

and (3) elements of the theory of relativity, by Prof. Sydney Chapman (University of Manchester). The fee for any of the three courses is three guineas. Application to attend the courses should be made immediately, as the holding of the courses depends to some extent on the number of applications received. A registration fee of half a guinea should be sent with the application to Miss D. Withington, The University, Manchester. This fee will be refunded should the course not be held, or included in the tuition fee if the course is held.

OXFORD.—Trinity Term has now begun, and it is expected that the sittings of the Statutory Commission will give much occupation to the University and College authorities, many of whom will be engaged in preparing draft statutes for the approval of the Commissioners.

The Hope Department has lately received a large and valuable addition to its collection of Lepidoptera by the bequest of the late Mr. A. H. Jones, sometime treasurer of the Entomological Society of London. Mr. Jones's series contains many thousand specimens, mostly collected by himself in various British and European localities, including Russia.

ST. ANDREWS.—The Senatus Academicus has resolved to confer the following honorary degrees at the public graduation ceremonial on June 27:—*LL.D.*: Prof. G. B. Brown, Watson-Gordon professor of fine art in the University of Edinburgh; Mr. Walter De La Mare, author; The Right Hon. James Mackay, Viscount Inchcape of Strathnaver; The Rev. Dr. C. A. Richmond, president of Union College and chancellor of Union University, New York; and Prof. A. M. Stalker, Dundee, emeritus-professor of medicine in the University.

ACCORDING to the Bombay correspondent of the *Times*, Sir Currimbhoy Ebrahim, a well-known Bombay merchant, has offered the University of Bombay ten lakhs of rupees (66,600*l.*) for the promotion of the higher education of Mohammedans.

APPLICATIONS are invited by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for a number of research scholarships in agricultural and veterinary science, each tenable for three years and each of the annual value of 200*l.* Particulars of the conditions attached to the scholarships, and the prescribed form to be filled up by candidates, may be had from the Secretary of the Ministry, 10 Whitehall Place, S.W.1. The latest date for the receipt of applications for the scholarships is July 15.

THE Yorkshire Summer School of Geography, which was held in 1913, 1914, and 1920, at the County School, Whitby, is to be repeated this year on August 11-23, the work of organisation being undertaken by the University of Leeds. In contrast with previous years, when all aspects of geography have been dealt with, the course this year will be confined to physical geography. The Geological Department of the University will be responsible for the work, and next year the Department of Geography will organise a similar course devoted to the economic aspects of the subject. The course will consist of lectures, laboratory work, field work, and demonstrations. Six formal courses—on topographical maps, geological maps (general), geological maps (special areas), weather charts, surveying, and rocks, minerals, and soils—will be available, and students will be asked to choose four, including that on rocks, minerals, and soils. Particulars of the course can be obtained from the Secretary of the Yorkshire Summer School of Geography, University of Leeds. Applications to attend must be received not later than May 12.

Early Science at the Royal Society.

May 4, 1671. Mr. Oldenburg desired, that Mr. Hooke might be put in mind to observe the obscuration of a fixt star, which would happen according to Mr. Flamstead's pre-advertisement on the 6th of that month of May.

May 5, 1670. Dr. Christopher Wren produced a new contrivance of his for a more convenient winding up of weights by ropes, and serving for wells, mines, and cranes, and thought applicable to clocks.

1686. Anne Taylor, not yet four years old, being grown prodigiously fat and corpulent for that age, was shewn before the Society. She weighed forty-eight pounds and a half.

May 6, 1663. Mr. Hooke was ordered to bring in some experiments . . . concerning the condensation of air in the compressing engine. The queries were ordered to be entered and [among them] were "What variation there will be found in the refraction of the rays of light?" How those [animals] that live endure it? Whether pleasantly or with regret: if it seems painful to them and offensive?

1669. Sir Robert Moray mentioned that Mr. Greatrix had improved his engine for going under water with; and that by means thereof he could sink himself ten fathoms under water, and stay there with ease enough as long as he pleased, going up and down, stooping and working.

May 8, 1661. It was proposed that the Society write to Mr. Wren and charge him in the King's name to make a globe of the moon. *N.B.* The King's command was signified by a letter to Wren under the joint hands of Sir Robert Moray and Sir Paul Neile, dated from Whitehall, the 17th of May 1661. His majesty received this globe with peculiar satisfaction and ordered it to be placed among the curiosities of his cabinet (*see* Ward's "Lives of the Professors of Gresham College").

1672. Mr. Cook produced a piece of steel polished, to be used in the reflecting telescope. Mr. Hooke was desired to make tryal with it, though he said it was falsely polished.

May 9, 1666. It was ordered that the president be desired to write a letter to those of the nobility who were members, concerning their arrears, the occasions of the Society requiring a present supply of money.

1667. Among the experiments, appointed were—To try in St. James's park between that and the following meeting, the experiment of measuring the Earth.

1678. The minutes of the last meeting being read gave occasion of much discourse concerning respiration, and of what use the air might be for continuing sense, motion, and life.

1679. Mr. Hooke produced and read a paper, containing a description of the way of flying, invented and practised by one Mons. Besnier, a smith of Gable in the County of Mayne, the contrivance of which consisted in ordering four wings folding and shutting . . . to be moved by his hands before and legs behind, so as to move diagonally, and to counterpoise each other: by which he was, it was said, able to fly from a high place cross a river to a pretty distance. Mr. Henshaw conceived, that by reason of the weakness of a man's arms for such kind of motions, it would be much more probable to make a chariot or such like machine with springs and wheels to move the wings, that should serve to carry one or more men in it to act and guide it.

May 10, 1665. Mr. Evelyn read a letter from Deal in Kent, concerning Sir William Petty's double-bottomed boat.