record of the time and place of this dedication.

Addresses were then given by Prof. N. L. Britton, director of the New York Botanical Garden, on Darwin's contributions to botany, and by Prof. J. J. Stevenson, of the University of New York, on Darwin's contributions to geology, in which it was especially pointed out that modern biology through Lyell and Darwin largely owes its method to geology. The final address was made by Dr. H. C. Bumpus, director of the American Museum of Natural History, in which was outlined a history of the reception of Darwinism in the United States and the early contributions of Gray, of Morse, of Hyatt, of Cope, and of others to the Darwinian theory.

At the close of these addresses the guests passed from the Synoptic Hall to the adjoining hall of North American forestry, where a special exhibition had been arranged to illustrate the principles brought out in Darwin's writings. In the fifteen alcoves of the hall a special exhibit has been arranged to exhibit each of the great principles and subjects treated by Darwin. There had also been brought together temporarily

an exhibit of all Darwin's publications, of the first editions of all his works, a series of portraits and autograph letters, as well as a series of photographs of Darwin's contemporaries, chiefly from the unique private collection of Mr. Charles F. Cox, president of the New York Academy of Sciences.

H. F. O.

AN IMPERIAL BUREAU OF ANTHROPOLOGY.

FOR many years past those who have appreciated the practical value of ethnology in the administration of our Empire have realised the necessity of a central organisation for the registration and co-ordination of data collected by Government officials or others, for the giving of advice to those about to reside or travel in India or the colonies, and to serve as a central office where those at home could obtain trustworthy information concerning the various races and peoples that collectively constitute the British Empire. At the Liverpool meeting of the British Association in 1896, Mr. C. H. Read, of the British Museum, proposed the foundation of a bureau of this nature. In his presidential address to the anthropological section at the Dover meeting, three years later, he announced that the trustees of the British Museum had undertaken the working of the bureau under his own supervision, if the Treasury would make a small yearly grant. Owing to lack of adequate support, very little has been accomplished to render effective Mr. Read's laudable endeavour.

The need for such an establishment has been increasingly felt. Thanks to the zeal of Prof. W. Ridgeway, of Cambridge, the president of the Royal Anthropological Institute, the matter has again been taken up. He drew up a memorial which has been signed by a large number of influential persons in all departments of activity, statesmen, eminent administrators of India and the colonies, members of Parliament, merchants, students of all branches of the humanities, anthropologists, and many others. The memorial refers to the utility of anthropology in other departments of intellectual and practical life; for example, several of our distinguished administrators, both in India and the colonies, have pointed out that most of the mistakes made by officials in dealing with natives are due to lack of training in the rudiments of ethnology, primitive sociology, and primitive religion. Nor is it only for the administrator that training in anthropology and facility for its further study are important. For purposes of commerce it is of vital necessity that the manufacturer and the trader should be familiar with the habits, customs, arts, and tastes of the natives of the country with which, or in which, they carry on their business. The Germans have long since seen the value of such a training; they have spent, and are spending, large sums annually in promoting the study of the ethnology of all parts of the world, and their remarkable success in trade in recent years, not only with primitive and barbaric races, but also in China and Japan, is largely due to this fact.

The training of young officials is a matter of national importance, and there is evidence that some of our leading administrators are fully alive to its value. Recently, Sir Reginald Wingate addressed a letter to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge in which he asked whether those universities were prepared to give instruction in ethnology and primitive religion to probationers for the Sudan Civil Service; the Oxford Anthropological Committee and the Cambridge Board of Anthropological Studies at once replied in the affirmative, and courses of in-

struction in those subjects have already commenced. No provision has as yet been made anywhere for the training of schoolmasters and medical officers in anthropometry, to fit them to take measurements of school children and Army recruits. Yet this branch of anthropology is one of the highest importance, not simply for scientific reasons, but because of its practical bearing on the great question of physical deterioration, which has long engaged the attention of anthropologists and the medical profession, and has lately been discussed in Parliament.

The memorial urges the establishment in London of a bureau in which all the distinguished anthropologists of the kingdom could meet on common ground, as do all the leading mathematicians, physicists, chemists, and biologists in the Royal Society. All the elements of such a bureau already exist in the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland. This bureau would collect information respecting the ethnology, institutions, arts, religion, and law of all races, especially of those in the British Empire, and it would publish the notes sent in by observers in all parts of the world, issuing these in the form of bulletins. The bureau might confer a diploma on officials, scientific travellers, and others who had submitted to a proper test of their distinction in some branch of anthropology, and it would approve for certificates schoolmasters and others who had shown themselves competent to make anthropometrical observations in the examinations held under the direction of the bureau. In view of the services which such a bureau would render to the nation, "we respectfully petition His Majesty's Government to make an annual grant of 500*l.* to the Royal Anthropological Institute for carrying out the scheme set forth, and also to grant a suitable set of rooms in the Imperial Institute."

It is not proposed that the teaching of ethnology should form part of the work of the bureau. For many years past instruction has been given in the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge in various departments of anthropology. In the University of London are the only two professors of sociology in the kingdom, and instruction has also been given in ethnology for several years, and the University of Liverpool has a professor of social anthropology. Thus, although most of the teaching appointments are financially starved and work under unfavourable conditions, the foundations have been laid for anthropological instruction in several of our universities.

On March 12 the Prime Minister received an influential deputation at the House of Commons, which presented to him the memorial urging the Government to establish an Imperial Bureau of Anthropology in connection with the Royal Anthropological Institute. Prof. Ridgeway pointed out that the science of anthropology could be of the highest possible service to the State in the training of Colonial and Indian administrators, and that it was also a necessity for commercial success. Sir Edward Candy said, in reply to the Prime Minister, that he would make anthropology a compulsory subject.

The Prime Minister said that he entirely agreed that anthropology was becoming every year more and more, not only an important, but an indispensable branch of knowledge, not merely for scholars, but for persons who were going to undertake the work of administration in an Empire like ours, whether in India or in Crown Colonies. While he would hesitate to express anything like a considered and final opinion as to whether anthropology ought to be included as a compulsory subject for examination, he was quite satisfied that it was highly desir-

able that it should become a regular subject of study, and enter into the normal equipment of young men who went to the outlying regions of the Empire and encountered strange conditions of life. He did not, however, hold out anything like an assurance, or even an expectation, that the pecuniary grant they had asked for would be accorded. Evidently he feared that other learned societies might also urge their claims for Government support, but he did not appear to realise that a grant for a bureau is on a different footing from one merely to a society as such. The need for a bureau of ethnology is urgent, and it should be remembered that to equip a bureau as an independent body would be much more expensive than affiliating it with a society which already possesses the nucleus of the requisite organisation. It is to be hoped that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will be generous to this scheme, which is certainly one of national importance.

An additional argument for the establishment of the bureau is to be found in the Sargent prize essay by the Rev. H. A. Junod, on "The best means of preserving the traditions and customs of the various South African native races" (Report South African Association for the Advancement of Science, 1907 [1908], p. 142). The Rev. H. A. Junod is a sympathetic missionary who is well known for his studies on the ethnology of the Ba-ronga. In this essay he points out how the old lore is passing out of remembrance or becoming modified, and he adds, "What is wanted is a central agency which would receive the materials collected by people on the spot and publish them in a way which would make them available for science at large. There ought to be created without delay a South African Anthropological Commission, which would answer to the need just pointed out." It would be a credit to South Africa if the scheme outlined by M. Junod could be carried out, and all such local enterprises should be affiliated with a central bureau in London.

A. C. HADDON.

NOTES.

MR. HALDANE, Secretary of State for War, will be the guest of the evening at the anniversary dinner of the Junior Institution of Engineers, to be held at the Hotel Cecil on May 1.

THE seventeenth "James Forrest" lecture of the Institution of Civil Engineers will be delivered at the institution on Monday, April 26, by Colonel H. C. L. Holden, R.A., F.R.S., his topic being "Road Motors."

THE grand gold medal for science has been bestowed upon Dr. Sven Hedin by the German Emperor, and the Berlin Geographical Society has presented him with the Humboldt medal of the society.

THE *Times* correspondent at Ottawa states that a Day-light Saving Bill, introduced in the Canadian House of Commons on March 12, was received with laughter and ironical cheering. The Bill proposes that from April 2 to October 2 local time should be observed one hour ahead of the standard time.

WE learn from *Science* that the "sundry civil" Bill for the fiscal year 1910, as reported to the House of Representatives last month, provides for a new building in Washington to accommodate the Geological Survey, the General Land Office, the Office of Indian Affairs, and the Reclamation Service, to cost 500,000*l.*, and appropriates 20,000*l.* for preliminary work in construction.