

mean a walk of eight miles, and the Zoological Society has introduced a service of motor omnibuses of its own, inside the Park. The old farmhouse and its out-buildings have been made into excellent luncheon and tea rooms, but places have been set apart where visitors may picnic and enjoy the view, while refreshment kiosks have also been provided.

It is understood that motor omnibuses will bring visitors from Luton and Dunstable (which can be reached by train from London) and from the large towns within a convenient distance of the Park.

WILFRED MARK WEBB.

The Newfoundland Earthquake of Nov. 18, 1929.

THE Eastern Section of the Seismological Society of America (U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, Washington, D.C.) has issued two papers, by Dr. Arthur Keith and by Messrs. E. A. Hodgson and W. W. Doxsee, read at the 1930 meeting, at Washington, D.C., on the earthquake which broke twelve of the submarine cables to the south of Newfoundland on Nov. 18, 1929.

The preliminary position of the cable fractures was marked in a map published in *NATURE*, Dec. 21, 1929, and in an accompanying communication Prof. J. W. Gregory explained the earthquake as due to the subsidence of a strip of the sea floor, probably about 400 miles long, in continuation of Cabot Strait. This view is fully supported by the new papers. The violence of the earthquake may be appreciated from Dr. Keith's remark that it was of the same order of magnitude as the disastrous Charlestown earthquake of 1885. He concludes "that all the evidence is in harmony with the theory that parallel faults produced the Cabot trench in the past, the Grand Banks Earthquake in the present, and minor breaks like that of Sherbrooke as aftershocks". He also quotes a report by Thos. S. Woods attributing the boundary of the continental shelf in that region to faulting.

The paper by Messrs. Hodgson and Doxsee gives a useful collection of data as to the records of the earthquake, which was felt at all the chief observatories of the world. The authors determine the epicentre as at lat. $44^{\circ} 5' N.$ and long. $55^{\circ} W.$, and the time there at $20^h 31^m 55^s$ G.M.T. They conclude that "the evidence strongly supports the hypothesis of a down-dropped section of ocean floor bounded by two fault planes roughly parallel to the axis of Cabot Strait as defined by the 100-fathom contour, and extending from $45^{\circ} N.$ to about $39^{\circ} N.$ as a prolongation of that strait, the northern end being the more seriously displaced". The subsidence they suggest was about 25 feet.

Messrs. Hodgson and Doxsee (p. 76) give a list of the times of the earthquake at 32 observatories. The time records are of interest in connexion with the view that the floor of the Atlantic is of different material from that under the continents. The earthquake records include those at Budapest, 5567 km. to the east, and at Berkeley in San Francisco, 5600 km. a little south of west. Budapest is 33 km. nearer the epicentre than Berkeley; it recorded the *P* waves 6 seconds earlier and the *S* waves 7 seconds earlier. As the *P* waves travelled to Budapest in 9 min 1 sec. and to Berkeley in 9 min. 7 sec., the rates of transmission under North America and under the Atlantic were practically equal—the rate to Budapest being 10.29 km. per sec., and that to Berkeley 10.24 km. per sec. The rates were: to Munich, distance 5000 km., 9.9 km. per sec.; to Strasbourg, 4589 km., 9.3 km. per sec.; to Barcelona,

4700 km., 10 km. per sec.; and to Balboa, 4506 km., to which the direct route would have been across the deeper part of the North Atlantic basin, only 9.18 km. per sec., instead of the acceleration that would be expected if that ocean floor were underlain by sima at a slight depth.

University and Educational Intelligence.

CAMBRIDGE.—The Appointments Committee of the Faculty of Economics and Politics has appointed C. G. Clark to be University lecturer in statistics.

The Appointments Committee of the Faculty of Biology 'A' has appointed Dr. O. M. B. Bulman to be University demonstrator in geology.

Mr. John Hilton, Assistant Secretary to the Ministry of Labour, has been elected to the recently founded Montague Burton professorship of industrial relations.

The Buildings Syndicate has issued a report to the University on a site for the Royal Society Mond Laboratory and on accommodation for the future development of the physical sciences. It recommends that the sites of the present engineering workshops and the University power station be assigned for new buildings to contain the Royal Society Mond Laboratory, the reconstructed power station, and new workshops for the Cavendish laboratory, and that the drawing office and adjoining rooms to be vacated by the Department of Engineering be assigned to the Department of Physics.

DURHAM.—At a meeting of Convocation on May 20, Lord Londonderry was installed as Chancellor of the University, in succession to the late Duke of Northumberland.

LONDON.—New members of the Senate elected by Convocation include—Major A. G. Church, M.P., and Prof. William Wilson (science), in place of Prof. F. G. Donnan and Sir Philip Magnus, who have retired. Those reappointed by Convocation and the Faculties include—Sir Ernest Graham-Little, M.P. (medicine), Mr. Roger Smith (engineering), and Prof. A. L. Bowley (economics).

Dr. C. H. Lander, since 1923 Director of Fuel Research, has been appointed professor of engineering (Imperial College—City and Guilds College) as from Sept. 1, 1931. Dr. E. L. Kennaway, since 1921 chemical pathologist at the Cancer Hospital, has been appointed professor of experimental pathology (Cancer Hospital—Free) as from May 1, 1931.

It is announced by the Cape Town correspondent of the *Times* that, on May 19, the University of Cape Town conferred the honorary degree of D.Sc. on General Smuts, in recognition of his scientific achievements, and with special reference to his election as president of the 1931 meeting of the British Association.

THE Rockefeller medical fellowships for the academic year 1931–1932 will shortly be awarded by the Medical Research Council, and applications should be lodged with the Council not later than June 1. Fellowships are awarded by the Council, in accordance with the desire of the Rockefeller Foundation, to graduates who have had some training in research work in the primary sciences of medicine or in clinical medicine or surgery, and are likely to profit by a period of work at a university in the United States before taking up positions for higher teaching or research in the British Isles. In special circumstances, the fellowships may be tenable at centres of research not in America. Full particulars are obtainable from the Secretary, Medical Research Council, 38 Old Queen Street, Westminster, S.W.1.