

of beauty. A curious form of protest against such a misadventure is to be found in 598, in which Mr. George H. Day uses the smoke of a channel steamer as a background for most brilliant coloured dresses; but that is compensated on the other side by 674, Isabel Codrington, in which cultivation of dirtiness as a fine art is pressed as far as it will go, and a little farther.

Of the motive to discern beauty which the layman would never think of there is not much evidence, unless we include idealised forms or surroundings such as the sculpture of an angel for a memorial (1361), Charles Wheeler, or (33), Angela Gibbons, for the decoration of a church. In their idealised unreality they make the student whose first aim is truth wonder about art as the handmaid of religion, whether, after all, the Second Commandment has not a claim for serious consideration.

Incidentally one may learn from the exhibition how important lighting is for art. The place of honour in Room VIII. is occupied by (402) *Amaryllis*, by George Harcourt, A.R.A.; it is brilliant when the sun is shining outside, but *Amaryllis* in the shade loses a good deal of its appeal. No. 42, by James Durden, suggests a physical or physiological problem—why does a grey sky appear intensely blue when seen in the twilight from an interior?

Some artists apparently conceive it to be their duty to stimulate our artistic sense by notes of interrogation. No. 594, *Stamford Brook*, is no brook but a junction of railway lines; that question, however, is mainly verbal and easy; but what "the Devil's Chess Board" means (275), *Otway McCannell*, or even what *Past, Present, and Future* (367) is intended to convey, the visitor is left to make out for himself, and perhaps will have improved his sense of beauty when he knows.

The Toronto Meeting of the British Association.

(From our Toronto Correspondent.)

THE British Association, as has been announced already, will hold its ninety-second annual meeting in Toronto, Canada. The invitation was proffered by the University of Toronto and the Royal Canadian Institute, but the whole of scientific Canada is co-operating to ensure that the meeting shall be one of the most successful in the history of the Association, and that the visitors from overseas shall have an enjoyable and profitable experience. For several months past, committees and associate committees, under the general chairmanship of Prof. J. C. McLennan, have been working in co-operation with the central organisation in England, and the success of the meeting seems certain. The British Association is no stranger to Canada, its first overseas meeting having been held in Montreal in 1884. It came again in 1897 and 1909, the meeting-places being Toronto and Winnipeg.

The dates for the Toronto meeting this year are August 6-August 13, and almost coincident with the meeting of the Association an International Mathematical Congress will be held, also in Toronto, on August 11-16. Various Canadian educational and professional organisations have arranged to hold gatherings in Toronto during the same week. Entertainments, garden parties, receptions, and excursions have therefore been arranged to include both Association and Congress visitors.

Fortunately there will, in August, be ample accommodation available for the visitors in the homes of citizens, the many convenient hotels, clubs, college and university residences, and the fraternities contiguous to the grounds of the University where the meetings will take place.

The University of Toronto is the provincial University of Ontario, and is financed almost entirely by the Government of the Province. It was founded in 1827, and has now a student body numbering about 5000. It ranks, therefore, as one of the largest universities in the British Empire.

The University is formed by a federation of four colleges, and students from other affiliated colleges are registered for courses leading to degrees. It is one of the chief centres for graduate work in the Dominion,

and students from all parts of Canada come to the University of Toronto for the purpose of working in advanced courses and research leading to its higher degrees.

The University is located centrally in the city, and its ample buildings and campus provide an ideal meeting-place for such a congress. The social side of the meetings is especially well provided for, and the visitors will find in Hart House, which is the social and recreational centre of the male University life, a building which has few equals in the world for the beauty of its interior architecture and its lavish provision of comfort and convenience. Adjoining Hart House is the beautiful tower erected as a war memorial by the alumni of the University.

Close to the University grounds are several institutions which will doubtless be of interest to the visitors. Among these are McMaster University, which is maintained by the Baptist Church; the Royal Canadian Institute, founded in 1849 and the oldest scientific body in Canada; the Royal Ontario Museum, directed by members of the University staff, and containing among its notable collections that illustrating the ethnology of the American Indians, Chinese art and pottery, and a magnificent collection of fossil dinosaurs; the Connaught Antitoxin Laboratory, one of four institutions of its kind in the British Empire, which among its many activities manufactures and distributes insulin; the Toronto General Hospital of 750 beds; the Sick Children's Hospital, and the Provincial Parliament House, situated in Queen's Park, which is adjacent to the University grounds.

Toronto is situated in the southernmost part of the Dominion. It has an important harbour for the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence traffic, and it has direct railway connexions with all the important cities in Canada and the United States. One may, for example, leave Toronto by train at night and arrive in New York City shortly after breakfast next morning. Within a few hours of Toronto is the Muskoka lake district, one of the many great summer holiday resorts of the continent. For the information of those of the visiting scientific workers who may wish to recuperate after the strenuous exertions of the meeting, the steamship and railway

companies have been requested to send descriptive pamphlets of Muskoka Lakes and Algonquin Park to the central offices of the British Association in London.

Within two hours' steamship journey of Toronto is the Niagara Peninsula, one of the most famous fruit-growing districts of the world. Similarly, within two hours' steam in magnificent boats is the Niagara Falls. Arrangements will be made for excursions to the Falls on August 9 and August 16. Many other excursions will be arranged to points of interest to the various sections, and a longer excursion will afford an opportunity to visit all the important points of scientific interest throughout the province of Ontario.

A longer excursion has been organised to take a limited and selected party through the western provinces to the Pacific coast in two special trains which will accommodate about 190 persons on each train. The excursion will leave Toronto on the night of Sunday, August 17. The outward journey will be made via the National Railway, and the return journey by the Canadian Pacific Railway. The whole transcontinental excursion will occupy approximately three weeks.

Owing to the liberality of the railway systems, the cost of the journey, including sleeping accommodation, has been reduced to 100 dollars. The only extra expenditure necessary is for meals, which will cost about 60 dollars for the whole excursion. Ample oppor-

tunity will be afforded on this excursion for the visitors to see all the most important scientific and agricultural interests of the western provinces, as well as the natural features of the country. Special sessions of the Association will be held at two of the stopping-places, namely, Edmonton, where a Botanical Conference has been arranged, and at Saskatoon, where the Chemistry Section will hold a special meeting. At other points along the route, lectures will be given by members of the Association. District committees have been formed for the various districts through which the excursion will travel, and these have charge of the local arrangements for the entertainment and instruction of the visitors.

The president of the Toronto meeting is Major-General Sir David Bruce, and the list of vice-presidents is headed by His Excellency the Governor-General, Rt. Hon. Lord Byng of Vimy. The chairman of the local General and Executive Committees is Prof. J. C. McLennan, and the local hon. secretaries are Prof. J. C. Fields and Prof. J. J. R. Macleod. The local assistant secretary is Major J. M. Mood, who will be glad to answer inquiries about local arrangements.

The inaugural general meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 6, when Major-General Sir David Bruce will assume the presidency in succession to Sir Ernest Rutherford.

Obituary.

ALFRED ANGOT.

SOME weeks ago, in an English newspaper there appeared an announcement of the death of Alfred Angot at his residence in Paris on March 16, at seventy-six years of age, as a prelude to a story about his always carrying an umbrella. The announcement marked the close of a long career devoted to the geophysical sciences—meteorology, terrestrial magnetism, and seismology. For thirteen years, in succession to Mascart, he had been director of the Bureau Central Météorologique, which, with its observatory of Parc St. Maur, was the central establishment of France for those sciences. At the same time he was professor of physics and meteorology in the Institut Agronomique National. There is a curious similarity in the position of the geophysical sciences in England and France. M. Angot writes in the preface to the third edition of his "Traité élémentaire de météorologie": "Or en dehors de l'Institut agronomique la météorologie ne figure régulièrement en France sur les programmes d'aucun de nos établissements d'enseignement"—that want of the regular academic routine of recapitulation is responsible for much in the meteorology of Britain and France in the last fifty years.

Besides the "Traité" referred to, and a book in the International Science Series on aurora, Angot's contributions to the geophysical sciences were mainly through the "Annales du Bureau Central Météorologique," a mine of information, the results of which filter only slowly into the common stock of science.

Angot was born in Paris in 1848; on his mother's side he had English relatives, and his associations with this side of the Channel were always of a most cordial character. He joined the Bureau Central in 1879 as "météorologiste titulaire." In the "Annales" for

1880 appears an elaborate paper on psychrometric formulæ based on observations at various elevations. A study of the diurnal variation of the barometer over the globe, perhaps his best-known work, appeared in 1887, and other subjects treated in like manner are diurnal variations of magnetic declination, 1899; results of the magnetic survey of France for the epochs 1901 and 1911; migration of birds, 1898; thunderstorms in France, 1904; actinometric observations at Parc St. Maur, 1909; seismological observations, 1908-9; essays on the climate of France and of Guadeloupe, and a "Première Catalogue des Observations Météorologiques faites en France depuis l'origine jusqu'en 1850."

In 1907, when Mascart was compelled by ill-health to resign, Angot became director of the Bureau and at the same time a member of the International Meteorological Committee. His colleagues on that Committee will always keep his memory in grateful appreciation. He was an excellent organiser, especially helpful in international meetings, which are apt to lose their bearings in polyglot conversations. His period of office lay in the time which followed the meteorological enthusiasm of Le Verrier and telegraphic reporting, when the actual comprehension of the weather seemed to be possible. The daily map of the Bureau Central was the "carte internationale," the pioneer among weather charts of Europe. After the first burst, development became slow and excited comparatively little interest in France. Angot made little change except in details, but devoted his attention to the underlying meteorological strata which attract little public interest compared with the daily forecasts.

In 1920 the geophysical services of France were reorganised and Angot retired with the title of Directeur honoraire du Bureau Central Météorologique; when the