

(U.), Prof. Gilbert Murray (Ind.), Sir Charles Oman (U.). SCOTLAND (3)—Sir George Berry (U.), Mr. D. M. Cowan (L.), Sir Henry Craik (U.), Rev. J. M. Munro (Lab.). WALES (1)—Mr. G. M. L. Davies (Lab.), Capt. E. Evans (I.). QUEEN'S, BELFAST (1)—Col. T. Sinclair (U.).

THE Municipal College of Technology, Manchester, announces reductions in fees for degree and certificate courses amounting to 10 per cent. in favour of residents in Lancashire and Cheshire (who were already favoured to the extent of 16 per cent.), and 16 per cent. in favour of students from other parts of the British Empire. According to the Calendar for 1924-25, courses of post-graduation and specialised study and research are offered in mechanical engineering (including hydraulic experimental work, motor-car engineering, and eight other subjects), electrical engineering, municipal and sanitary engineering, applied chemistry (including textile fibres, paper manufacture, metallurgy, india-rubber, brewing, coal-tar and dyestuffs, and photography), textile industries, applied physics, and mining engineering. Last year, ten research scholarships of 100*l.* each were awarded by the College. Among other technical college calendars recently received are those of Loughborough College (departments of mechanical, civil, electrical, automobile, and commercial engineering, pure and applied sciences including chemical technology, extra-mural adult education, and school of industrial and fine art) and the Battersea Polytechnic (engineering, pure and applied mathematics, physics, chemistry and technological chemistry, photography, hygiene and public health, domestic science, and arts and crafts). The subjects of the Polytechnic's technological courses include oil industries, paper industries, and flour-milling.

THE Vice-Chancellor of Oxford has contributed to the October number of the *Empire Review* an article on "Oxford and the Empire." Starting with the great Elizabethans, Sir Humphrey Gilbert of Christ Church, his half-brother Sir Walter Raleigh of Oriel College, and Richard Hakluyt of Christ Church, he gives a list of Oxford men who have during the last four hundred years played distinguished parts in building up the British Empire or the ideas on which it is based, or in its governance. He points out that of the twenty-five governors-general of India from Warren Hastings to Lord Curzon, fourteen were university men; and of these, twelve were educated at Oxford, nine of them at Christ Church. He discusses the features of university life which favour the development of those qualities which go to make good administrators, and deplors the fact that the Indian Civil Service no longer attracts Oxford graduates. Of the Rhodes scholars, he singles out for mention the late Sydney Fairbanks of Rhodesia, who chose an Oxford career especially with the view of developing his own plans of child emigration. The influence on Oxford of Rhodes scholars from the overseas Dominions and the influence of their Oxford training on their subsequent careers is a theme deserving more attention than it has hitherto received. It is to be hoped that the Vice-Chancellor's article may lead to studies of this theme and also of the relations between other universities and the Empire. As Prof. Newton says in his new book, "The Universities and Educational Systems of the Empire," every university is, in a sense, imperial, but the peculiarly imperial university is one that by long prescription, by eminent advantages of situation, and by the labours of a line of great investigators, has acquired prestige and reputation as a *studium generale*.

Early Science at the Royal Society.

October 27, 1670. There was read a Latin letter from Signor Montanari of Bologna, expressing the singular esteem which he had of their institution.—Mr. Oldenburg produced another Latin letter from Erasmus Bartholinus, M.D. of Copenhagen, giving notice of a certain transparent stone, a kind of selenites, sent out of Iceland, and having different positions, a double, quadruple, and sextuple refraction; as also an electric virtue.

October 28, 1663. At a meeting of the Society the president reported to them, that because the stationers and printers are of one and the same company, and may, by the concession of both sides, practise both trades promiscuously, the Society might choose a stationer for their printer without violation to their charter, which gives them power to choose printers. Whereupon Mr. John Martyn and Mr. James Allestry being recommended, it was put to the question, whether it should be the question, that the office of printer to the Royal Society should be conferred jointly; and it was carried in the affirmative; after which those two persons were put to the ballot, and chosen.

1669. Mr. Oldenburg mentioned that Dr. Wren desired to borrow that engine of his, in order to make a scheme and description thereof for the satisfaction of Mons. Huygens, who, though he had much applauded that invention, and the demonstration of it, yet had made some objection against its practicableness.

October 29, 1662. Dr. Wilkins and Dr. Goddard gave an account of the experiment which had been made of a lamp burning under water in a vessel of four gallons, the ellychnium being one single thread of cotton, and the lamp wholly under water: the flame lasted eleven minutes.—They were desired to repeat the experiment several times; as also to try it with some live creatures.

October 30, 1672. An account being demanded of what trials had been made for the improvement of the reflecting telescope of Mr. Newton, Mr. Hooke said, that hitherto he had wanted a mould of a sufficient bigness for a speculum, designed by him of fifteen inches diameter, for a tube of ten feet long; but that he hoped to have, soon, such a mould cast, wherein a speculum of that bigness might be well wrought and polished.

1674. The form of the summons to the Society for returning to their weekly meetings being read again, it was thought fit to omit the names of the persons who were to entertain the Society, and to let it be as follows:—these are to give notice that the Royal Society intends to return to their public meetings on Thursday, being the 12th of this instant November 1674, in Gresham College; at three of the clock; at which time and the following days of their meetings the company will be entertained with experimental exercises, to be performed by several eminent members of the same, in order to a more vigorous prosecution of the ends of their institution.

October 31, 1667. Mr. Evelyn presented the Society with his wooden tables, having the veins and arteries of the human body fixed on them.—A report being made of Dr. Allen's scrupling to try the experiment of transfusion upon any of the mad people in Bethlem-hospital, it was ordered that he should be desired by Mr. Hooke to give a meeting at Sir George Ent's house on the Monday following to some of the physicians of the Society, as Sir Theodore de Vaux, Dr. Clarke, Dr. Lower, Dr. Balle, and Dr. King to consider together, how this experiment might be most conveniently and safely tried.