

of anatomy were numerous and valuable. His first, a monograph on the myology of the pelvic floor (1899), was in one sense his greatest. Not only does it give evidence of most painstaking, laborious, and exact work, but it sheds much light on one of the most complex myological problems to be found in the human body. At the instigation of Prof. (now Sir George) Thane, he spent the summer of 1906 in Prof. Wiedersheim's laboratory at the Anatomical Institute of the University of Freiburg, where he studied wax plate reconstruction under Prof. Keibel. Peter Thompson must be regarded as one of the pioneers in this country of wax plate reconstruction as applied to the human embryo, and his description of a 2.5 mm. human embryo of twenty-three paired somites, published in 1907, is now a classic. His whole-hearted enthusiasm and devotion to the new method of investigation infected not only his pupils, but also many colleagues and friends, much subsequent embryological work in this country being due primarily to his example and investigation. He was a most valued and assiduous member of the Anatomical Society of Great Britain

and Ireland, serving in turn as secretary, treasurer, and vice-president, and contributing largely to its communications and discussions.

Prof. Thompson had the great gift of human sympathy in a wonderful degree, always took the keenest interest in the activities of others, and was greatly beloved by pupils and colleagues alike. His happy spirit and optimism never failed him even during the many dark days of illness, and his memory will be held precious by all who knew him.

WE regret to announce the death in Montreal on October 25 of SIR JOHN KENNEDY, consulting engineer of the Montreal Harbour Commissioners. From an account of his career which appears in the *Engineer* for November 11 it appears that he became blind in 1907, and at the time of his death he had reached the age of eighty-three years. The Institution of Civil Engineers elected him a member, and for some time he acted as a member of council. He was one of the founders of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers, of which he was elected president in 1892.

Notes.

ON Thursday, November 24, Field-Marshal Earl Haig, who was accompanied by Lady Haig, unveiled memorials erected to the memory of members of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy and the Institution of Mining Engineers who fell in the great war. The proceedings were opened by Mr. F. W. Harbord, president of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, and Col. W. C. Blackett, past-president of the Institution of Mining Engineers (in the absence of Sir John Cadman, the president). In the course of his address, Earl Haig expressed his satisfaction in having the opportunity to pay a personal tribute to a section of those many thousands of brave men who fought under his command, and to say a few words of special thanks to a body of men whose work in France seldom drew upon itself much notice or glory at the time, but was surpassed by none in the demands it made upon the skill, courage, and resolution of the individuals concerned, or in the service it rendered to the Army as a whole. He then referred in greater detail to the arduous and dangerous work accomplished by the Tunnelling Section of the Royal Engineers at Messines, on the Somme, and in other places, and concluded with an eloquent appeal for those who were left to learn the lessons taught by the men who had given the last full measure of their devotion to the cause they had so worthily upheld. The unveiling of the memorials was followed by a solemn silence of one minute's duration, after which Lord Haig pronounced the words: "Their name liveth for evermore," and the "Last Post" and "Reveille" were sounded. General Sir W. A. Liddell, Director of Fortifications and Works, and other distinguished generals and

the officers and councils of the two institutions were present at the unveiling. The memorials are placed in the library at Cleveland House, 225 City Road, E.C.

MR. K. RASMUSSEN's report of the progress of his expedition has reached Copenhagen. According to the *Times*, the expedition's vessel, the *Sea King*, did not reach the projected station at Lyon Inlet, in Melville Peninsula, until September 8, being delayed by heavy pack and engine trouble. A base was established on a small uncharted islet, named Danish Island, off Lyon Inlet. Mr. Rasmussen is well pleased with the situation as a centre for research, and reports plenty of bears, reindeer, and hares in the neighbourhood. Walrus and seals were seen daily in the sound. Ruins of Eskimo dwellings show that Danish Island was formerly inhabited. Mr. Rasmussen hopes to be able to trace the route of migration of the Eskimo through this region. When the report was dispatched he and a companion were setting out to visit the nearest tribes in the countryside, travelling by dog-sledge. The next report may be expected at the end of April, and will be sent *via* Fort Churchill and Winnipeg.

DR. E. N. MILES THOMAS has resigned the keepership of the Department of Botany of the National Museum of Wales.

A DISCUSSION on "Certain Geological Consequences of the Cooling of the Earth" will be held in the rooms of the Royal Astronomical Society on Friday, December 2, at 5 p.m. The chair will be taken by Sir Jethro Teall. Dr. H. Jeffreys will open the discussion, which will be continued by Dr. Jeans, Prof. Lindemann, Dr. Evans, and Col. E. H. Grove-Hills.