

## Section C.

Mr. W. Watts invited the co-operation of the Corresponding Societies in the work of the Geological Photographs Committee and the Erratic Blocks Committee.

Mr. De Rance remarked that though the labours of the Underground Waters Committee had come to an end, he hoped the local societies would record carefully in their districts everything bearing upon that subject.

## Section H.

Mr. Sidney Hartland asked for the co-operation of the Corresponding Societies in the work of the Ethnographical Survey Committee. Considerable progress had been made in the past year. There were no departments in which it was so important to have speedy information as those of dialect and folk-lore, as education, facilities for railway travelling, and industrial migrations were rapidly destroying local customs, dialects and traditions. Still, in some parts there had been little change, and if physical measurements were made and physical characteristics noted, in stationary districts, of persons belonging to the old families of the locality, much light might be thrown on the various races of the British Isles. He would be glad to furnish any delegates interested in the subject with copies of the Ethnographical Committee's schedules, or with any other help in his power.

Mr. John Gray (Buchan Field Club) described the work done in his district in noting the physical characteristics both of adults and of school children.

The Chairman remarked that Mr. Gray's society was doing very good work, and giving an illustration of what was required. As the information asked for by the Ethnographic Committee was of so many different kinds, he thought the local societies would be wise to form sub-committees, one dealing with physical measurements and characteristics, another with folk-lore, and so on. Then photographers were needed to illustrate both people and ancient monuments. Investigations of this kind would at once enrich the *Transactions* of a local society, and help the work of the British Association.

## UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

CAMBRIDGE.—The Walsingham Gold Medal for an essay or monograph on a botanical, geological, or zoological subject will be awarded next year. Competitors must be under the standing of M.A., and must send their essays to Prof. Newton, F.R.S., not later than October 9, 1897.

The General Board proposes to fix the stipend of the vacant Professorship of Surgery at £300, but hopes that after 1898 the state of the University finances may make it possible to raise this sum to £500 a year, tenable with a fellowship.

About 135 of the freshmen admitted this term propose to study natural science and medicine with a view to the B.A. and M.B. degrees.

Dr. Allbutt, F.R.S., is appointed an Elector to the chair of Pathology, and Dr. Hill to the chair of Anatomy, in the room of the late Sir G. M. Humphry.

The Examiners for the Natural Sciences Tripos 1897 are—W. N. Shaw, F.R.S., R. Meldola, F.R.S., Dr. A. Scott, A. Hutchinson, H. Woods, J. J. H. Teale, F.R.S., Dr. H. M. Ward, F.R.S., H. Wager, S. F. Harmer, F. Jeffrey Bell, F.R.S., A. C. Seward, J. J. Lister, Prof. A. M. Paterson, Dr. A. Hill, Dr. L. E. Shore, and Prof. W. D. Halliburton.

At the celebration of the 150th anniversary of Princeton University, on October 22, the degree of LL.D. was conferred upon Lord Kelvin and Prof. J. J. Thomson.

It is announced in *Science* that a laboratory built for the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, at a cost of over £4000, will soon be ready for use. The building includes well-fitted laboratories of chemistry, bacteriology and histology. It is hoped that an additional sum of £20,000 will be collected for an endowment.

DR. THOS. EWAN, Chief Assistant in the Chemical Department of the Northern Polytechnic Institute, has been appointed Research Chemist to the British Aluminium Company in their works at Oldbury. He is succeeded at the Northern Polytechnic by Mr. H. Charles L. Bloxam, at present Chief Assistant in the Chemical Department of the Goldsmiths' Institute, New Cross.

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THE following Scholarships have been awarded in connection with the present session (1896-7) of the Central Technical College:—Clothworkers' Scholarship, £60 a year with free education for two years, L. P. Wilson; Mitchell Scholarship, £40 a year with free education for two years, R. S. Potter; Clothworkers' Technical Scholarship, £30 a year with free education for two years, E. W. Cook; David Salomons Scholarship, £50, E. W. Marchant; John Samuel Scholarship, £30, H. W. Hanbury; Institute's Scholarships, free education for three years, F. S. Miller, J. I. Hunter, F. W. Fawdry.

A GENERAL meeting of the members of the Convocation of the University of London was held on Tuesday. After a long discussion it was resolved:—"That this House earnestly desires the early establishment, in accordance with the expressed intentions of the founders of this University, of University professorships and lectureships in science and literature, together with such institutions as may tend to the encouragement of original study and research on the part of members of the University." It was further decided, on the motion of Mr. W. T. Lynn—"That it is desirable to make application to the Government for the provision of funds to establish a students' observatory in the neighbourhood of London for the instruction, primarily, of members of the University in practical astronomy, with the ultimate view of taking part in the progress of astronomical investigation."

So much money is being frittered away by Technical Education Committees as grants for instruction in such subjects as basket-making and hedging, that no apology is needed for again calling attention to the courses of science lectures which the Councils of University and King's Colleges, London, have arranged in conjunction with the Technical Education Board, to be held in the evenings and on Saturday mornings. These lectures are of a university type, being of the same standard as those which are given in the day-time. They are intended for those students who, being occupied in the day, are unable to obtain university instruction except in the evening; and they are given at considerably reduced fees. Among these courses may be mentioned: (1) An evening course on Advanced Chemistry, at University College, by Mr. C. F. Cross. The course will consist of fifteen lectures, given on Friday evenings, commencing on Friday, November 6; and the subject of the course is "Cellulose, the chemistry of vegetable fibres, and of their industrial preparations and uses." The fee for the whole course is £1 1s., which, in the case of those who earn weekly wages, may be paid in two instalments. (2) A Saturday morning course for teachers, at University College, by Prof. Karl Pearson, on "Graphic Methods." The course deals mainly with the use of the drawing-board in elementary, geometrical, and mechanical teaching. The admission to this course is free for teachers. The following lectures have also been arranged by the Professors at the two colleges. In the evenings, Prof. Hudson Beare and Prof. Fleming are giving courses at University College on Mechanical Engineering and Electrical Engineering respectively; while at King's College, Prof. Robinson is holding a course on Civil Engineering, Prof. Banister Fletcher on Architecture, Prof. Adamson Experimental and Practical Physics, and Prof. Hudson on Pure Mathematics. The fee for each of these courses is £1 1s. On Saturday mornings Prof. Capper is holding a course, at King's College, on the Strength of Materials, to be followed in January by a course on the Theory of Machines. In January Prof. Fleming will also commence a course, at University College, on Electricity and Magnetism. The Saturday morning courses are free for teachers. We are glad to make these courses known, because we feel that their success would induce provincial Technical Education Committees to pay more attention to the higher branches of scientific instruction than most of them do at present.

## SCIENTIFIC SERIALS.

*American Journal of Science*, October.—On the rate of condensation in the steam-jet, by A. de Forest Palmer. Photographs of a vertical steam-jet were obtained with the aid of sunlight. The invisible portion has the general shape of the inner mantle of a Bunsen flame, and its outline depends upon the pressure of the jet and the velocity with which the condensation travels towards the nozzle. The author finds that the separation surface of the invisible portion is sharply marked, and that it oscillates up and down. The demarcation is