

## Southampton Meeting of the British Association.

### LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS.

THE week from Wednesday, August 26, to Wednesday, September 2, will see the British Association for the Advancement of Science at Southampton for the third time in its long history of ninety-five years. Twice in the past, in 1846 under the presidency of Sir R. I. Murchison, and also in 1882 under Dr. (afterwards Sir) Charles Siemens, has it met there, and this year will see it once again in Britain's premier passenger port under Prof. Horace Lamb, formerly of the University of Manchester. Arrangements have been made with British railways so that members of the Association attending the meeting may obtain return tickets to Southampton at the price of single fare and a third.

The Reception Room will be the King Edward VI. Grammar School, which is conveniently and centrally situated, facing the open space called the Marlands, on one side of which is the public stance for charabancs, while close behind it is the West Station on the main Southern Railway line from Waterloo to Weymouth, at which most of the visitors to the meeting will alight from their trains. For the convenience of the members it has been arranged with the railway authorities for a special train to be run from Waterloo on the day before the opening of the meeting (Tuesday, August 25). Within easy distance of the Grammar School are to be found the shops and restaurants of Above Bar Street, and an agreement has been reached with a firm of local caterers to take for the week of the visit the Coliseum, a hall capable of seating 1600, and run it as a restaurant at which lunches and teas may be had.

At the town end, within a short radius—half a mile at most—of the Reception Room, sections A, B, C, F, G, and M have found suitable accommodation. In the Free Library across the park from the Grammar School, C (Geology) comes nearest; opposite it, at the far corner of Brunswick Place and Dorset Street, A (Mathematics and Physics) occupies the Lamb Memorial Hall; farther up the street from the Free Library on the London Road we find in order B (Chemistry) at the Kell Hall, corner of Bellevue Road, and M (Agriculture) at the Friends' Meeting-House in Ordnance Road, immediately opposite the main entrance to the Ordnance Survey Office. In the opposite direction from the Reception Room, at the bottom of East Street, F (Economics) and G (Engineering) are housed in the new Wesleyan Central Hall, the auditorium of which will be the place of meeting for the presidential address on the evening of Wednesday, August 26, and also for the Children's and Citizens' Evening Lectures. The Royal Pier, in the pavilion of which the mayoral reception will be held on the evening of Thursday, August 27, is at a tramcar terminus not far from the south end of the High Street, which, passing northwards as Above Bar Street, London Road, and the Avenue, is the principal thoroughfare of the town. About the middle of the Avenue, section H (Anthropology) is located at the Avenue Hall, attached to the Avenue Congregational Church. The ordinary tramcar service passes by or very close to all these meeting-places, the last mentioned of which, the Avenue Hall, is the most distant, being about one mile from the Reception Room.

The remaining sections, D, E, I, J, K, and L, meet at the University College, Highfield: D (Zoology) in the main corridor to the right of the south entrance on the ground floor next to the Women's Common Room; E (Geography) in the Engineering block—

associated with this section is the important exhibition of maps belonging to Sir George Fordham; I (Physiology) at the opposite end of the main corridor to D on the ground floor opposite the Men's Common Room; J (Psychology) in the Library and Senior Common Room on the first floor above I; K (Botany with the subsection of Forestry) on the first floor above D; and L (Education) in the newly built Assembly Hall opposite the College Refectory, where luncheons and teas may be had. This grouping of half the sections at the University College, which is rather remotely placed from the central Reception Room and is a good ten minutes' walk from the tramcar termini at either Bassett or Portswood, has necessitated for the convenience of the members a special bus service past the College buildings to join up with the rest of the town.

The University College has put its three hostels at the disposal of the Association. The largest, South Stoneham House, a Queen Anne mansion surrounded by beautiful grounds, will house the Secretariat; the next, Highfield Hall, will accommodate some sixty members as a hostel, and in the same way South Hill, a former residence of the Bishop of Southampton, about half that number. South Hill is situated some ten minutes' walk from the Bassett tramcar terminus or from the University College. Highfield Hall is on the Common, not far above the Avenue Hall; while South Stoneham, a former residence of Lord Swaythling, is at Swaythling, close to the car terminus and railway station of that name. It is fully two miles distant from the Reception Room and almost three miles from the Wesleyan Central Hall, though connected to both by electric tram service of some half an hour's duration.

Garden parties have been offered by Lord and Lady Swaythling at Townhill Park; Lord and Lady St. Cyres at Walhampton, near Lymington; and Mr. W. Collins at Westend; while the Cunard and White Star Companies, with their wonted generosity, have invited as many members as may care to go to see over one of their ships.

Southampton is remarkable for its fine open spaces, which stretch from the lower part of the town almost without break to the Southampton Common, the latter covering an area of more than 360 acres of virgin land. Its immediate environs include many places of great natural beauty. General excursions are being arranged to visit old Southampton, the Docks, New Forest, Stonehenge, and other places of interest in the neighbourhood. The full list of excursions, including sectional ones and visits to works, will be given later in detail. While tickets for the general excursions will be obtainable at a counter in the Reception Room, those for all the sectional excursions may be had from the local sectional secretaries at the various rendezvous of the sections during the week of the visit. The committee of the Royal Yacht Club has very kindly extended hospitality of honorary membership to the visiting members of the British Association.

Southampton, rich in historical associations, favoured by its geographical situation at the confluence of the rivers Itchen and Test, and unique in its modern commercial development, awaits the advent of the British Association into its midst with great interest. It is fully conscious of the honour conferred on it by such a visit, and is determined to make it the signal success which the occasion demands.

W. RAE SHERRIFFS.