Sir Frederick Treves did not find it possible to show clearly in what exact respects the institute claimed to have made an advance. I imagine his remarks were intended to serve a double purpose—to explain the part that radium can play in disease and to show on what lines the institute had new information to publish.

The conditions of lay journalism are such that the reporter is usually forced to estimate the value of claims put forward by considering the way in which they are presented, coupled with the standing of the speaker and of the institution that has given him a platform. Several papers have made the experiment of employing an expert in such matters, but on the whole the results have been disappointing. It is to be hoped that the episode, and your comments on it, will act as a warning for future occasions, and that in communications to the lay Press men of science will be more careful to preserve a proper perspective and to differentiate clearly between new and already well-known facts.

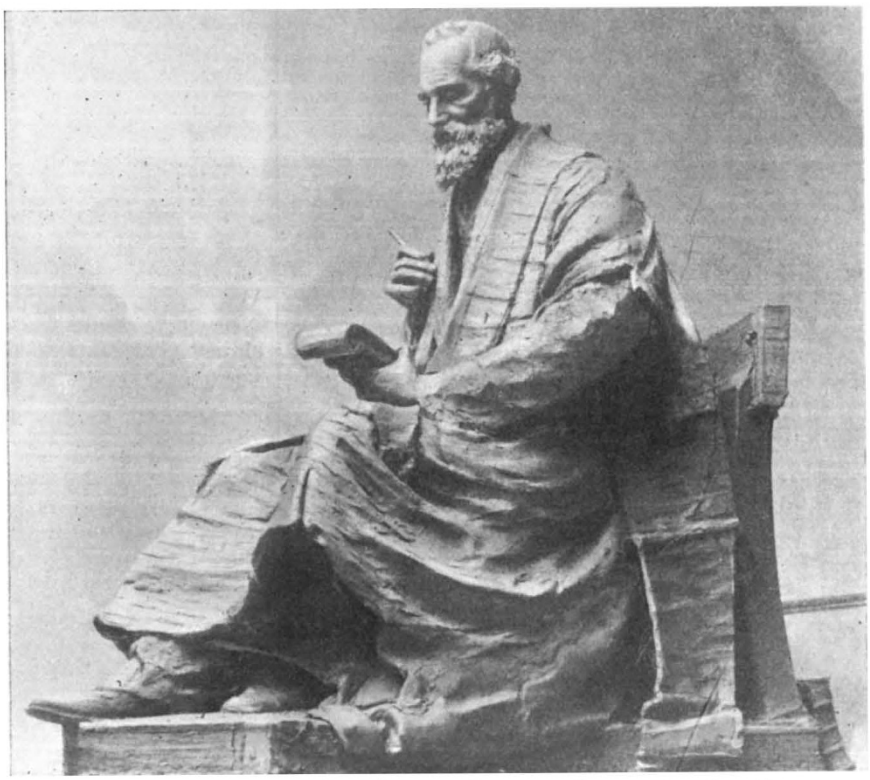
ONE OF THE REPORTERS PRESENT.

THE GLASGOW MEMORIAL TO LORD KELVIN.

IN May, 1908, in response to a widely expressed opinion that a memorial should be erected to Lord Kelvin, a meeting was called by the Lord Provost of Glasgow to consider the matter. This gathering, representative of the city and west of Scotland, resolved to mark in a fitting and permanent form its sense of the manifold benefits which Lord Kelvin's researches and discoveries in physical science, and his patient application of the same to the common uses of man by sea and land, have conferred upon the world, by establishing a worthy memorial of him in the city where he lived and laboured.

The desire thus expressed was amply accomplished on Wednesday, October 8, in the presence of a large and distinguished assemblage, including many veterans of science trained under Lord Kelvin, and leaders in other departments of life, when the unveiling of the memorial statue was performed by the Rt. Hon. Augustine Birrell, K.C., M.P., Lord Rector of Glasgow University. The statue stands in Kelvingrove Park, at the base of the hill on which the University is built, facing S.E. towards the river Kelvin and the city. It represents Lord Kelvin seated with his familiar green book and pencil in hand, in a characteristic attitude as when at work on some problem. Behind the figure are placed his binnacle and mirror galvanometer, with other emblems of his services to industry and science. The memorial is the work of Mr. A. McFarlane Shannan, Glasgow, and, in the words of Prof. Perry, as a faithful likeness and, what is more, as a work of art, it does all that art could do in awakening the emotions of reverence and love felt by all who came closely in touch with the great master.

At the unveiling ceremony, which took place at 11 a.m., a letter from Lady Kelvin was read expressing her regret at being unable to attend, and after a short introductory speech by the Lord Provost, Mr. Birrell began his address. He referred to William Thomson's early life and training in Glasgow, and traced his close and life-long connection with the University, beginning as student, and ending its first stage as the author of original memoirs at the age of eighteen. Then came the eventful interlude at Cambridge, and Mr. Birrell genially recalled how Thomson's originality proved his undoing in the competition for the Senior Wranglership, and how "the ancient and eternal wrongs of the examination room" were mitigated later when Parkinson, despite his pace, was second Smith's Prizeman. Cambridge over, he returned to Glasgow to the professorship of natural philosophy, "a chair which he occupied and illuminated for half a century." In closing the review of Lord Kelvin's work in Glasgow as student, as investigator, and teacher, the Lord Rector added that he had said enough, and far more than was necessary, to prove



Clay Model of Statue of Lord Kelvin in Kelvingrove Park, Glasgow. Sculptor, Mr. A. McF. Shannan.

that before all other cities, and above all other places, Glasgow is the city and the place for a statue of Lord Kelvin. Men like Lord Kelvin were seldom solitary voyagers, but rather leaders of a great company of thinkers and experimenters labouring to lighten the burden of suffering humanity. As a practical inventor as well as a thinker his claims appealed to all, and would continue to do so. It was therefore with pride and joy and confidence that he asked the City of Glasgow, for all time to come, to take good care of a beautiful memorial of a truly memorable man.

Principal Sir Donald MacAlister, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Birrell, said that the Lord Rector had performed the ceremony with his accustomed felicity, and had worthily expressed the homage of the city and University to one of its brightest ornaments. In the name of the subscribers, Prof. S. P. Thompson moved a vote of thanks to the sculptor; this was seconded by Prof. Perry, and Mr. Shannan replied.

At the luncheon following on the unveiling of the statue to Lord Kelvin the toast, "The Memory of Lord Kelvin," was proposed by the Rt. Hon. Arthur James Balfour, M.P.

Mr. Balfour dwelt upon Lord Kelvin's happy combination of great gifts, making him at once the greatest master of theory and a leading spirit in every department of practical affairs. His services to mankind, as man of business, inventor, teacher, investigator of the great problems of the universe, in order more and more to raise the material condition of mankind, rank him as greatest of the great group of physicists who have paved the way for the scientific revolution in the midst of which we are living. Lord Kelvin's want of sympathy with those latter-day speculations to which his own labours led up was not the imperviousness to ideas which comes of mental inertia. But what he would accept from other men depended at the moment upon the intense inner life that he led, which concentrated his attention upon certain lines of investigation, and made him almost oblivious of what was going on outside the current of his own thought. Great in knowledge, great in achievement, yet in himself the most modest, the most eager, the most childlike—in the good sense of the word—of men, his record had never been surpassed in the whole annals of physical science.

THE PREHISTORIC SOCIETY OF EAST ANGLIA.

THE members of the Prehistoric Society of East Anglia are to be congratulated on the systematic manner in which they are studying the properties of flint, with special reference to the identification of human workmanship. In the latest part of their proceedings[1] Dr. W. Allen Sturge discussess the patina of flint implements, and concludes that it is produced entirely by exposure on the surface. Permanent burial appears not only to retard, but even to prevent, patination. Mr. J. Reid Moir describes some experiments on the chipping of flints, and attempts to show that the flaking of a margin by natural causes is comparatively irregular, while the blows directed by man to produce such flaking are at definite angles with much regularity. He also demonstrates that flakes produced by natural pressure often exhibit a bulb at each end. Mr. F. N. Haward follows with additional notes on the chipping of flints by natural agencies, and concludes that much can be accounted for by movements in the ground. He instances particularly the chipping due to the creeping motion of gravel at the top of pipes in the chalk.

Among descriptive papers may be pecially mentioned that by Mr. J. Reid Moir on the much-discussed human skeleton discovered by him in a glacial deposit at Ipswich. Though interesting, it is by no means convincing in its argument that the skeleton lay in undisturbed ground; and the difficulty in believing that the human being in question lived before the deposition of the boulder clay is further enhanced by the report of Prof. A. Keith, who finds that there is no essential difference between this skeleton and that of a modern civilised man.

There may also be differences of opinion about the supposed flint implements, described by Mr. W. G. Clarke, from the basement bed of the Norwich Crag, in Norfolk; but Dr. Sturge's elaborate paper on Mousterian and other late Palæolithic flint implements from superficial deposits in East Anglia will be accepted without hesitation, and is all the more welcome from the abundance of French specimens which the author is able to select for comparison from his own cabinet. All the papers are well illustrated, but this one by Dr. Sturge especially so; and the only fault we have to find with them is their frequent diffuseness. A more concise and systematic mode of expression might be adopted in future with advantage.

[1] Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society of East Anglia, 1910–11, 1911–12, vol. i., pt. ii. (London: H. K. Lewis, 1912.)

NOTES.

AN extra meeting of the Chemical Society will be held at Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., on Thursday, October 23, at 8.30 p.m., when the Ladenburg Memorial Lecture will be delivered by Prof. F. Stanley Kipping, F.R.S.

A LECTURE will be given under the auspices of the Swedenborg Society at the rooms of the Society of British Artists, Suffolk Street, on the evening of November 19, by Prof. W. B. Bottomley, of King's College, London, on Swedenborg's doctrine of the origin of life. Sir W. F. Barrett, F.R.S., will occupy the chair.

THE High Commissioner of the Federated Malay States has notified that, in consideration of the importance of the London School of Tropical Medicine to the Government, a sum of 5000*l.* has been voted as a contribution to Mr. Austen Chamberlain's appeal for 100,000*l.* for the endowment of the school. The grant was made by the Legislative Council on the repre-